

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

| <i>19th February 1925.</i> | | PAGES. |
|---|--|---------|
| Agenda for the First Session of the Bombay Legislative Council .. | | 1—21 |
| Members present | | 23—24 |
| Swearing in | | 25 |
| Election of the president | | 25 |
| <i>20th February 1925.</i> | | |
| Members present | | 26—27 |
| Election of the President | | 28—29 |
| His Excellency's speech | | 30—36 |
| Appointment of a panel of Chairmen | | 36 |
| Announcement by the Honourable the President regarding assent of the Governor-General to Bills passed by the Council | | 36 |
| Questions and Answers | | 36—59 |
| Election of Public Accounts Committee | | 59—61 |
| Death of Sir Gokuldas Parekh | | 61—62 |
| Election of Finance Committee | | 62 |
| Tribute to the late Mr. Montagu | | 63—65 |
| Presentation of the Budget | | 65—81 |
| Election of Finance Committee | | 82 |
| <i>23rd February 1925.</i> | | |
| Members present | | 83—84 |
| Questions and answers | | 85—109 |
| Election of Public Accounts Committee | | 109 |
| Arrangement of Council Business | | 110—111 |
| Budget Debate | | 111—156 |
| <i>24th February 1925.</i> | | |
| Members present | | 157—159 |
| Questions and answers | | 159—183 |
| Budget Debate (Continued) | | 183—235 |
| <i>25th February 1925.</i> | | |
| Members present | | 236—237 |
| Budget Debate (Continued) | | 238—300 |
| <i>26th February 1925.</i> | | |
| Members present | | 301—303 |
| Questions and answers | | 303—331 |
| Motion for the first reading of Bill No. II of 1925 (A Bill further to amend the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, in its application to the Presidency of Bombay). | | 331—360 |
| <i>27th February 1925.</i> | | |
| Members present | | 361—363 |
| Bill No. II of 1925 (Stamp Act Amendment Bill) Motion for the first reading (Continued). | | 363—390 |
| Motion for the first reading of Bill No. III of 1925 (A Bill further to amend the Court-Fees Act, 1870) | | 390—417 |

TABLE OF CONTENTS

28th February 1925.

| | PAGES. |
|--|---------|
| Members present | 418—420 |
| Debate on the demands for grants— | |
| Demand for— | |
| 44, Loans and Advances bearing interest | 420 |
| 60-A, Other Provincial Expenditure not charged to revenue— | |
| Country spirit Warehouse at Sewri | 420—422 |
| 60, Civil Works— | 422—466 |
| Judicial buildings at Jalgaon | 426—430 |
| Police buildings in Bombay | 430—431 |
| Quarters for sub-Inspector, etc., at Ahmednagar | 431—432 |
| Improvement of Mounted armed police lines, Hyderabad | 432—433 |
| Ahmedabad police lines | 433—435 |
| Quarters for nurses, Poona | 435—436 |
| Building for Central Press, Stationery Office, etc. | 437—456 |
| Public Buildings on Artillery Maidan, Karachi | 457—460 |
| Motion to reduce by Rs. 19 lakhs the total provision of Rs. 69,85,000 in Public Works Department Estimates, page 3 | 460—463 |
| Motion to reduce by Rs. 10 lakhs the total demand under 60, Civil Works | 463—465 |
| Motion to reduce by Rs. 5 lakhs the total demand under 60, Civil Works | 465—466 |
| 59, Bombay Development Scheme | 466—469 |

2nd March 1925.

| | |
|---|---------|
| Members present | 470—472 |
| Questions and answers | 472—494 |
| Application for permission to move for an adjournment of the House to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, Bombay's Provincial Contribution (Mr. Lalji Naranji) | 494 |
| Debate on the demands for grants— | |
| 59, Bombay Development Scheme— | |
| Kandivli Quarry Acquisition | 494—506 |
| Housing (Worli) Works | 498—499 |
| Housing (Worli and Sewri) | 500—502 |
| Ambernath Works | 502—503 |
| Salsette-Trombay Railway | 503—504 |
| Personal Assistant to Land Manager | 504—505 |
| Motion for an adjournment of the House to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, Bombay's Provincial Contribution (Mr. Lalji Naranji) | 505—506 |
| Motion for an adjournment of the House to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, Bombay's Provincial Contribution (Mr. Lalji Naranji) | 506—530 |

3rd March 1925.

| | |
|---|---------|
| Members present | 531—533 |
| Debate on the demands for grants— | |
| 59, Bombay Development Scheme— | |
| Assistant Development Officers | 533—534 |
| Travelling and other allowances (Development Department) | 535—538 |
| Law charges, Development Department | 538—543 |
| Motion to reduce the total demand for Development Department by Rs. 61,99,000 | 543—585 |
| 56-A, Capital Outlay on Improvements on Public Health | 585—586 |

4th March 1925.

| | |
|---|---------|
| Members present | 587—589 |
| Questions and answers | 589—621 |
| Debate on demands for grants— | |
| 56-A, Capital Outlay on Improvements on Public Health— | |
| Improvement of Poona Cantonment Water Supply | 621—623 |
| Land for re-siting Arsenal, Karachi | 623—624 |
| Construction of the new Arsenal at Drigh Road, Karachi | 624—625 |
| 55, Construction of Irrigation Works— | |
| Construction of sluices over Zamindari Karias | 625—635 |
| Motion for reduction of 2 crores from the proposed grant for Lloyd Barrage and Canals | 635—661 |
| Barrage and Canals | 661—666 |

TABLE OF CONTENTS

3

5th March 1925.

| | PAGES. |
|--|---------|
| Members present | 667—669 |
| Swearing in | 669 |
| Debate on the demands for grants— | |
| 55, Construction of Irrigation Works— | |
| Motion for reduction of 2 crores from the proposed grant for Lloyd Barrage and Canals | 669—711 |
| Motion for reduction of Rs. 47 lakhs out of provision for Lloyd Barrage Works | 669—672 |
| Motion for reduction of Rs. 33,80,000 out of provision for Construction of works (Lloyd Barrage and Canals Construction) | 672—699 |
| 52-A, Forest Capital Outlay | 711 |
| Expenditure in England—High Commissioner in England (Transferred) | |
| Stores for photo-copying | 712—720 |

6th March 1925.

| | |
|---|---------|
| Members present | 721—723 |
| Debate on the demands for grants— | |
| Expenditure in England—High Commissioner in England (Transferred)— | |
| Stores for photo-copying | 723—743 |
| Stores under Stationery and Printing | 743—747 |
| Expenditure in England—High Commissioner | 747 |
| Expenditure in England through Secretary of State | 748 |
| 51-A, Miscellaneous adjustments between Central and Provincial Governments | 748 |
| 47, Miscellaneous (partly reserved and partly transferred)— | |
| Grants to local boards for local public works | 748—750 |
| Motion to reduce to Rs. 6,00,000 total provision for grants to local boards | 748—749 |
| Provision under Workmen's Compensation Act | 750 |
| 47, Miscellaneous | 750 |
| 46, Stationery and Printing | 750—757 |
| Motion for reduction of Rs. 2 lakhs from provision for Stationery and Printing | 750—757 |
| XXXII and 45, Superannuation, Allowances and Pension | 757 |
| 43, Famine Relief and Insurance | 757—771 |
| Motion for reduction of amount of Rs. 42,39,000 for other expenditure in the Civil Department on Famine Relief to Rs. 42,00,000 | 757—771 |

7th March 1925.

| | |
|---|---------|
| Members present | 772—774 |
| Questions and answers | 774—820 |
| Debate on the demands for grants— | |
| 43, Famine Relief and Insurance | 821—837 |
| Motion for reduction of amount of Rs. 42,39,000 for other expenditure in the Civil Department on Famine Relief to Rs. 42,00,000 | 821—837 |
| 41, Provincial Civil Works and— | |
| 60, Civil Works | 837—864 |
| Increase in the Cadre of Accountants | 840—843 |
| Deccan Irrigation Districts | 849—851 |
| Stables, etc., at Government House, Karachi | 851—853 |
| Discretionary grants | 853—864 |

9th March 1925.

| | |
|--|---------|
| Members present | 865—867 |
| Debate on the demands for grants— | |
| 41, Provincial Civil Works and | |
| 60, Civil Works | |
| Provincial Civil Works, Repairs | 867—870 |
| Provincial Civil Works, Establishments | 871—876 |
| Pay of one temporary mechanical engineer | 876—881 |
| Mechanical Engineer: Temporary Establishment | 881—882 |
| Pay of Dapuri Workshop Manager | 882—887 |

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | PAGES. |
|--|-----------|
| Sind Allowance to Engineers | 887—888 |
| Duty Allowance to Engineers | 888—890 |
| Lloyd Barrage Allowance | 890—897 |
| Chief Engineer in Sind and Indus River Gauging District | 897—907 |
| Superintending Engineer, Indus Right Bank Division | 907—911 |
| Superintending Engineer, Indus left Bank Division | 912 |
| Motion to reduce by 10 lakhs total demand under 41, Civil Works | 912—918 |
| <i>10th March 1925.</i> | |
| Members present | 919—921 |
| Application for permission to move for an adjournment of the House to discuss the Reforms Enquiry Committee Report | 921 |
| Debate on the demands for grants— | |
| Motions to omit or reduce demands for grants | |
| 41, Civil Works— | |
| Lloyd Barrage Establishment | 921—937 |
| Motion for an adjournment of the House to discuss the Reforms Enquiry Committee Report | 937—956 |
| Time for meeting of Council | 957 |
| <i>12th March 1925.</i> | |
| Members present | 958—960 |
| Debate on the demands for grants— | |
| Motions to omit or reduce demands for grants— | |
| Civil Works (Reserved) | 960 |
| Miscellaneous Departments (Transferred) | 960 |
| Miscellaneous Department (Reserved) | 960 |
| 35, Industries | 960—976 |
| Motion to reduce total demand for Industries by Rs. 1,000 | 961—976 |
| 34, Agriculture | 977—995 |
| Motion to reduce total demand for Agriculture by Rs. 50,000 | 978—995 |
| 33, Public Health (Transferred) | 995—1013 |
| Public Health Laboratory for Sind | 995—1000 |
| Motion to reduce total demand under Public Health by four lakhs | 1000—1013 |
| <i>13th March 1925.</i> | |
| Members present | 1014— |
| Questions and answers | 1016— |
| Representation re : Provincial Contribution | |
| Debate on the demands for grants— | |
| Motions to omit or reduce demands for grants | |
| 33, Public Health— | |
| Motion to reduce the votable portion by four lakhs | 1053—1 |
| Motion to reduce by one lakh the total demand | 1058—1 |
| 32, Medical | 1059—1 |
| Orthopædic appliances to hospitals | 1059—1 |
| Grants-in-aid to dispensaries | 1060—1 |
| Assistant to Dean, Grant Medical College | 1061—1 |
| Technical Adviser for Orthopædics | 1063—1 |
| Motion to reduce by Re. 1 total demand under 32, Medical | 1063—1 |
| Representation re : Provincial Contribution | 1068—1 |
| Debate on the demands for grants— | |
| Motions to reduce or omit demands for grants— | |
| 32, Medical— | |
| Motion to reduce by Re. 1 total demand under 32, Medical | 1071—106. |
| 31, Education | 1087—1097 |
| Encouragement of Vernacular Literature | 1087—109C |
| Inspection Staff (Education) | 1090—1091 |
| Municipal Schools | 1091 |
| Motion to reduce by Rs. 1,00,000 total votable demand under Education | 1091—1097 |

TABLE OF CONTENTS

14th March 1925.

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Members present .. .. . | .. .. . |
| Swearing in .. .. . | .. .. . |
| Debate on the demands for grants— | .. .. . |
| • Motions to reduce or omit demands for grants— | |
| 31, Education— | |
| Motion to reduce by Rs. 1,00,000 total votable demand under Education | 1100—1125 |
| European Education (Reserved) | 1125—1126 |
| Building grant to Bishop's High School, Poona | 1125 |
| Scientific Departments (Transferred) | 1126 |
| Ports and Pilotage (Reserved) | 1126 |
| 26, Police— | |
| Pay of Sergeants | 1126—1154 |
| Secret Service Money | 1126—1145 |
| Motion to reduce by Rs. 10 lakhs total demand under 26, Police | 1148—1154 |
| 25, Jails and Convict Settlements | 1154 |
| 24, Administration of Justice | 1154 |
| 22, General Administration | 1154 |
| Interest on Irrigation Capital (Reserved) | 1155 |
| Irrigation (including working expenses) (Reserved) | 1155 |
| Scheduled Taxes (Reserved) | 1155 |
| Registration (Transferred) | 1155 |
| Forest (Transferred) | 1155 |
| Stamps (Reserved) | 1155 |
| Excise (Transferred) | 1155 |
| Land Revenue (Reserved) | 1155 |
| Time for meeting of Council | 1155—1156 |

16th March 1925.

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Members present | 1157—1158 |
| Swearing in | 1159 |
| Motion to withdraw and postpone consideration of Bill No. III of 1925 (A Bill further to amend the Court Fees Act, 1870) | 1159 |
| Motion for the first reading of Bill No. I of 1925 [A Bill further to amend the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions) Act, 1918, and the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions No. 2) Act, 1918] | 1159—1203 |
| Bill referred to Select Committee | 1203—1204 |
| Supplementary Estimates— | |
| Contingent Expenditure on treasuries | 1204 |
| Payment to Messrs. Boyce D. Cowasjee & Co. | 1205—1206 |
| Compensation to Surat Distillery contractors | 1206 |
| Expenditure on village police in Ratnagiri District | 1206 |
| Repairs to protective bund lines and canals in Sind | 1206 |
| Distribution to all departments of a lump sum that was budgetted for under one head | 1206 |
| Girls Guides Association | 1207 |
| Demarcation of disputed boundaries between the British Government and Baroda | 1207 |
| Excess grant for superannuation allowance and pensions | 1207 |
| Cost of training forest probationers | 1207 |
| Expenditure in England—Secretary of State | 1208—1209 |

18th March 1925.

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Members present | 1210—1211 |
| Questions and answers | 1211—1257 |
| Supplementary Estimates— | |
| Expenditure in England—Secretary of State | 1257 |
| Private Bills— | |
| Motion to postpone second reading of Bill No. XXII of 1924 (A Bill to amend the Bombay District Police Act, 1890) | 1257—1258 |
| Motion for the first reading of Bill No. XXVI of 1924 (A Bill to alter the constitution and to widen the powers of municipalities) | 1258—1271 |
| Appreciative Reference: Mr. K. C. Sen | 1271—1272 |

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | PAGES. |
|--|-----------|
| Sind Allowance | |
| Duty Allowance | |
| Lloyd B. for the first reading of District Municipal Act Amendment | |
| Chief resumed | 1272—1273 |
| Summon to postpone consideration of the first reading of the Bill to the next session | 1273—1274 |
| Motion for leave to introduce a Bill to enable the Hindus of the Province of Sind to restrict themselves to monogamous marriages | 1274—1275 |
| Motion for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Bombay Land Revenue Code, 1879 | 1275—1276 |
| Motion for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Bombay Town Planning Act, 1915 | 1277—1278 |
| Motion for leave to introduce a Bill to amend section 80 of the Bombay Local Boards Act | 1278—1280 |
| Motion for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Cattle Trespass Act, 1871 | 1280—1281 |
| Motion for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend Bombay Act III of 1874 (Bombay Hereditary Offices Act) | 1281—1283 |
| Motion for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend Bombay Act VIII of 1867, an Act for the regulation of the Village Police in the Presidency of Bombay | 1283 |
| Motions to amend Standing Orders | 1283—1302 |

19th March 1925

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Members present | 1303—1304 |
| Questions and answers | 1304—1361 |
| Motions to amend Standing Orders | 1361—1382 |
| Resolution regarding— | |
| Fishing in the Sabarmati near Kasandra (Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan) | 1383—1390 |
| Salaries of Government peons in Bombay City (Mr. S. K. Bole) | 1390—1400 |
| Annual Reports, Forms and Returns (Mr. A. C. Owen) | 1400—1404 |
| Prorogation of the Council | 1404 |
| Appendices | 1405—1619 |

Correction slip.

In the list of members present published at page 23 of Vol. XIV Part I, of the Bombay Legislative Council Debates after "Ahmad Moulvi Rafiuddin" read "Baptista, Mr. J."

**a for the First Session of The Bombay Legislative Council
held at the Town Hall, Bombay, on Thursday, the
19th February 1925, at 2 p.m.**

I.—OATHS OR AFFIRMATION OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE
CROWN.

II.—ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT.

III.—NOMINATION OF FOUR CHAIRMEN BY THE
PRESIDENT.

IV.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

V.—ELECTION OF NON-OFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 1925-26.

VI.—MOTION TO APPOINT A FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR
1925-26 AND ELECTION OF NON-OFFICIAL MEMBERS.

VII.—INTRODUCTION OF BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1925-26.

VIII.—GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET.

IX.—DEMANDS FOR GRANTS AND MOTIONS TO REDUCE
CERTAIN GRANTS.

X.—DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS.

XI.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

(i) A Bill further to amend the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions) Act, 1918 and the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions No. 2) Act, 1918.—*First Reading.*

Notice of amendments* has been received from,

Mr. K. F. Nariman, M.L.C.

(ii) A Bill further to amend the Indian Stamp Act, 1899 in its application to the Presidency of Bombay.—*First Reading.*

(iii) A Bill further to amend the Court Fees Act, 1870.—*First Reading.*

XII.—PRIVATE BILLS.

(1) Bill No. XXII of 1924 (A Bill to amend the Bombay District Police Act, 1890).—*Second Reading.*—Mr. A. N. Surve, M.L.C.

(2) Bill No. XXVI of 1924 (A Bill to alter the constitution and to widen the powers of Municipalities).—*First Reading.*—Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar, M.L.C.

*Printed as appendix to this Agenda.

(3) A Bill to enable the Hindus of the province of Sind to restrict themselves to monogamous marriages.—Motion for leave to introduce the Bill.—Mr. D. B. Adwani, M.L.C.

(4) A Bill further to amend the Bombay Land Revenue Code 1272—1273
Motion for leave to introduce the Bill.—Mr. R. D. Shinde, M.L.C.

(5) A Bill to repeal the law relating to the powers and pro-
Mamlatdars' Courts, 1906.—Motion for leave to introduce the
Mr. R. D. Shinde, M.L.C.

(6) A Bill further to amend the Bombay Town Planning Act.—Motion
for leave to introduce the Bill.—Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar, M.L.C.

(7) A Bill further to amend the Bombay Local Boards Act.—Motion
for leave to introduce the Bill.—Mr. L. S. Chaudhari, M.L.C.

(8) A Bill further to amend the Cattle Trespass Act, 1871.—Motion
for leave to introduce the Bill.—Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan, M.L.C.

(9) A Bill further to amend Bombay Act III of 1874.—Motion for leave
to introduce the Bill.—Mr. D. R. Patil, M.L.C.

(10) A Bill further to amend Bombay Act VIII of 1867, an Act for the
Regulation of the Village Police in the Presidency of Bombay.—Motion
for leave to introduce the Bill.—Mr. D. R. Patil, M.L.C.

(11) A Bill further to amend the Land Revenue Code, 1879.—Motion
for leave to introduce the Bill.—Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar, M.L.C.

(12) A Bill further to amend the City of Bombay Improvement Act.—
Motion for leave to introduce the Bill.—Mr. Hoosenally M. Rahimtoola,
M.L.C.

XIII.—MOTIONS TO AMEND STANDING ORDERS.

Motions which have been referred to Select Committee (Motions Nos. III, IV, V, VI, VII and VIII of 1924).—*Second Reading.*

XIV.—DISCUSSION OF MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.*

Resolutions by Mr. H. B. Shivdasani, M.L.C.

1. This Council recommends to Government that for the better conduct of the criminal and revenue administration of the Bombay Presidency the following changes should be made :—

(1) Revenue officers should exercise no powers under the laws relating to crimes.

(2) The prant officers, that is, sub-divisional officers should be abolished, the Collector being given a personal assistant where necessary.

2. " This Council recommends to Government :

(a) That an amount of Rs. 3,66,400 which represents the difference between the receipts from *himayat* assessment on tanks in the Surat

* The resolutions are arranged according to the order of priority determined by ballot.

district for the ten years 1913-14 to 1922-23, viz., Rs. 4,37,166 and the amount spent on the repair of those tanks in the same period, viz., Rs. 70,766, be spent in the next three years on the special repair of tanks in the Surat district.

Agenda That in future the amount spent in any year on the repair of tanks in a district should not be less than the amount realised as *himayat* (water-rate) assessment from the tanks of that district in that year."

3. "This Council recommends to Government to cancel the appointment of the settlement officer recently made for the revenue settlements of the Bardoli and Chikhli talukas in view of the amended form in which the resolution of Mr. R. G. Pradhan about revision settlements was carried by the Council directing that 'no revision be proceeded with and no new rates under any revised settlement be introduced till the said legislation is brought into effect'."

4. "This Council recommends to Government that Revenue Commissionerships should be abolished."

Resolutions by Dr. M. K. Dixit, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government (a) that an amount of Rs. 3,66,400 which represents the difference between the receipts from *himayat* assessment on tanks in the Surat district for the ten years 1913-14 to 1922-23, viz., Rs. 4,37,166 and the amount spent on the repair of those tanks in the same period, viz., Rs. 70,766, be spent in the next three years on the special repair of tanks in the Surat district; (b) that in future the amount in any year on the repair of tanks in a district should not be less than the amount realised as *himayat* (water-rate) assessment from the tanks of that district in that year."

2. "This Council recommends to Government to cancel the appointment of the settlement officer recently made for the revenue settlements of the Bardoli and Chikhli talukas in view of the amended form in which the resolution of Mr. R. G. Pradhan about revision settlements was carried by the Council directing that 'no revision be proceeded with and no new rates under any revised settlement be introduced till the said legislation is brought into effect,' and in view of the fact that the principles on which revision settlements are to be based are under the consideration of a committee appointed by Government."

3. "This Council recommends to Government that political prisoners be allowed newspapers for reading."

Resolutions by Mr. Mahomed Ayub Shah Mahomed Khuhro, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that the order binding Sirdar Sher Mahomed Khan Bijarani, member of this Council, to furnish securities for good behaviour for a period of three years under the Sind Frontier Regulations be withdrawn."

2. "This Council recommends to Government that a committee of officials and non-officials with a majority of non-officials be appointed to examine the barrage scheme and to suggest ways and means to effect retrenchment and to make the scheme strictly economical."

3. "This Council recommends to Government that a committee consisting of the Chief Engineer Barrage, Chief Engineer Irrigation and two Sind members of the Bombay Legislative Council be appointed to inspect all the tenders that are invited henceforth for the barrage and the excavation contracts, and that the committee be authorized to accept the lowest tenders."

Resolutions by Mr. P. G. Joshi, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that the new increased maximum rates of land assessment which have been introduced in various parts of this presidency including Sind, after the publication of the Joint Parliamentary Select Committee's recommendations to regulate by statute the process of revising land assessment, should forthwith be withdrawn and that the old rates be introduced in their stead."

2. "This Council recommends to Government to cancel the appointment of the settlement officer recently made for the revenue settlements of the Bardoli and Chikhli talukas in view of the amended form in which the resolution of Mr. R. G. Pradhan about revision settlements was carried by the Council directing that 'no revision be proceeded with and no new rates under any revised settlement be introduced till the said legislation is brought into effect' and in view of the fact that the principles on which revision settlements are to be based are under the consideration of a committee appointed by Government."

Resolutions by Mr. V. N. Jog, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that the new increased maximum rates of land assessment which have been introduced in various parts of this Presidency including Sind, after the publication of the Joint Parliamentary Select Committee's recommendations to regulate by statute the process of revising land assessment, should forthwith be withdrawn and that the old rates be introduced in their stead."

2. "This Council recommends to Government that the whole scheme called 'The Sathé Paranjpye Scheme' regarding the pay of the primary school teachers should be brought into force with effect from the 1st of March 1924."

Resolution by Pir Rasulbaksh Shah, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that the order binding Sirdar Sher Mahomed Khan Bijarani, member of this Council, to furnish securities for good behaviour for a period of three years under the Sind Frontier Regulations be withdrawn."

Resolution by Mr. J. P. Bunter, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that they may be pleased to appoint at an early date a committee to go into the question of—

- (1) Annual Reports,
- (2) Forms and Returns,

with a view to reduction in the matter printed in Reports and the revision of forms and returns, so as to save expenditure of public money."

Resolution by Khan Bahadur S. N. Bhutto, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that the order binding Sirdar Sher Mahomed Khan Bijarani, member of this Council, to furnish securities for good behaviour for a period of three years under the Sind Frontier Regulations be withdrawn."

Resolutions by Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council to prohibit fishing in the river Sabarmati near the town of Kasandra, South Daskroi, Ahmedabad District."

2. "This Council recommends to Government that a committee with three-fourths non-official majority be appointed to consider and report :—

(a) What cottage industries are best suited to the conditions prevailing in this Presidency (including Sind) ?

(b) What are the best means of introducing such cottage industries and of encouraging their growth and expansion so as to bring them within the reach of every villager ? "

Resolutions by Mr. S. K. Bole, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government to increase the scale of salaries of all peons in all Government establishments in the city of Bombay to Rs. 25 rising to Rs. 50 excluding the house allowance."

2. "This Council recommends to Government to employ in all Government establishments natives of this Presidency in order to allay the present situation as regards unemployment caused by the retrenchment orders."

3. "This Council recommends to Government to appoint a Board of Visitors consisting of medical and non-medical persons to visit the hospitals under Government management in Bombay."

4. "This Council recommends to Government to take steps to establish a fund called the Bombay Presidency Workmen's Welfare Fund with the co-operation of municipal and other local bodies and various kinds of employers in the presidency to be spent for the benefit of the

workmen in organised industries by undertaking schemes for education, for recreation and for giving financial assistance during sickness, unemployment and such other difficulties."

5. "This Council recommends to Government to put a condition in the license granted to the Western India Turf Club that they should not open the third enclosure on the Race Course."

Resolution by Mr. A. C. Owen, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that they may be pleased to appoint at an early date a committee to go into the question of—

(a) Annual Reports,

(b) Forms and returns,

with a view to reduction in the matter printed in annual reports and the revision or cancellation of forms and returns."

Resolution by Mr. H. D. Saheba, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that the scheme embodied in the minority report of the Technical and Industrial Education Committee submitted in March 1922, which has had the unanimous approval of the Indian members of the said committee be sanctioned, and that in view of the importance and the urgency of technical education to the people of this presidency, the said scheme be put into operation without delay, if necessary, by raising a provincial loan for the purpose."

Resolutions by Mr. W. S. Mukadam, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government to cancel the appointment of the settlement officer recently made for the revenue settlements of the Bardoli and Chikhli talukas in view of the amended form in which the resolution of Mr. R. G. Pradhan about revision settlements was carried by the Council directing that 'no revision be proceeded with and no new rates under any revised settlement be introduced till the said legislation is brought into effect' and in view of the fact that the principles on which revision settlements are to be based are under the consideration of a committee appointed by Government."

2. "This Council recommends to Government that the new increased maximum rates of land assessment which have been introduced in various parts of this presidency including Sind, after the publication of the Joint Parliamentary Select Committee's recommendations to regulate by statute the process of revising land assessment, should forthwith be withdrawn and that the old rates be introduced in their stead."

Resolutions by Mr. M. D. Karki, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that a committee with a three-fourth non-official majority be appointed to consider and

report on the present rules regarding the suspension and remission of land revenue and to suggest what changes it is desirable to make in them."

2. "This Council recommends to Government that Revenue Commissionerships should be abolished."

3. "This Council recommends to Government that, in order to allay the hardship and irritation caused to the poorer classes of people of Kanara who are accustomed to eat the pith of the 'tali-palm' tree on account of the increase in the fees, the present fee of Rs. 4 per tree be reduced forthwith to Re. 1."

4. "This Council recommends to Government that in order to allay the discontent prevailing among the gardeners of the above-ghat talukas of the Kanara District on account of the 'betta' rules (*vide* Revenue Department Notification No. 7198, dated the 16th April 1923) as modified up-to-date, the said rules be, after consulting the leading gardeners in the various talukas, so revised as to meet their wishes."

5. "This Council recommends to Government that a bridge or a high level causeway be built on the following rivers at the following places in the district of Kanara :—

| River. | .. | Place. |
|---------------------|----|--|
| 1. Badagani river | .. | 1. At the Badagani ferry in the Honavar taluka. |
| 2. Venkatapur river | .. | 2. At the Venkatapur ferry in the petha of Bhatkal." |

6. "This Council recommends to Government that the manufacture of *jagri* by the cultivators of Kanara be treated as an agricultural operation and that they be restored to their original position by the deletion of the words 'but not for the manufacture of *jagri*' appearing in sub-clause (a) of clause No. 1 of the present Kanara forest privilege rules as published under notification No. 779, dated 16th April 1924 in the Revenue Department."

7. "This Council recommends to Government that in view of the peculiar circumstances under which the district of Kanara is placed, they may be pleased to move the proper authorities to allot two seats in the Bombay Legislative Council, one for the Karwar division and the other for the Sirsi division in that district."

8. "This Council recommends to Government that a small committee of officials and non-officials from the Kanara District be appointed with a majority of non-officials including the elected member of the Legislative Council for that district to investigate into the grazing problems in that district and to suggest ways and means for improved grazing there, such committee being given power to elect its own chairman."

Resolutions by Rao Saheb D. P. Desai, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government to suspend the introduction of the revised rates of assessment in the Sindkheda taluka in West Khandesh till legislative or other action is taken by Government on the resolution passed by this Council on the 15th March 1924 regarding the revision of the land revenue assessment."

2. "This Council recommends to Government that in order to allay the discontent prevailing among the agriculturists of the presidency and to give them real relief, the following fees and fines, wherever they have been recently increased, be reduced to their original level, if not lower still :—

Grazing fees per head of cattle,
 Fees per cart and headload of grass,
 Fees per cart and headload of *Anjan* leaves,
 Fees per cartload of thorns,
 Fees per cart and headload of fuel,
 Fees per cartload of stones of various kinds, and
 Fines per head of cattle impounded."

3. "This Council recommends to Government that the scheme embodied in the minority report of the Technical and Industrial Education Committee submitted in March 1922, which has had the unanimous approval of the Indian members of the said committee, be sanctioned, and that in view of the importance and the urgency of technical education to the people of this presidency, the said scheme be put into operation without delay, if necessary, by raising a provincial loan for the purpose."

4. "This Council recommends to Government that no loans should be taken by this province from the Government of India or raised independently, pledging the credit of this province, without obtaining the consent of this House."

5. "This Council recommends to Government that a committee elected by the Council be appointed to investigate the economic condition of the agriculturists of this presidency and suggest measures for its improvement and till its report is submitted to Government no bill of taxation be introduced as a result of the Taxation Committee's inquiries."

Resolutions by Dr. M. M. Mehta, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government —

(a) that the posts of assistant directors of public health be abolished;

(b) that in future no fresh appointment to the said posts be made;

(c) that the present incumbents of the said posts be provided for elsewhere whenever vacancies occur, at the first opportunity; and

(d) that for every post thus vacated graduates of the Bombay University duly qualified in hygiene be appointed on the same pay and

with the same status as members of the Bombay Medical Service as district health officers to as many districts as the saving thus effected would permit."

2. "The Council recommends to Government:—

(a) That an amount of Rs. 3,66,400 which represents the difference between the receipts from Himayat assessment on tanks in the Surat District for the ten years 1913-14 to 1922-23, viz., Rs. 4,37,166 and the amount spent on the repairs of those tanks in the same period, viz., Rs. 70,766 be spent in the next three years on the special repair of tanks in the Surat District.

(b) That in future the amount spent in any year on the repair of tanks in a district should not be less than the amount realised as Himayat (water-rate) assessment from the tanks on that district in that year."

Resolutions by Mr. D. N. Patel, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government to suspend the introduction of the revised rates of assessment in the Sindkheda taluka in West Khandesh till legislative or other action is taken by Government on the resolution passed by this Council on the 15th March 1924 regarding the revision of the land revenue assessment."

2. "This Council recommends to Government that in order to allay the discontent prevailing among the agriculturists of the presidency and to give them real relief, the following fees and fines, wherever they have been recently increased, be reduced to their original level, if not lower still:—

Grazing fees per head of cattle,
Fees per cart and headload of grass,
Fees per cart and headload of Anjan leaves,
Fees per cartload of thorns,
Fees per cart and headload of fuel,
Fees per cartload of stones of various kinds, and
Fines per head of cattle impounded."

Resolutions by Mr. Punjabhai Thakersi, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that no loans should be taken by this province from the Government of India or raised independently, pledging the credit of this province, without obtaining the consent of this House."

2. "This Council recommends to Government that a representative committee with a majority of social workers be appointed to inquire into the evils of betting at the races at Bombay and Poona and to suggest ways and means of eradicating those evils by legislative or administrative measures."

Resolution by Mr. A. E. Patel, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that the photocopying system introduced recently in the Registration Department of this

presidency as an experimental measure be abolished forthwith and the old system be restored."

Resolutions by Mr. Lalji Naranji, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that the Bombay Port Trust Act be so amended that the proceedings of the meetings of the trustees of the Bombay Port Trust be open to the press."

2. "This Council recommends to Government that no loans should be taken by this province from the Government of India or raised independently pledging the credit of this province, without obtaining the consent of this House."

3. "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council to take immediate measures to ensure an effective scheme for water supply to the pilgrim centre of Dakor in Gujarat."

4. "This Council recommends to Government that for the better conduct of the criminal and revenue administration of the Bombay presidency, the following changes should be made:—

(1) Revenue officers should exercise no powers under the laws relating to crimes.

(2) The prant officers, that is sub-divisional officers, should be abolished, the Collector being given a personal assistant where necessary."

Resolutions by Mr. Hooseimbhoy A. Lalljee, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that they be pleased to communicate to the Bombay Port Trust authorities the urgent necessity of providing at least during the Haj season a fixed berth accommodation with a suitable shade having all the necessary sanitary arrangements and refreshment rooms for the convenience of Hajjis, with separate arrangements for women and children accompanying them, as they have to wait for a number of hours before embarking on the steamers."

2. "This Council recommends to Government that they be pleased to declare two days as public holidays for Ramzan-Id."

3. "This Council recommends to Government that in view of the demand made by the Mahomedan community for the application of the Wakf Act to all the provinces Government be pleased to apply the said Act to the Bombay Presidency without further delay."

4. "This Council recommends to Government that they be pleased to depute an educational expert or experts, preferably one having some knowledge of Arabic, Urdu, and Gujarati, to Aden with the object of reviewing the present state of education in Aden and to report, after consultation with the Arabs and Indians there, on the advisability of reorganising the whole system of education as existing there at present, with a view to improving the efficiency and standard of education and affording more facilities for secondary education."

5. "This Council recommends to Government that in view of the enormous growth of trade of the port of Aden during the last twenty

years and with a view to introducing the principle of representation on the Board of the Aden Port Trust, they may be pleased to introduce a bill on the lines of the Karachi Port Trust Act, 1886, to allow for the representation of the various interests in Aden."

6. "This Council recommends to Government that they be pleased to issue instructions to all the concerns managed by the Government not to purchase any Natal or South African coal."

7. "This Council recommends to Government that they be pleased to communicate to the Governor-General in Council the considered opinion of this House that the Government of India be pleased to appoint an Indian official to represent them and to look after the interests of Indians in the mandated territories and to supply first hand information to the Government of India on matters concerning Indians there."

8. "This Council recommends to Government that for the better conduct of the criminal and revenue administration of the Bombay presidency, the following changes should be made :

(1) Revenue officers should exercise no powers under the laws relating to crimes.

(2) The prant officers, that is sub-divisional officers, should be abolished, the Collector being given a personal assistant where necessary."

Resolutions by Khan Saheb A. M. Mansuri, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to His Excellency the Governor that early steps be taken to establish District Courts at Nadiad, Jalgaon, Alibagh and Nawabshah.

2. "This Council recommends to Government to suspend the introduction of the revised rates of assessment in the Sindkheda taluka in West Khandesh till legislative or other action is taken by Government on the resolution passed by this Council on the 15th March 1924 regarding the revision of the land revenue assessment."

3. "This Council recommends to Government that in order to allay the discontent prevailing among the agriculturists of the presidency and to give them real relief, the following fees and fines, wherever they have been recently increased, be reduced to their original level, if not lower still :

Grazing fees per head of cattle,
Fees per cart and headload of grass,
Fees per cart and headload of Anjan leaves,
Fees per cartload of thorns,
Fees per cart and headload of fuel,
Fees per cartload of stones of various kinds, and
Fines per head of cattle impounded."

Resolutions by Mr. V. R. Kothari, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government not to issue licenses for the sale of country liquor and toddy in villages having a population

of five thousand or less after the expiry of the period of the existing licenses."

2. "This Council recommends to Government that all additional expenditure that will have to be incurred on further expansion of primary education in rural and municipal areas should be borne entirely by Government."

Resolutions by Mr. K. F. Nariman, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that the ban against Mr. B. G. Horniman be removed and the passport authorities be informed accordingly."

2. "This Council is of opinion and recommends to the Governor in Council that the Development Directorate as a special separate department be abolished and its future activities for the completion of the scheme be transferred to the Public Works Department."

Resolutions by Mr. D. R. Patil, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government to appoint a mixed committee of official and non-official members of this Council with a majority of the latter to thoroughly enquire into and consider the causes leading to the growing indebtedness of the agriculturists and to suggest remedies."

2. "This Council recommends to Government to undertake legislation to prevent begging on the part of such persons as are capable of work."

3. "This Council recommends to Government to increase the scale of emoluments of patils."

4. "This Council recommends to Government to create new district courts at Jalgaon and Nadiad immediately."

Resolutions by Mr. Hoosenally M. Rahimtoola, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government to appoint a committee to inquire into the causes of the encroachments made by the sea on the western coast of the presidency and to suggest measures for the prevention thereof."

2. "This Council recommends to Government to declare two days as public holidays for Ramzan-Id."

3. "This Council recommends to Government to represent to the Government of India the necessity of amending the Bombay Electoral Rules by deleting Rule 6 (1) (b), which makes it incumbent on a candidate from a general constituency or of a division any part of which is included in that constituency to be a resident of that constituency for at least six months immediately prior to the nomination day."

Resolutions by Mr. B. R. Nanal, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends that Government be pleased to give substantial help to the Shrimati Nathibai Damodar Thakersey

Indian Women's University as a mark of appreciation of their efforts in conducting for the last eight years the very useful and important experiment of imparting secondary and higher education to women through the medium of the vernacular and that this help be given without imposing any such restrictions as may interfere with the internal administration of the said University or affect its independence."

2. "This Council recommends to Government that a committee with a three-fourths non-official majority be appointed to consider and report:—

(a) What cottage industries are best suited to the conditions prevailing in this presidency (including Sind);

(b) What are the best means of introducing such cottage industries and of encouraging their growth and expansion so as to bring them within the reach of every villager."

Resolution by Mr. Noor Mahomed, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to His Excellency the Governor in Council that a mixed committee of the official members of the Council nominated by the Government and non-official members elected by the House, with a clear non-official majority, be appointed to hold an open enquiry and to take evidence with a view to investigate the entire question of the application of the Fallow Rules in Sind, and to make the necessary recommendations about the advisability or otherwise of abrogating or modifying such of the aforesaid rules as are operating harshly on the zamindars of Sind and of restoring to the original holders on the original terms of occupancy all lands that have hitherto been forfeited and are being either withheld or granted under restrictions."

Resolutions by Mr. R. G. Pradhan, M.L.C.

1. "That the President of this Council be requested to communicate to the family of the late Right Honourable Mr. Edwin Samuel Montagu, its sense of profound sorrow at his sad and premature death, and its sincere and grateful appreciation of the distinguished services he rendered during his term of office as Secretary of State for India, to the cause of India's freedom."

2. "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council to take such steps as may be necessary for the amendment of the Bombay Electoral Rules with a view to removing the sex disqualification for election or nomination to the Bombay Legislative Council."

3. "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council to take steps to encourage and develop the Ayurvedic system of medicine and with that end in view to establish an Ayurvedic medical college at a suitable centre."

Resolution by Mr. A. N. Surve, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government to adopt the principle of reservation of seats in the municipal corporation of Bombay in favour of the backward communities (including the Maratha and the allied castes) and the depressed classes."

Resolutions by Mr. L. S. Chaudhari, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that in the district of East Khandesh, the rates per 100 cubic feet to be charged by the Collector under Rule No. 66 of the Bombay Land Revenue Rules, sub-clause 2, should be those that are prescribed by G.O., R.D., No. 2334, dated the 5th of August 1920 for domestic and agricultural purposes of private individuals and the discretionary power given to the Collector under the said rule should remain unrestricted only in cases where the material is intended for purposes of trade or business."

2. "This Council recommends to Government that rates of grazing fees should be two annas per head where the cattle live in the village all the year round and go to and come from the forest every day; and four annas per head in every other case."

3. "This Council recommends to Government that the remuneration of patils in Central Division be increased at least to the minimum pay of Rs. 10 per month."

4. "This Council recommends to Government that no talati should be appointed to serve for more than four years in the same *saza* and that in no case should a talati be appointed to a *saza* in which his native place is situated."

5. "This Council recommends to Government that a temporary property-protection gun license should be issued to all agriculturists who pay an assessment of Rs. 45 or more to Government and apply for such licenses."

6. "This Council recommends to Government that no liquor shop should be opened within the limits of a municipality, village panchayat area or a notified area if the proposal to open it is opposed by a resolution carried by a majority of the members of the bodies constituting the local authorities in such areas."

7. "This Council recommends to Government to appoint a committee with a non-official majority to suggest measures for the improvement of the economic condition of the agriculturists in this presidency."

8. "This Council recommends to Government that district courts should be immediately established at Jalgaon and Nadiad."

9. "This Council recommends to Government that the training school which has been closed at Jalgaon should be re-opened."

Resolutions by Mr. G. I. Patel, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that within two months of the close of every session they would be pleased to announce what action they have taken or propose to take on each of the decisions of the Council arrived at during that session."
2. "This Council recommends to Government that the photo-copying system introduced recently in the registration department of this presidency as an experimental measure be abolished forthwith and the old system be restored."

Resolutions by Mr. S. S. Dev, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government to suspend the introduction of the revised rates of assessment in the Sindkheda taluka in the West Khandesh, till legislative or other action is taken by Government on the resolution passed by this Council on the 15th March 1924, regarding the revision of the land revenue assessment."

2. "This Council recommends to Government that in order to allay the discontent prevailing among the agriculturists of the presidency and to give them real relief, the following fees and fines, wherever they have been recently increased, be reduced to their original level, if not lower still:—

Grazing fees per head of cattle ;
 Fees per cart and headload of grass ;
 Fees per cart and headload of Anjan leaves ;
 Fees per cartload of thorns ;
 Fees per cart and headload of fuel ;
 Fees per cartload of stones of various kinds, and
 Fines per head of cattle impounded."

3. "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council to appoint forthwith a small committee, with a non-official majority, to investigate into the causes of the discontent prevailing among those khatedars in the Mulshi Peta whose lands are being acquired for the Nila-Mula project, and to report thereon."

4. "This Council recommends to Government that all lands situated in the villages in Mulshi Peta, which are above the contour line of the Nila-Mula project of the Tata Power Co., Ltd., and have been rendered useless to the owners or have deteriorated in value on account of the said project be acquired under the Land Acquisition Act at the rates at which the adjoining lands to be submerged under water are being or have already been acquired."

5. "This Council recommends to Government that in view of the population of, and the number of voters in the non-Mahomedan rural constituency of the district of West Khandesh, they may be pleased to move the proper authorities to allot two seats in the Bombay Legislative Council to that constituency."

6. "This Council recommends to Government that they may be pleased to revise the existing partition of Khandesh and readjust it by transferring Amalner, Parola and Chalisgaon talukas to West Khandesh."

7. "This Council recommends to Government that the orders prohibiting school-boys in Government and aided institutions from attending public meetings be at once rescinded."

8. "This Council recommends that Government be pleased to give substantial monetary help to the Shreemati Nathibai Damodar Thackersey Indian Women's University, as a mark of appreciation of their efforts in conducting for the last eight years the very useful and important experiment of imparting secondary and higher education to women through the medium of the vernacular and that this help be given without imposing any such restrictions as may interfere with the internal administration of the said university."

9. "This Council recommends to Government that they be pleased forthwith to appoint for each district in the presidency a mixed committee of officials and non-officials, with a majority of non-officials, including all the elected members of the Legislative Council for that district, the committee having power to elect its own chairman, in order (1) to investigate into the economic condition of the people of the district and (2) to ascertain their various grievances, and to report thereon, suggesting remedies, where possible."

10. "This Council recommends to Government that a bridge or high level causeway be built on the river Tapti at the place where she crosses the Agra Road between Dhulia and Shirpur, and that provision be made for it in the next year's budget."

11. "This Council recommends that Government be pleased to authorise district officers to supply to members of this Council such information of public interest as they may seek from such officers."

Resolutions by Mr. G. B. Pradhan, M.L.C.

1. "That this Council recommends to Government that in view of the great hardship to which the people staying at Badlapur and other neighbouring places are put and the inconvenience caused to vehicular traffic on the Kalyan-Murbad Road, Government be pleased to construct bridges at both these places on the river Ulhas, or to compel the Tata Company who allow the tail water to flow into this river to construct these bridges."

2. "This Council recommends to Government that in view of the great hardship caused to the inhabitants of Dharavi island to construct a bridge over the Ambavni creek at Gorai to meet the repeated demand of the people staying in these places."

3. "This Council recommends to His Excellency in Council to suspend the introduction of the revised rates of assessment in the Pen and Panvel talukas of the Kolaba district and the Sindkhed taluka in the West.

Khandesh district till legislative or other action is taken by Government on the resolution passed by this Council on the 15th March 1924 regarding the revision of land revenue assessment."

4. "This Council recommends to His Excellency in Council that in order to allay the discontent prevailing among the agriculturists in this presidency and to give them real relief the following fees and fines wherever they recently have been increased be reduced to their original level :—

Grazing fees per head of cattle,
Fees per cart and headload of grass,
Fees per cart and headload of Anjan leaves,
Fees per cartload of thorns,
Fees per cart and headload of fuel,
Fees per cartload of stones of various kinds, and
Fines per head of cattle impounded."

Resolution by Mr. R. G. Soman, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government to immediately sanction the opening of at least one school in this presidency for teaching the indigenous systems of medicine with a view to facilitating the supply of indigenous medicines through qualified hands to the village population in general at less cost."

Resolutions by Mr. S. T. Kambli, M.L.C.

1. "That this Council recommends to Government that steps be taken to constitute Karnatic into a separate division."

2. "That this Council recommends to Government that a representation be made to H. E. the Governor-General in Council that a separate province be made for the Bombay Karnatic and the Canarese speaking districts of the Madras presidency."

3. "This Council recommends to Government that the District and Sessions Court of the district of Dharwar be located at Hubli and that a building for the same be constructed at Hubli instead of at Dharwar."

Resolution by Mr. D. B. Adwani, M.L.C.

1. "In view of the controversy that has been raised by competent irrigation engineers in connection with the Lloyd Barrage and Canals scheme, this Council recommends to Government that they be pleased to recommend to the Secretary of State for India that an independent committee of experts be appointed without delay to examine the project and to submit its report at the earliest possible date."

Resolutions by Dr. M. B. Velkar, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council to remove the ban against the entry of Mr. Benjamin Guy Horniman into India."

2. "This Council recommends to Government that they should appoint a small committee composed of one official and two Indian non-officials to enquire into the allegations against Lieutenant-Colonel L. P. Stephen, I.M.S., Civil Surgeon, Karachi, made by Dr. Rochiram A. Amesur in his recently published pamphlet 'The Karachi Civil Hospital Scandal'."

Resolutions by Mr. R. D. Shinde, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council to appoint a committee with a non-official majority to inquire into the causes of the growing indebtedness of the agriculturists of the Deccan, to examine the working of the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act, 1879, with special reference to this question and to suggest measures to improve their economic condition."

2. "This Council recommends to Government that the following fees and fines wherever they have been recently increased be reduced to their original level:—

- Grazing fees per head of cattle ;
- Fees per cart and headload of grass ;
- Fees per cartload and headload of Anjan leaves ;
- Fees per cartload of thorns ;
- Fees per cart and headload of fuel ;
- Fees per cartload of stones ;
- Fines per head of cattle impounded."

3. "This Council recommends to Government that the scheme embodied in the minority report of the Technical and Industrial Education Committee submitted in March 1922 be sanctioned and that in view of the importance and urgency of technical education, the scheme may be put into operation without any further delay."

4. "This Council recommends to Government that admission to Government services should be confined as far as possible to candidates who are *bona fide* natives of the Bombay presidency."

5. "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council to take immediate steps to improve the pay and prospects of the police patils in the Central and Southern Divisions."

6. "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that the Bombay and Karachi Port Trust Acts be so amended that the proceedings of the meetings of the trustees of the Bombay and Karachi Port Trusts will be open to the press."

Resolutions by Mr. M. B. Powar, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that a committee with a three-fourths non-official majority be appointed to consider and report on the question of the revision of the curricula and text-books of the primary and secondary schools in this presidency (including Sind)."

2. "This Council recommends to Government that all the lands which are above the contour line of the Nila Mula project of the Tata Power Company, Ltd., situated in such villages in Mulshi Peta as are affected by the said project, and which have been rendered useless or inaccessible to the owners or have deteriorated in value on account of the said project, should be acquired under the Land Acquisition Act at the rates at which the adjoining lands to be submerged under water have already been acquired."

Resolutions by Haji Abdullah Haroon, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government to issue instructions to all Government Departments and officers to send their official advertisements for publication to all provincial daily newspapers irrespective of the political opinions which they represent."

2. "This Council recommends to Government that for the Mussalman community (Sunnis and Shias) sectional holidays should be sanctioned for the following important festivals :

- (a) Shabi-Mairaj,
- (b) Shabi-Qadar,
- (c) Juma-tul-wida,
- (d) Hajj."

3. "This Council recommends to Government that the Karachi and Bombay Port Trust Acts be so amended that the proceedings of the meetings of the Karachi and Bombay Port Trusts be open to the press and public."

4. "This Council recommends to Government that they be pleased to empower the municipality of Karachi to determine the number and location of liquor shops within their jurisdiction."

5. "This Council recommends to His Excellency the Governor in Council the removal of the disqualification, with respect to candidature at municipal, local board and Legislative Council elections, of persons convicted of political or other offences not involving moral turpitude, and sentenced to any term of imprisonment."

6. "This Council recommends to Government to supply the individual members of this Council such special Reports and publications as Census Reports, History of Services of Gazetted Officers, Bombay Gazetteers, Departmental Manuals, all editions of the Bombay Civil List, etc., which are now not supplied to them."

7. "This Council recommends to Government to supply, free of cost, all Government publications, ordinarily supplied to the members of the Legislative Council, to the editors of all daily newspapers in the Bombay Presidency, including Sind."

Resolution by Mr. G. K. Mavalankar, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government to cancel the appointment of the settlement officer recently made for the revenue settlements

of the Bardoli and Chikhli talukas in view of the amended form in which the resolution of Mr. R. G. Pradhan about revision settlements was carried by the Council, directing that 'No revision be proceeded with and no new rates under any revised settlement be introduced till the said legislation is brought into effect' and in view of the fact that the principles on which revision settlements are to be based are under the consideration of a committee appointed by Government."

XV.—PAPERS PRESENTED TO THE COUNCIL.

1. Proceedings of the meetings of the Finance Committee, October and December 1924.

2. F. D. Note No. 3520-E., dated 15th November 1924, regarding Supplementary grants in connection with cost of Local Board elections.

3. F. D. Note No. 3708-E., dated 12th December 1924, regarding Supplementary grants in connection with grant-in-aid to Bombay Village Association.

(4) Resolution of Government, No. 8768, Revenue Department, dated 10th December 1924, regarding reorganization of the office of the Director of Agriculture and introduction therein of improved methods of office procedure.

(5) Resolution of Government No. L. C. 1483, Revenue Department, dated 10th December 1924, regarding supply of certified copies of District Administration Reports to representatives of districts in several legislatures.

(6) F. D. Note No. 3746-E., dated 9th January 1925, regarding grant-in-aid to the Karachi District Local Board for restoration of communications.

(7) F. D. Note No. 3778-E., dated 31st January 1925, regarding grant-in-aid to the Dhulia Municipality for municipal market.

(8) Resolution of Government, No. L. C. 1374, Revenue Department, dated 26th January 1925, regarding the appointment of a committee to enquire into the grievances of the ryots with regard to forest matters.

(9) F. D. Note No. 3797-E., dated the 3rd February 1925, regarding grant-in-aid to the Karachi District Local Board for ferry service.

(10) F. D. Note No. 2135-A., dated the 4th February 1925, regarding the allotment for the relief of distress caused by floods in Kanara.

(11) F. D. Note No. 3808-E., dated the 7th February 1925, regarding grant-in-aid to the Bombay Society for prevention of cruelty to animals.

(12) Report of the Select Committee on Bill No. XXII of 1924 (A Bill to amend the Bombay District Police Act, 1890).

(13) Report of the Select Committee on motions to amend Standing Orders (Motions Nos. III to VIII of 1924).

Appendix to the Agenda.

AMENDMENTS TO BILLS.

Bill No. 1 of 1925 [A Bill further to amend the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions) Act, 1918, and the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions No. 2) Act, 1918].

Notice has been received of the following amendments from—

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN, M.L.C.

“ In Section 2 of the said Bill delete the words ‘ Used wholly or principally as a dwelling house ’, after the words ‘ any premises ’.

In Section 6 of the said Bill delete the words ‘ Used wholly or principally as a dwelling house ’, after the words ‘ any premises ’.

Besides the above amendments, I also desire to move other amendments as regards details and notices for the same will be duly given under Standing Order VIII, Rule 10, when the Bill is submitted clause by clause at the second reading. But as I apprehend that the above amendments applying the bill to non-residential premises also, may be construed as amendments of principle I have deemed it safer to give notice of the same under Standing Order VIII, Rule 4, sub-rule 2, so that I may be permitted to move them at the first reading of the Bill in the ensuing sessions.”

Thursday, 19th February 1925.

The Council met at the Town Hall, Bombay, on Thursday, the 19th February 1925, the Deputy President, Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI, presiding.

Present:

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
 ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
 AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
 BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
 BHURGRI, Mr. J. W.
 BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
 BOLE, Mr. S. K.
 BUNTER, Mr. J. P.
 COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
 DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
 DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
 DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
 DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
 DELVES, Mr. R. H. A.
 DEV, Mr. S. S.
 DIXIT, Mr. M. K.
 FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
 GHOSAL, Mr. J.
 GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH
 GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
 GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
 GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
 HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
 HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
 HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
 HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
 HUDSON, Mr. L. S.
 JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
 JATOI, Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH
 JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
 JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
 JOG, Mr. V. N.
 JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
 KALBHOR, Mr. G. M.
 KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.
 KARKI, Mr. M. D.
 KAY, Mr. J. A.
 KAZI INAITULLAKHAN
 KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
 LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
 LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.

LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 LINFORD, Mr. J. W.
 MADAN, Mr. J. A.
 MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO, Mr.
 MANSURI, Khan Sahab A. M.
 MAVALANKAR, Mr. G. K.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
 MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
 NANAL, Mr. B. R.
 NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
 NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
 NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
 PATEL, Mr. A. E.
 PATEL, Mr. D. N.
 PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED KHAN
 PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
 PATIL, Mr. D. R.
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 PIR RASULBAKSH SHAH
 POWAR, Mr. M. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 PRATT, Mr. F. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSENALLY M.
 RAHIMTOOLA, the Honourable Sir IBRAHIM
 SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
 SAPTARSHI, Mr. C. M.
 SARDESAI, Mr. S. A.
 SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO, Mr.
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 SHIVDASANI, Mr. H. B.
 SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
 SURVE, Mr. A. N.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.
 SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
 THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
 TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
 VELKAR, Dr. M. B.
 WILES, Mr. G.

The Deputy PRESIDENT: Order, order. The first part of the agenda to-day is swearing in of new members.

following members made the prescribed oath or affirmation of
fidelity to His Majesty the King-Emperor, and took their seats in
Council :—

Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoola, K.C.S.I., C.I.E. ;
Mr. J. E. B. Hotson, O.B.E. ;
Mr. C. W. A. Turner ;
Mr. L. J. Mountford ;
Mr. R. H. A. Delves ;
Mr. C. S. C. Harrison ;
Mr. P. E. Percival, C.I.E.

The Deputy PRESIDENT : The swearing in being over, the next
part of the agenda is the election of the President. But in view of
the fact that there is no nomination except for one honourable member,
that is, Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoola, there will be no election ; I shall read
out the names of the proposers and seconders :—

| Name proposed. | Proposer. | Secunder. |
|------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Sir Ibrahim Rahim- toola. | Mr. Noor Mohamed. | Syed Mohomed Kamil Shah. |
| Sir Ibrahim Rahim- toola. | Mr. M. R. Jayakar. | Mr. Lalji Naranji. |
| Sir Ibrahim Rahim- toola. | Sir Maurice Hayward. | Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain Hidayatallah. |

These are the three proposals received for the election of Sir Ibrahim
Rahimtoola as our president-elect for the next two years remaining
out of the period of this reformed council. In view of the fact that
there has been no further nomination there need be no election,
and I declare Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoola, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., as duly elected
President of this Council for the next two years. (Applause.)

The approval of His Excellency will be necessary and be obtained.
The approval shall be applied for during the course of the day and
announced in the House to-morrow.

I am also authorised further by His Excellency to convey a message
to this House that the House will meet here to-morrow at 2-30, when
the President-elect will take his seat, but no business of the Council
will be transacted by him until His Excellency arrives at 3 p.m.
Then His Excellency will address the Council, and after His Excellency
departs, the President-elect will continue the business of the Council
and work will proceed as usual.

In the programme that has been issued, item No. 3 is " Chairmen
nominated " and then item No. 6 is " Opening speech by His Excellency ".
But according to the present arrangement His Excellency will be here
in all probability to welcome our new President, at 3 p.m., I take it,
to add another step towards the reformed government. After the
Council has been opened by His Excellency the President-elect will
commence his work after His Excellency departs.

There is no other work to be done to-day and therefore the House will
now adjourn and meet to-morrow, Friday the 20th February 1925, at
2-30 p.m.

20 FEB. 1925]

Friday, the 20th February 1925.

The Council re-assembled at the Town Hall, Bombay, on Friday, the 20th February 1925, at 2-30 p.m., the DEPUTY PRESIDENT presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
 ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
 ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
 AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
 BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
 BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
 BHURGRI, Mr. J. M.
 BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
 BOLE, Mr. S. K.
 BUNTER, Mr. J. P.
 COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
 DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
 DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
 DELVES, Mr. R. H. A.
 DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
 DEV, Mr. S. S.
 FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
 FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
 GHOSAL, Mr. J.
 GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH
 GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
 GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
 GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
 HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
 HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
 HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
 HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
 HUDSON, Mr. L. S.
 JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
 JATOI, Khan Saheb HAJI SERAI IMAMBAKSH
 JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
 JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
 JOG, Mr. V. N.
 JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
 KALBHOR, Mr. G. M.
 KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.
 KARKI, Mr. M. D.
 KAY, Mr. J. A.
 KAZI INAITULLAKHAN
 KOKANI, Mr. G. J.
 KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
 LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
 LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSAINBHOY A.

LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 LINFORD, Mr. J. W.
 MADAN, Mr. J. A.
 MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUERO, Mr.
 MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
 MAVALANKAR, Mr. G. K.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
 NANAL, Mr. B. R.
 NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
 NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
 NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 OWEN, Mr. A. C.
 PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
 PATEL, Mr. A. E.
 PATEL, Mr. D. N.
 PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED KHAN
 PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
 PATIL, Mr. D. R.
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 PIR RASULBAKSH SHAH
 POWAR, Mr. M. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 PRATT, Mr. F. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSENALLY M.
 SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
 SAPTARSHI, Mr. C. M.
 SARDESAI, Mr. S. A.
 SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH
 SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
 SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO, Mr.
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 SHIVDASANI, Mr. H. B.
 SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
 SURVE, Mr. A. N.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.
 SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
 THAKOR OF AMOD, the
 THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
 TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
 VELKAR, Dr. M. B.
 WILES, Mr. G.
 WOODS, Mr. E. E.

ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT : Honourable Sir Ibrahim and gentlemen, my proud privilege to-day to welcome you, Sir Ibrahim, and to invite you to take your seat as the first elected President of this Legislative Council. During your public life, as a non-official member both of the Governor's and the Viceroy's Council, you have been the veteran advocate of the people's rights and privileges : as an official, Member of the Executive Council, your efforts at the amelioration of the condition of the Indians in this Presidency and endeavours in the cause of education are now a matter of history. Your independence in the conduct of the proceedings of this Council as its President won you the confidence both of the Government and the elected members of this Council, of which your nomination for the President's seat both by the Leader of the House and by the non-officials, and your unanimous election is but a small index.

I now proceed to read the communication of His Excellency received by me through the Private Secretary and request you, Sir Ibrahim, in consonance with the unanimous verdict of this Council and approval of His Excellency, to ascend the dais and take your seat henceforth as the Honourable President of this Council. The communication of the Private Secretary is conveyed in these terms :

" With reference to your letter No. 762 dated the 19th February 1925, I am directed to inform you that His Excellency the Governor of Bombay has this day signified his approval of the election by the Bombay Legislative Council, at its meeting held on the 19th day of February 1925, of Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoola, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., as the President of the said Council."

Sir IBRAHIM RAHIMTOOLA then took his seat as the President amidst applause.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Mr. Deputy President and gentlemen, I have to tender to you my sincere and grateful thanks for the mark of confidence which you have shown in electing me unanimously as your President. To enable your President to discharge his responsible duties satisfactorily, it is essential that he should command the confidence of the whole House and it cannot but be most gratifying to me to find that you have in the selection of the first elected President extended to me such unanimous confidence. I cannot believe that such generous appreciation of my humble services as your nominated President is due to any special merits of my own. No one realizes more than myself the many shortcomings in the discharge of my onerous duties and I can only attribute your preference in my favour to your generous instinct in recognising that I have tried my humble best to deal with questions which come up for my decision in a spirit of judicial impartiality. I am deeply grateful to you for your kind appreciation of my humble efforts and I can assure you that I will continue to keep before me constantly the same principles which have won for me such unanimous approval.

Gentlemen, however much I may try to base the discharge of my duties on high principles, the success of my efforts must depend upon your cordial help and co-operation. I am most grateful to you for all the help and co-operation which you gave me in the past and I confidently

[The President]

rely upon you to continue to extend to me all the assistance necessary to the successful discharge of my duties. Occasions would arise with difference of opinion must prevail as regards the decisions which I may give on points of order arising during the debates, but I can assure you that the underlying motive will always be to reach such decisions in a spirit of fairness and impartiality, and I am confident you will accept them in the same spirit. The Bombay Legislative Council has succeeded in building up high traditions of procedure and respect for the Chair, irrespective of the person occupying it, and I am perfectly confident that it will continue to maintain such traditions always in the future, making it the model of constitutional assemblies. Gentlemen, I have to thank you again for the high honour you have done me in electing me to be your President.

I should now like to ask you what procedure you wish adopted for to-day. You are aware that His Excellency the Governor intends to arrive here at 3 o'clock and to address you at the opening of this session. We will have, therefore, to adjourn now and meet again at five minutes to three. In the meantime I should like to make a suggestion for your consideration. In order to save the time which is usually occupied when we proceed to elect members the Finance Committee and the Public Accounts Committee in making nominations and then dictating to honourable members the names of the candidates nominated, I would suggest that the fifteen minutes that are available now, should be utilized for sending in nominations for both these committees. It would be sufficient if on the top of each paper the name of the committee for which you wish to nominate a particular person is noted and it is handed over to the Secretary before His Excellency's arrival. I will arrange to have all these nominations typed, so that the Council can proceed to vote immediately the items are reached. Honourable members will have then simply to put crosses against those names for whom they wish to vote. In that way, considerable time of the Council can be saved. If honourable members are agreeable to this course, I hope they will occupy the time they have got in deciding upon the persons they wish to nominate for election, first to the Finance Committee, and then to the Public Accounts Committee. After His Excellency's departure, we will take up questions, and then proceed with the elections and the other business on the agenda.

The Council will now adjourn till 2-55 p.m.

The Council re-assembled at 2-55 p.m.

His Excellency the Governor was met by the President on his arrival. A procession of chobdars, His Excellency's staff, the President of the Council (the Honourable Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoola, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.), and His Excellency the Governor passed slowly up the Hall to the dais at 3 p.m.

His Excellency's staff stood in a semi-circle at the back of the dais behind the two chairs, His Excellency the Governor being on the right and the Honourable the President on the left.

Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order. His Excellency address the House.

ing to address the Council, His Excellency said :—

Gentlemen, I am very glad to have this opportunity of welcoming all to Bombay for the Budget Session of the Council, a session which always be remarkable as being the first occasion on which your deliberations will be guided by a President of your own choice. I desire, of all, to offer to the Honourable the President my warmest congratulations on the unanimous choice of the Council which has selected as its most suitable member to fill this post of high dignity and responsibility. I have already expressed, in the manner provided in the Government of India Act, my formal approval of the election which you have made, but I should like to add that your choice has received not only my official approval, but my most hearty personal concurrence. In the course of your proceedings you may have occasion to criticise—often adversely, and perhaps at times severely—the past actions of my Government and its proposals for the future, but I am very glad that the first act of the Council this year has been to endorse, by a free vote of the Council, the appointment of President made nearly two years ago during the first Reformed Council.

The business that you have been called together to discuss at this session of the Council is perhaps one of the most important duties which devolve upon you during the whole year, for, in settling the Budget you practically decide what course of policy the Government is to pursue during the next 12 months in all the important departments. The Honourable the Finance Member will place before you proposals for an expenditure exceeding 15 crores, and representing an increase over last year's Budget figure of 67 lakhs of rupees. You will notice that a very large proportion of this increase is on account of the Transferred Departments, and that out of the demands for new items amounting to about 50 lakhs, no less than 33 lakhs are proposed for these departments. This allocation of revenues has been made in pursuance of the deliberate policy of Government, namely, the steady expansion of those departments for the administration of which the Executive is directly responsible to the Legislative Council. The conditions which followed the Great War, and particularly the immense rise in the cost of living, have, to the great regret of my Government, made it impossible, with the Meston Settlement in force, to pursue this policy to the extent which Government would have desired, and it will only be possible to proceed in the direction which I have indicated provided that the proposals for taxation which will shortly be placed before you are approved by the Council.

Since the last Budget was settled a year ago, I have visited many parts of the Bombay Presidency, from Jacobabad in the north to Dharwar in the south, and in every place I have visited I have been much struck with the strong demand for more expenditure on matters connected with the education, health and convenience of the people; and in reply to the addresses of the various local authorities I have pointed out

that the necessary funds can be procured only through local tax in the form of rates, or from Provincial taxes collected under the authority of the Legislative Council. It will now be for you to consider far you think it necessary to raise additional funds by taxation. The manner in which proposals will shortly be placed before you, I feel sure that, in coming to a decision, you will give due consideration to the needs of the presidency as a whole, and to those of the districts which you represent on the Council.

I am fully aware that it is suggested in some quarters that more money should be made available for the necessities of the Transferred Departments by reducing the expenditure on the Reserved Departments, but the argument is put forward that the former departments are the departments which carry out what is known as the nation-building activities of Government. I would remind you that, for building of all kinds, sound foundations are required, and that many of our Reserved Departments are engaged in maintaining those secure foundations on which alone the national edifice can be safely erected. It would, for example, be useless to provide schools and teachers in rural areas, if, on account of gangs of robbers and dacoits, the roads were so unsafe that the children could not attend the schools. This simple illustration makes very clear the connection between the activities of the Home and the Educational Departments, and explains why it is necessary for Government to see that the expansion of education does not proceed at the expense of, and consequently with any risk to the maintenance of, law and order, without which education itself would be bound to suffer severely. In fact, it is only a truism to say that there can be no real progress in any country without stability, and stability can only be ensured by adequate protection, a due observance of law and order, and efficient administration.

You will all remember that in 1922 the Council insisted on a reduction of 60 lakhs in the expenditure of the year 1922-23, and since then every establishment throughout the Presidency has been carefully examined and revised. I am inclined to think that in some directions the reduction of expenditure has been pushed too far. It is to be feared, for example, that our economy on roads and communications has been carried to dangerous limits, and, as another illustration, I gathered from my recent tour in Sind that the reductions in the police force there were already beginning to have serious consequences. At the same time, I can assure the House that all the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee have been very carefully considered, that none of their recommendations has been refused without the closest scrutiny, and that the position has now been reached that, without some small increase in taxation, it would be impossible to incur the expenditure which I have personally found to be demanded by the people throughout the Presidency, and which my Government considers to be absolutely essential in order to give that assistance which we desire to extend to the local authorities for their schemes for education, medicine, public health and similar activities. It is an undoubted

however, that, as years go on, the expenditure on these services continue to show a legitimate demand for a gradual but yearly rise. I hesitate to repeat again words I used on the first occasion addressed honourable members after my arrival in Bombay, but my work in the Presidency has given me ample testimony of the social difficulties which lie ahead of us if there is not to be, at any date, a re-adjustment of the financial relations which, at present, exist between the Government of India and this Presidency. It is a needless proposition to expect any Government to meet the demands of naturally expanding services with little, or no expanding income. I feel sure that any efforts which Government or I have made, or are making, in order that the justice of our claim to a share of the expanding revenues of the presidency may be recognised, will receive the entire support of honourable members and of the public.

There seems to have been some misunderstanding as to the business of the Council. Honourable members will remember that, when opening the second session in July last, I mentioned that it had been proposed that, in future, the business of the February session should consist of the budget discussion and urgent Government business only, the two sessions in Poona being utilised for legislation and private business. I said then that I thought that this proposal would better suit the convenience of honourable members. I have received no suggestions that this would not be in accordance with the wishes of honourable members, and, consequently, decided to act in accordance with this expression of opinion. I realise, however, that it is advisable that there should not be so long a lapse of time during which honourable members are unable to bring forward private business as from October to July, and I have allotted two days this session for urgent private business. To my mind, the whole question of the business of the Council needs reconsideration. Government is anxious to meet the wishes of the Council on this question in every way it can. It recognises the importance of private business, and the opportunity which both private bills and resolutions offer to Government of realising the opinions held in the presidency on many matters of public interest which would not, perhaps, otherwise be discussed, and of moulding their policy to meet them. The difficulty is to find the necessary time with the increasing demand, which Government also welcomes, for more time to discuss Government legislation. I still believe that honourable members do not desire to lengthen the February session and to sit for more than a month at that time. The July and October sessions can be prolonged to afford the necessary time, or it has been suggested to me that an extra session could be held in Bombay in December. While welcoming every suggestion, I do not think that this latter course is practicable, for reasons which present grave, if not insurmountable, difficulties, and I will mention only two of these difficulties. In the first place, Government is, during December, much occupied in the preparation of the budget, and in the second place, the honourable members who come from Sind and distant parts of the presidency would be unwilling, so I am informed, to travel to Bombay

so soon after they had come to Poona for the October session. In the Sind members find it now extremely difficult, owing to Oct being a very busy month in Sind, to attend the October session. A few were able to do so last year. The Leader of the House has always been in communication with several honourable members on this question; and if, during this session, all honourable members either collectively or individually, would inform him of their views, Government will then be in a far better position to take a decision which will meet, in the best way possible, the necessities of the situation both regards Government and private business, and the convenience of honourable members. I wish it to be clearly understood that neither I nor Government desire to avoid discussion on any subject, but in arranging the business, and in fixing the months, during which sessions should be held, and the length of such sessions, we are only anxious to meet the convenience of honourable members so long as it is possible, at the same time, to carry through necessary Government business.

In accordance with the proposals made at Poona to which I have alluded, Government will introduce this session only urgent business in addition to the finance bill. The Council will be asked to give their favourable consideration to the Stamp Bill and Court-fees Bill, and I earnestly ask honourable members to consent to the passage of these two bills into law, for, without the financial assistance which they afford, it will not, of course, be possible to do all that Government desires to do, and, I may add, that honourable members desire to do, in order to provide necessary revenue for education, public health, and other urgent needs. The only bill which will, this session, be put before the Council for first reading is the Rent Bill, which, as well as the other two bills I have mentioned, has already been published. With my experience of similar war time measures in England, I am fully aware of the difficulties of this question, and I would urge the Council to give this Bill a first reading in order that its details may receive a full discussion in select committee.

The consequence of asking the Council only to consider, this session, the measures I have mentioned, is that a considerable amount of important legislation will be left over for discussion at future sessions this year. Exclusive of several minor bills, there are in view several important bills for second reading, and new bills for first reading to come before the Council in July. Among the bills likely to be ready for first reading are the Major Municipalities Bill—a measure to give wider powers in the management of municipal affairs in certain cities; the Sind Courts Bill to establish a Chief Court in Sind; the Improvement Trust Amendment Bill; a bill to supplement the Bombay Children's Act, drafted in accordance with undertakings given by Government last session; and a bill to impose a tax on totalisator betting, reference to which will be made by the Honourable Finance Member in his opening statement on the budget. There are the second readings of the Co-operative Societies Bill; the Bombay City Municipal Bill; and the Prevention of Adulteration Bill.

In addition to this heavy programme which I have outlined, including, as it does, matters of major interest in the presidency, there are many measures of importance, including the Karachi City Municipal Corporation Bill, a further amending bill to the Bombay Port Trust Act; and other bills, all of which must be postponed, I fear, until the October session. I mention these measures in connection with the question of the session in order that honourable members may realise that, as time goes on, the work of the Council must increase, and it will be essential, in coming to any decision as to the future, to take into consideration the present state of affairs. If this important legislation is to receive that due consideration which Government and the Council naturally desire that it should receive, it certainly appears to me that the length of sessions, and even the number of sittings, will require, as I have said, the most careful reconsideration, particularly if adequate time is to be given, as in the opinion of Government it should be given, to the proper discussion of private bills and private resolutions.

Honourable members are aware that Government set up a Medical Relief Committee early last year to enquire into and report on the whole question of medical relief and teaching in the city of Bombay, as I found a general agreement in the view I had expressed that the ratio of hospital accommodation to population is so low as to give ground for anxiety. That view has been endorsed by the committee, to the members of which I desire to express my sincere thanks for the energy and ability with which they conducted their enquiries, and for the valuable recommendations they have made. I will not deal at length with this question, but I deeply regret it has not been possible to act with more expedition. In view, however, of the proposals to deal with this most important matter, which have already been made public in a Press Note, it is necessary, before further action can be taken, to secure the assent both of this Council and of the municipality of Bombay to those proposals. The municipality have, at a recent meeting, I am very glad to note, agreed to the proposals, and in order that honourable members may have an early opportunity of deciding if they support the views of representatives of Government and the municipality as to the suggested method of dealing with a situation which is, in my opinion, a very urgent matter, a vote of Rs. 5,000 has been put into the estimates. I trust that an opportunity will offer itself, under this arrangement, for the proposals to be put before the Council in detail by the Honourable Minister for Education.

As in other parts of India, we are very dependent, both as a Government and as representing the people of the country, on the agricultural situation, and I am glad to know that, on the whole, the kharif and the rabi seasons which have just passed have been satisfactory. It is true that the kharif rains were late, unevenly distributed, and deficient in the eastern part of the Deccan and the Karnatak; but the rainfall in August saved the situation, reviving a large portion of the kharif crops, and providing suitable conditions for rabi sowing. Deficient rains in November and December in some parts stunted the rabi crops, and the outturn

is, I regret to hear, not likely to be so good as was expected. I am informed that a certain amount of damage has recently been done to the crops by the cold wave which passed over the west of India, though fortunately the damage has not proved, on local inspection, to be so serious as was at one time anticipated.

In Sind, the inundation has been generally satisfactory, and there has been good rain in the desert portions of the province. Except for the damage caused by floods, the season has been a good one, although there also a certain amount of damage has been caused by the recent frost. On the whole, I think we may congratulate ourselves on the fact that the season was, taking it all round, a favourable one, and I hope that in the coming year we shall be, at least, equally fortunate.

Coming finally to the subject of law and order, it is very gratifying to note that the financial year which is now coming to a close has been distinguished from the preceding year by a diminution in the number of serious organised crimes of violence. When addressing you last year, I referred to the capture of the notorious dacoit Babar Deva, and since then, the work of breaking up the gangs of armed dacoits which had terrorised Gujarat, part of Sind, and the neighbouring Indian States, has been carried steadily on throughout the year. Practically all the most notorious dacoits have now been captured and have paid the penalty of their outrages. Here in Bombay City also, there has been a steady diminution in the number of violent crimes which were usually attributed to what was called "The Pathan Menace". These satisfactory results are largely due to the vigilant supervision of the superior police officers, and to the loyal and gallant co-operation of the rank and file. When we see in the newspapers a report of the capture of a notorious outlaw, or the breaking up of a gang of dacoits, I am afraid we sometimes forget the gallantry and devotion to duty of the men who have carried out these very hazardous enterprises. The public owes a debt of gratitude to men like Constable Tawde of the Bombay City Police, or Constable Shahbux of Sukkur, who, at the call of duty, threw themselves unarmed upon desperate armed ruffians; or Head Constable Murid Wali Mahomed Khoso, who, for a whole night, followed the tracks of Mir Khan Baluch and his gang of fifty dacoits, and arriving at Islamkot ahead of them, fought them until he had fired his last cartridge, when they withdrew disappointed. Government can, and do, recognise services such as these by the award of the King's Police Medal, and in other ways; but I trust that a wider recognition will be given by the public of the presidency, whom you represent, to the fact that, among these humble servants of Government, there are men who are daily performing deeds which do honour to the presidency, and to the country to which they belong.

Gentlemen, I know that you are actuated in your work, representing as you do the people of the presidency, by the same motives which I hope you will admit urge on my Government and myself to every effort. We all of us have one aim in view, namely, the prosperity of the presidency of Bombay and the welfare of its inhabitants. When we realise that the

ditions of this Council affect the well-being of nearly twenty millions of people, I feel certain that there can be no doubt but that, in your discussions and decisions, you will always bear in mind the great responsibility which rests on every individual honourable member, and that you will give to the citizens of this presidency all the help and assistance which lies in your power.

At the conclusion of His Excellency's address a procession was held, and His Excellency left the Hall in State.

Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order. I have now to announce the nomination of four chairmen for the current session, to nominate Mr. L. S. Hudson, Dr. K. E. Dadachanji, Khan Saheb Mansuri and Mr. V. A. Dabholkar to be chairmen for this session. The next business on the agenda paper is "Announcement regarding the Governor-General's assent to Acts of the local legislature". The following Acts have received the assent of the Governor-General since the close of the last session of the Legislative Council:—

- (i) An Act further to amend the Karachi Port Trust Act, 1886;
- (ii) An Act further to amend the Prince of Wales Museum Act, 1909;
- (iii) Sir Chinubhai Madhavlal Ranchhodlal Baronetcy Act;
- (iv) An Act further to amend the Cattle-trespass Act, 1871;
- (v) An Act further to amend the Bombay Smoke-nuisances Act, 1912;
- (vi) An Act further to amend the Bombay Public Conveyances Act, 1920;
- (vii) An Act to determine the salary of the President of the Bombay Legislative Council;
- (viii) Bombay Children Act;
- (ix) An Act further to amend the City of Bombay Improvement Act, 1898.

The next business before the Council is Questions.

PIMPS AND PROCURERS.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: Will Government be pleased to state how many pimps and procurers have been dealt with by the police since the passing of the Prostitution Act?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Fifteen.

CONTRACTS TO EUROPEAN AND INDIAN FIRMS FOR MATERIALS.

*Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the contracts given to European firms or merchants and Indian firms or merchants in the various departments since the 1st April 1923, together with the nature and amounts of such contracts?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in February 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Statements* containing the required information are laid on the table.

POONA ENGINEERING COLLEGE.

† Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City) : Will Government be pleased to give the following information : (a) What is the attendance time of the Poona Engineering College ?

(b) What was it in 1921 ?

(c) If there has been any change, what is the reason for the change ?

(d) Will Government be pleased to lay on the Council table a copy of the principal's order notifying the change in the attendance time ?

(e) Was the convenience of the students taken into consideration while making the change ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) 9 a.m. to 12 noon and 1-30 to 4-30 p.m. with a recess for one hour and a half every day except Saturday. On Saturday the time is from 8 to 12.

(b) It was from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. except some change shown below. On Saturday the time was 7 to 11 a.m. The recess was from 1-45 to 2-15 p.m. each day except Friday.

F.E. Division I :—Monday 9 to 1 and 2 to 5 having a recess from 1 to 2. Tuesday 10 to 1 and 2 to 5 with a recess from 1 to 2.

F.E. Division II :—Monday 10 to 1 and 2 to 5 with a recess from 1 to 2. Tuesday 9 to 1 and 2 to 5 with a recess from 1 to 2.

S.E. Mechanical :—Tuesday }
 Wednesday } 10 to 1-45 and 2-15 to 3 with a
 Thursday } recess from 1-45 to 2-15.
 Friday } 10 to 12 and 1 to 5.

B.E. Mechanical :—Monday }
 Tuesday } 10 to 1 and 2 to 5 with a recess
 Thursday } from 1 to 2.

(c) The present periods are much more convenient for the work and introduce uniformity. The "exceptions" shown in (b) were necessary because the workshops were open during different hours, viz., 9 to 12 and 1 to 4 except on certain days of the week. This caused much confusion and great difficulty in arranging time-tables for the staff and students. Now the college and workshops are open daily during the same hours. Moreover, the present arrangement is more convenient for games and athletics, which are an important part of an engineer's training.

(d) A copy of the notice† is laid on the Council table.

(e) Yes. No complaints have been made regarding the change.

* Kept in Secretary's office.

† This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

‡ Vide Appendix 2.

L.C.P. & S. EXAMINATIONS.

*Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether their attention has been drawn to the decreasing percentages of successful candidates at the final L.C.P. & S. Examination?

(b) If so, have any steps been taken by them in this connexion; and if so, what steps have been taken?

(c) Will Government be pleased to furnish the following information for the last five years (1920—24):—

| Examinations. | Month and year. | Candidates appeared. | Candidates successful. | Percentage of 3 to 4. |
|------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Intermediate M.B.B.S. | | | | |
| B.Sc. | | | | |
| L.Sc. | | | | |
| B.E. | | | | |
| B.Ag. | | | | |
| Preliminary Scientific | | | | |
| Final L.C.P. & S. | | | | |

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. The superintendents of the medical schools have already been requested to encourage teachers of the mofussil schools to apply for examinerships. The advisability of requiring failed students to attend prescribed courses is being considered. The question of providing better facilities at Poona and Ahmedabad is also under consideration.

(c) A statement† showing the statistics required is appended.

INCREASED PAY TO BAILIFFS.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): (a) Will Government be pleased to state when the last increment in the pay of the clerks and bailiffs in the judicial department in the Poona district took place?

(b) If there is any difference in the dates from which such increments took effect, will Government be pleased to state the reasons therefor; and do they intend to take any action in that connexion?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a) The pay of the clerks has been revised with effect from 1st March 1920 and of the bailiffs from 1st March 1923.

(b) It was found impossible owing to lack of funds to give the same retrospective effect to the revision of the pay of bailiffs as to that of clerks. But Government are considering whether some further relief cannot be given to the former.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† Vide Appendix 1.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : Will you please state the reasons as to why the necessary funds were not found for increasing the pay of the bailiffs, when funds were found for the increase of the pay of officers ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : The clerks' case was decided first and the bailiffs' case was decided some time afterwards.

CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS NEAR GOVERNMENT HOUSE
AT KIRKEE.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that under Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor's letter No. 458 dated 7th July 1920 addressed to the Consulting Surveyor to Government of Bombay and under Government Resolution No. 3107 dated 25th October 1921, the construction of buildings within a mile of the Government House and its compound at Kirkee, without His Excellency the Governor's previous sanction, is prohibited ?

(b) If the reply to the above be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased (1) to specify the cases in which such permission or sanction was given or refused, the dates on which such sanction was given or refused, and the names of persons, villages and survey number affected in each case ;

(2) to state whether the above letter No. 458 of the Military Secretary to the Governor dated the 7th July 1920 and the Government Resolution No. 3107 of 25th October 1921 were published in the Government Gazette or in any newspapers for the information of the public ; and

(3) to state whether the above restrictions are in accordance with the Land Revenue Enactments and Rules made thereunder ? If not, under what law have those restrictions been imposed ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that permission was granted to one Mr. Peter Luis to erect a building in survey No. 21, plot No. 2 of Bopodi, on 22nd June 1921 but refused to one Mr. Mandevdas V. Sugandhi to erect a building on the same survey No. 21 in spite of the fact that his land was nearer to the public road than that of Mr. Peter Luis's land and that he had to arrange with no other occupant for access to his land ?

(d) If the reply to the above be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state the reasons why permission was refused to Mr. Mandevdas V. Sugandhi ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a), (b) (1) and (3) The honourable member is referred to the reply given to Rao Saheb D. P. Desai's question on the same subject.

(b) (2) No.

(c) Yes.

(d) Information is being called for.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : In reply to question (a) (b) (1) and (3) it is stated " The honourable member is referred to the reply given

to Rao Saheb D. P. Desai's question on the same subject." Now my honourable friend Rao Saheb Desai's question is "(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether His Excellency the Governor is empowered under the Land Revenue Code to prohibit or permit construction of buildings in the above manner?" Then the second part of that question is "If the reply be in the affirmative, under what section or rule of the Land Revenue Code is he so empowered?"

Therefore will you please state the section or rule under which the Governor is so empowered?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: The Governor in Council is so empowered and not the Governor.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR: I want the section or rule under which Government has that power.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: That was not the question that was asked. If the honourable member gives notice, I shall give the exact section. The reply is "The Governor in Council is so empowered".

IMPROVEMENT TRUST PLOTS.

* Khan Bahadur D. B. COOPER (Satara District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state the total number of plots prepared for sale or lease up to the end of the last official year on the undermentioned estates of the Bombay Improvement Trust, viz., (1) Dadar-Matunga, (2) Worli, (3) Chembur, (4) Ghat Kopar, (5) Kurla, (6) Khar.

(b) How many of these plots have been disposed of up to date on each of the above estates?

(c) What is the average cost and the price realised per square yard of ground on each of the above estates to the Trust?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN:

Dadar-Matunga Estate.

| | |
|--|-----|
| Number of plots prepared | 833 |
| Number of plots disposed of | 664 |
| Average price realized Rs. 10·30 per sq. yd. | |

Worli Estate.

| | |
|---|----|
| Number of plots prepared | 23 |
| Number of plots disposed of | 7 |
| Area disposed of—4·14 lakhs of yards. | |
| Average price realized—Rs. 12 per sq. yd. | |

(2) It is difficult to estimate the cost of these plots to the Board as all the works are not yet completed but it is estimated that when all the plots on the Dadar-Matunga Estate have been disposed of it will be found that the rate realized for the plots will be slightly less than

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

the actual cost including provision of main roads and recreation grounds. In Worli the rate realized is very slightly over cost price.

(3) As regards schemes 3 to 6 a reply has already been given.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, POONA.

Khan Bahadur D. B. COOPER (Satara District): (a). Will Government be pleased to state the amount of expenditure incurred during the past five years for maintaining the College of Agriculture at Poona?

(b) What was the number of students from different presidencies respectively taught at the college during the said period?

(c) What amounts were spent during the past three years on imparting agricultural education through the vernaculars?

(d) What amounts were spent during the said period on experimental and demonstrative farms?

(e) What amounts were spent in conveying agricultural knowledge to the door of the agriculturists themselves through the department?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a), (c) and (d) The information will be found in the Civil Budget Estimates under the sub-heads "Agricultural College, Poona", "Other Educational Charges" and "Experimental Farms and Botanical Gardens" under the head "34A-Agriculture".

(b) The information is given in the annual reports of the college, appended to the annual reports of the Department of Agriculture for the Bombay presidency to which attention is invited.

(e) As no separate account is kept of this expenditure Government regret their inability to furnish the figures.

TIDES IN THE NORTHERN PART OF KOLABA DISTRICT.

Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI (Bombay City, South): Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that owing to the recent abnormal tides a good many khari lands and their bunds in the northern part of the Kolaba district have suffered damage?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Information has been called for.

Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI: This is the last year's question and Government had full one year to obtain the information.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: The information is not yet received.

RESTRICTION REGARDING BUILDING WITHIN A MILE OF GOVERNMENT HOUSE, GANESHKHAND.

Rao Sahab D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): (i) (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Military Secretary to His Excellency, in his letter No. 458 dated the 7th July 1920; addressed to the Consulting Surveyor to Government, ordered that no buildings

might be built within a mile of the Government House, Ganeshkhind, without obtaining His Excellency's previous sanction, and that this restriction applied to all buildings by whomsoever sought to be built?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether His Excellency the Governor is empowered under the Land Revenue Code to prohibit or permit construction of buildings in the above manner? If the reply be in the affirmative, under what section or rule of the Land Revenue Code is he so empowered?

(ii) Will Government be pleased to place on the table a copy of the said letter of the Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor No. 458 dated 7th July 1920?

(iii) Will Government be pleased to state under what circumstances Government Resolution No. 3107 dated 25th October 1921 was issued, and to place a copy thereof on the table?

(iv) Will Government be pleased to state the names of the persons who have been within the last four years refused permission to erect buildings within a mile of the Government House and its compound at Ganeshkhind and the names of the persons who have been permitted to do so during the same period within those limits, with the dates on which permissions were refused and also those on which they were granted?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) Yes.

(b) The Governor in Council is so empowered.

(ii) A copy* is laid on the Council Table.

(iii) A copy* of the G. R. is laid on the Council Table. There are no special circumstances.

(iv) Lists* are appended.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : I have asked whether His Excellency the Governor was empowered and not whether His Excellency the Governor in Council was empowered.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I am sorry if the honourable member thinks I have given more information than he wanted.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : The Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor wrote to the Consulting Surveyor as follows :—

" With reference to your letter No. 545 dated 28th June 1920 I am to inform you that no buildings may be built within a mile of Government House without obtaining His Excellency's previous sanction. This applies to all buildings by whomsoever sought to be built".

What I ask is whether His Excellency or the Military Secretary was empowered to order the Consulting Surveyor not to build within a mile of Government House.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Surely His Excellency the Governor is entitled to ask to see the papers before any sanction is given.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : I understand that the Governor in Council is empowered under the Land Revenue Code to prohibit or permit construction of buildings, if so I would like to know under what section of the Land Revenue Code he is empowered to do so.

* Vide Appendix 3.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I cannot quote the exact section off-hand but if notice is given I will give the information.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI : Do I understand that the Military Secretary is empowered to convey such order ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : The Military Secretary possesses no such powers.

SUPERSESSION OF TEACHERS IN BEING DEPUTED TO THE SECONDARY TRAINING COLLEGE.

*1. Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in the past seniority has been the guiding principle in the selection of teachers for deputation to the Secondary Training College, Bombay ;

(b) whether it is a fact that this year junior teachers have been selected for this purpose in preference to their seniors ;

(c) if so, what is the length of service of each of the teachers who have been deputed this year and the length of service of those whom they have thus superseded ;

(d) whether there are any rules for the selection of teachers for deputation to the Secondary Training College, Bombay ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) No.

(b) Yes, but not in all cases.

(c) The accompanying† statements A and B give the information required.

(d) No.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : May I know why preference was given to persons who have put in no service or only one or two year's service over persons who have put in 4 to 5 years' service.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Efficiency.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : What efficiency could Government judge of persons who were raw recruits and who had put in hardly any service.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The department knows it.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : What could the department know about the efficiency of persons who had put in no service whatever ?

(No reply.)

Mr. S. S. DEV : Is it not a fact that one man was appointed the previous day and was sent to the training College the next-day ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : It is a fact.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : If that is so, what could you know of the efficiency of that man in one day ?

(No reply.)

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 4.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: Who makes recommendations about the efficiency of these men?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The Director of Public Instruction.

Mr. S. S. DEV: What were the special qualifications of the gentlemen who were, the next day after they were appointed, deputed for training in the absence of any rules?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The information will be called for.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE: (Asked a question which was inaudible).

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Efficiency.

A BRITISH LOYAL PROPAGANDIST.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware that one Mr. Sayyad Hussain Sayyar is at present going round in the presidency delivering lectures against all national movements including the Indian National Congress and the Khilafat,

(b) whether they are aware (i) that he visited Dhulia and delivered a lecture there on 16th August 1924, and (ii) that his lecture was adversely commented upon by the president of the meeting itself?

(c) whether he receives any kind of support, financial or otherwise, from Government? If so, what kind of support does he receive from Government?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a) Government are informed that Mr. Sayyad Hussain Sayyar has been delivering lectures on loyalty in various parts of the presidency.

(b) (i) Yes. (ii) No.

(c) He receives no support, financial or otherwise, from Government.

Mr. S. S. DEV: As to part one, cannot Government give one reply, either "Yes or No"?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I do not see any part (1).

Mr. S. S. DEV: I mean part (a) of the question. Cannot Government give a reply, either Yes or No?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: It is not always possible to give a reply Yes or No.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: Is the gentleman giving voluntary service?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I presume he is.

Mr. S. S. DEV: Do Government mean that to lecture against all national movements is to lecture on loyalty?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I trust no nationalist movement is disloyal.

ADMISSION IN THE AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL AT DHULIA.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether they are aware that out of 42 qualified students who had applied for admission to the agricultural school at Dhulia this year the applications of 22 had to be rejected by the school authorities for want of accommodation and sufficient funds?

(b) Whether admission has had to be similarly rejected in any other agricultural school in the presidency this year?

(c) If so, whether in view of the insufficiency of accommodation in such schools, do Government intend to take any action?

The Honourable Mr. DEHLAVI: (a) As the maximum number of boys to be admitted was fixed at 20 applications in excess of that number were refused.

(b) No such case has come to the notice of Government.

(c) The question of enlarging the accommodation will be only considered wherever the demand is sustained which unfortunately is not the case in some of the existing schools.

WATER SUPPLY IN KOLABA AND RATNAGIRI DISTRICTS.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state what sums were sanctioned for the improvement of water supply in the districts of Kolaba and Ratnagiri during 1923-24 and 1924-25 and how they have been or are being spent?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The accompanying statement* furnishes the information required by the member.

L.C.P. & S. EXAMINATION.

†Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state whether they have made any enquiries regarding the decreasing percentage of the successful students at the final L.C.P. & S. Examination?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Yes. The attention of Mr. Gunjal is invited to the reply given to the question put by Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar (Poona City).

COLLECTION FOR ADDRESS TO EDUCATION MINISTER.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a sum of about one thousand rupees was recently collected by some patils and Government servants for defraying the necessary expenses for presenting an address to the Honourable Mr. B. V. Jadhav, the present Minister of Education, in taluka Junnar, district Poona?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I believe the information has been received; and if so, a full reply will be given later.

*Vide Appendix 5.

† This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

FERRY TAX ON THE INDRAYANI.

* Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that the contractor of the ferry on the river Indrayani near Moshi between the limits of Haveli and Khed talukas of the Poona district recovers the ferry tax from passengers who travel in motor cars in addition to the tax on such motor vehicles?

(b) If so, do Government intend to take any action?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: (a) Yes. The contractor of the ferry is entitled under the terms of his contract to recover ferry tax separately from passengers who travel in motor cars, in addition to the tax on the motor car, which is, for the conveyance of the car itself, across the river.

(b) No.

DANDELI-POTOLI RAILWAY.

Mr. V. N. JOG (Dharwar District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the forest engineer on deputation, Public Works Department, and in charge of the engineering division of the Forest Department, suggested a scheme for constructing a railway between Dandeli and Potoli with a view to exploit that area for fuel, timber, etc.;

(b) whether it is a fact that he reported that the cost incurred would be realised within the course of a few years and assured a guaranteed return of profit;

(c) if so, was any scheme launched accordingly? If so, how much has it cost? Before the scheme was launched was it ascertained whether the railway authorities would purchase the fuel?

(d) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table the report referred to above?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) The scheme for constructing a Railway between Dandeli and Potoli was not suggested by the Forest Engineer. After a conference at Dharwar attended by the Commissioner, S. D., the Chief Conservator of Forests, the Conservator of Forests, S. C., and the Forest Engineer, recommendations were made to Government regarding a scheme of light railways in Kanara, and Government gave administrative approval to the construction of the line in question.

(b) The details of the scheme were worked up by Mr. Pipe from information supplied to him by the Forest Department. The calculations gave prospects of a good profit on the estimated capital outlay for a period of 10 years.

(c) Yes. The expenditure incurred on the Railway amounted to Rs. 1,72,729. The Forest Department proceeded with the scheme on

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

the assumption that the Railway authorities would continue to purchase fuel from them as they had done for the last 36 years. No inquiry on this point was made from the Railway authorities.

(d) A copy of the report† is placed on the Council Table.

Mr. V. N. JOG : In view of the fact that the railway is now abandoned, may I know why it was abandoned ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHALVI : It was no longer necessary.

Mr. V. N. JOG : May I know if there were any other reasons ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : If notice is given, I shall find out all the details about it.

KHADI WEARING AND GOVERNMENT SERVICE.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state whether they have issued any orders stating that the wearing of *khadi* is a disqualification for persons desirous of entering Government service and would disentitle Government servants to promotion ? If so, will they be pleased to put such orders on the table ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Government have issued no such orders.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES IN KANARA.

*Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) How many villages there are in each of the talukas of the district of Kanara with a population of one thousand or more ?

(b) Are there schools in each of such villages ? If not, how many of them are without schools ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) 64 as under :—

| | | | | |
|-----------------|----|----|----|-------------|
| Karwar | .. | .. | .. | 11 |
| Ankola | .. | .. | .. | 9 |
| Kumta | .. | .. | .. | 12 |
| Honavar | .. | .. | .. | 15 |
| Bhatakhal Mahal | .. | .. | .. | 9 |
| Sirsi | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Siddapur | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Yellapur | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Mundagod Mahal | .. | .. | .. | <i>Nil.</i> |
| Halyal | .. | .. | .. | 3 |
| Supa Mahal | .. | .. | .. | <i>Nil.</i> |

64

* This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 6.

(b) Of the 64 villages, six have no schools. The question of providing schools in 2 of these villages is under consideration ; while in the remaining 4 villages there is no demand for a school.

FULL PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN KANARA.

*Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(i) the number of full primary schools in the district of Kanara with the names of the places where are located ;

(ii) the number of children who have been receiving education in those schools during each of the last three years ;

(iii) the number of students who were sent up from each of such schools for the vernacular school final examination and the number out of those who passed it respectively in each of those years ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The accompanying statements† give the information required.

ARTIFICIAL PLANTATIONS IN KANARA OTHER THAN TEAK AND CASUARINA.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether there are any plantations other than those of teak and casuarina artificially raised in the Kanara forests ? If so, what are those and where are they situated ?

(b) When and at what cost each of these was raised ?

(c) Did any attempts at raising such plantations turn out unsuccessful anywhere ? If so, where, what was the loss on account of failure in each case, and at whose instance or by whom were such attempts made ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : (a) There are no such plantations at present : (b) Experiments for raising rubber plantations were made from 1906-07 to 1911-12 at a cost of Rs. 1,257 at Yellapur and of about Rs. 15,400 at Gersappa.

(c) The plantations failed at both these places and the money spent thereon was lost. The plantations were ordered by Government as an experimental measure and were abandoned as they proved unsuccessful.

SHRI BHARATI ENGLISH SCHOOL AT KARKI IN KANARA.

‡Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Why no grant-in-aid has been sanctioned by them to Shri Bharati English School at Karki, although it is a recognised school ?

(b) (i) Whether it is a fact that the members of the said school at Karki applied for the free grant of a site for the school building out

* This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† Kept in the Secretary's office.

‡ This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

of survey no. 1036 of the village of Karki on or about the 21st April 1920 ?

(ii) If so, will they be pleased to state why the application was rejected by the Collector of Kanara ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) No grant has been paid to this school owing to certain deficiencies, namely inadequate staff, very low attendance in all the three classes, and insufficient and antiquated furniture and equipment.

(b) The honourable member is referred to the Honourable the Revenue Member, and is requested to address a separate question to him.

SANADS GRANTED BY THE CITY SURVEY DEPARTMENT, AHMEDABAD.

* Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that the sanads granted to the people of Ahmedabad by the City Survey Department are wanting in necessary details as to measurements of peripheries, and that they are printed on paper which is not likely to last long, and is very inferior to the paper of the sanads issued in 1880 ?

(b) If so, will they be pleased to state why the measurements of peripheries have not been shown in the sanads of 1924 as they were shown in the sanads of 1880 ?

(c) Will they be pleased to state whether they have received any complaints about the sanads from the public ; if so, what action has been taken thereon ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) Sanads are not lacking in those details which are essential. Only the form in which the details are now shown differs from the old form. In old sanads the dimensions of the boundaries of each property were written in figures. In the new sanads the dimensions are furnished in the form of lines drawn to scale and the scale on which they are drawn is printed on the sanad so that with the help of a scaled rule any dimension can be known. The paper upon which the new sanads are issued is inferior to that of the old sanads ; this is the result of retrenchment and the effort to use indigenous paper.

(b) The new style has been adopted because it costs the house-holders less. In the method of survey now employed measurements are not taken all along the sides of all buildings and open spaces, but corners are fixed with reference to accurate base lines.

(c) Complaints have been received but from a limited number of persons. It does not seem right to make all property holders pay more, because a few desire a more expensive process. It is however open to any sanad-holder to get his sanad supplemented by the written measurements of peripheries on payment of an extra fee of four annas. In this way those who really feel the need to be worth paying 4 annas to supply can satisfy their need without imposing any charge upon their neighbours.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

TIMBER IN DANGS FOREST.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state how many khandis of timber (already cut) was in stock with the Government in 1923 in the Dangs Forest, how many khandis out of this were auctioned in 1924, and how many khandis are in stock now?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether the timber cut from November 1923 to March 1924 from the Dangs Forest is kept in the balance stock or it is brought at Nawapur and sold there?

(c) If it is being sold, how many khandis of timber have been sold, within what dates have they been sold and how many khandis are still in stock?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) The following table furnishes information regarding the timber cut in 1923:—

| Balance of timber on 31st March 1923. | Received during the year ending 31st March 1924. | Total. | Sold during the year ending 31st March 1924. | Balance on 31st March 1924. |
|---------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Khandis C.ft. 1,478 11·83 | Khandis C.ft. 3,628 6·52 | Khandis C.ft. 5,107 6·35 | Khandis C.ft. 4,333 6·36 | Khandis C.ft. 773 11·99 |

(b) Timber cut from the Dangs Forest during the period from November 1923 to March 1924 was not kept in stock but was at once brought to sale depôts and sold there on 4th February and 17th March 1924. No timber is left unsold at such sale depôts.

(c) The following table gives information regarding the timber brought and sold at sale depôts and the balance remaining at the jungle depôts during the season ending 30th June 1924.

| New material sold during the period from January 1924 to June 1924. | | Balance of new material at jungle depôts on 30th June 1924. | |
|---|---------------|---|---------------|
| Khandis 2,121 | C.ft. 0·38 | Khandis 349 | C.ft. 4·38 |

Owing to the closing of the season and when carts are not available timber is usually collected and stacked in jungle depôts and this accounts for the unsold material of the year.

L.C.P. & S. EXAMINATION.

* Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the percentage of the successful students at the final L.C.P. & S. Examination as compared with the number who appeared thereat has been decreasing during the last three years?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

- (b) If so, whether they have made any inquiry as to the cause ?
 (c) If so, what has been the result of the inquiry ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The attention of the honourable member for the Panch Mahals district is invited to the reply given to question put by Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar (Poona City).

STATISTICS ABOUT CERTAIN EXAMINATIONS.

* Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District): Will the Government be pleased to put on the Council table the following information for the last five years in the form given below :—

| Name of examination. | Year. | Number of students who appeared. | Number of students who passed | Percentage of successful students. |
|------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Final M.B.B.S. | .. | | | |
| Final L.C.P. & S. | .. | | | |
| Intermediate M.B.B.S. | .. | | | |
| B.Sc. | .. | | | |
| B.Ag. | .. | | | |
| B.Engineering | .. | | | |
| Preliminary Scientific | .. | | | |

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : A statement† furnishing the information is placed on the Council table.

WATER SUPPLY IN KOLABA DISTRICT.

* Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District): Will Government be pleased to state what sums were sanctioned by them in 1923-24 and 1924-25 for the improvement of water supply in the Kolaba district, how that sum has been spent and is being spent ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply given to question put by Mr. N. R. Gunjal (Poona District) so far as it relates to the Kolaba district.

DISPOSAL OF PLOTS WITHIN CITY SURVEY AREA OF GODHRA CITY.

‡ Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state how many plots of land within the city survey area and the municipal limits of the Godhra city have been disposed of by them since the introduction of the city survey there ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state what amount they have realised from these plots as the occupancy price or the rent recovered up to the end of the official year 1923 ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state how many plots were roadside plots within the municipal limits of Godhra ?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 7.

‡ The question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when *ad interim* reply was given.

(d) Will Government be pleased to state whether roadside lands were converted into city survey plots and sold or given on lease by the Government within the municipal limits of Godhra municipality ?

(e) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have converted public watercourses within the municipal limits into city survey plots for building purposes and disposed of them by public auction or given them on long lease ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) 106.

(b) Occupancy price Rs. 17,560-7-11. Annual rental Rs. 139-2-8.

(c) Of the 106 plots 35 adjoined the road.

(d) Such small pieces of land by the roadside vest in the municipality and cannot be disposed of by Government.

(e) No.

AYURVEDIC DISPENSARIES IN DISTRICT LOCAL BOARDS AND MUNICIPALITIES.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the names of the places where the district local boards or the municipalities have opened Ayurvedic dispensaries during the last three years ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state at how many places they are going to open Ayurvedic dispensaries in the year 1924-25 in this presidency ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Information is being obtained.

Mr. V. R. KOTHARI : Does information require to be collected in regard to where Government themselves are going to open Ayurvedic dispensaries ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Government will require information to give a full reply.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : Cannot Government give a reply in parts if the information is ready ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Government cannot.

MEHLOL TALUKDARI ESTATE.

*Mr W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that they have given to one Purshottam Garaddas nearly 7 acres of land in survey No. 88 in the Mehlol talukdari estates under management for Rs. 1,451 and that too for five years ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state how many acres of land in the Mehlol State is given by Government to Kazi Jamaluddin Doctor, for what sum and on what conditions ?

(c) Is it a fact that 100 acres of land of the Mehlol talukdar was given by Government for laying out a garden ?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state the name of the gentleman to whom the land mentioned in (c) was given, and whether he fulfilled

* This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

the conditions ? If not, for how many years he used this land for agricultural purposes ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) Yes ; but the land is not given for five years, Purshottam holds it as a tenant-at-will.

(b) 131 acres and 1 guntha for Rs. 884-1-0 ; Kazi Jamaluddin holds the land as a tenant-at-will.

(c) 79 acres and 29 gunthas in Goli village were leased for *bor* plantation.

(d) Mathur Chuntha ; did not fulfil the conditions and the land was therefore forfeited in July 1922.

SALE OF FOWLER TRAINS BY DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, SURAT.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state in what year, at what price, by what officer, and with how many engines and how many carriages the Fowler trains lying at present idle at the Fort Songadh station and in the Dangs were purchased ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state for what work these Fowler trains were purchased and for what period they worked ?

(c) Are Government aware that these trains are now advertised for sale by the Divisional Forest Officer, Surat ?

(d) Is it a fact that two of these Fowler trains are now lying in a dilapidated condition at the Songadh station, and that they have been left unprotected from the sun and rain ever since they were brought to that station ?

(e) If so, will Government be pleased to state from what company these Fowler trains were purchased and on what date and year the payment for them was made ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Information is being obtained.

EDUCATIONAL OFFICERS AND STUDY LEAVE.

* MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS (Eastern Sind) : Will Government be pleased to state :—

(a) how many persons in the educational department have applied for study leave to go to foreign countries during the last ten years ;

(b) the number of persons who were refused such leave ;

(c) how many of those that got study leave have obtained a degree or a diploma in foreign countries, and how many have failed to do so ;

(d) how many of such persons were M.A.'s of the Bombay University ;

(e) how many of such persons were Mahomedans, non-Brahmins, Gujaratis, Maharattas and Sindhis, respectively. On what principles is the selection for such leave made ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Exact information for the years prior to 1922-23 is not available. The following approximate information is, however, given :—

(a) Twenty.

(b) Eleven.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

- (c) Three and one.
 (d) Four.
 (e) Mahomedan Nil.
 Non-Brahmin 3
 Gujarati 1
 Maratha Nil.
 Sindhi Nil.

As regards the principles followed in regard to the grant of study leave it is observed that only those who are found to be suitable in all respects and whose services are likely to be more valuable to the department after the completion of the special course of study in foreign countries are granted study leave. In this connection the age of the applicant is also taken into account.

PAYMENT OF THE SALARIES OF THE DIRECTOR OF
 INFORMATION'S STAFF.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South): (a) Will Government be pleased to state under what circumstances and under what authority the Accountant General made payment for the establishment charges of the Director of Information, although the demand respecting them had been rejected by the Council, for the period between such rejection and the subsequent voting of the demand at the following Session?

(b) If the said payment was unauthorised, do Government intend to take any action in the matter?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a) and (b) The Accountant General held the items of expenditure in suspense pending re-submission of the question to the Legislative Council.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE: Had the Accountant General any general authority to hold the whole item in suspense?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I presume so.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA: What would have happened to this item in suspense if the vote of the Council on re-submission of the question had been adverse?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I do not think I am allowed to answer hypothetical questions.

USE OF COURTS, TEMPLES, ETC., BY UNTOUCHABLES.

Mr. R. S. NEKALJAY: Will Government be pleased to state whether the so-called untouchable classes specially in Gujarat are allowed to use public courts, dharamsalas, wells, etc., in accordance with Mr. Bole's resolution, which was passed by this Council last year?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: All courts are open to the members of the public irrespective of caste or creed. Dharamsalas and wells are mostly in charge of municipalities and local boards. Attention is invited to the answer given by Government in the last Sessions of the Council to question asked by the honourable member Mr. S. K. Bole.

DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT SUBURBAN PLOTS.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts):
 (a) Will Government be pleased to state the total area of land available for building sites prepared by the Development Department at Chembur, Ghatkopar, Kurla and Khari (Bandra) respectively?

(b) How much of this land has been sold?

(c) What are the total costs of acquisition, road-making, water-supply, drainage, etc., respectively?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: The information is being obtained.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: May I know, Sir, how much time is required to answer these questions? Both of my questions were asked six months ago.

(No reply.)

LEGAL REPRESENTATION IN WATAN MATTERS.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts):
 (a) Will Government be pleased to state if they are aware that the Commissioner, N. D., did not recently allow a pleader to appear before him to argue a case regarding watan matters?

(b) If so, do Government intend to take any action? If so, what action do they intend to take?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Information will be called for.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: I have to make the same complaint about the reply to this question.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: The honourable member's question came in only recently.

MUNICIPALITY FOR MANMAD.

* Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to state whether the Collector of Nasik or they have received any representation from the people of Manmad urging the establishment of a municipality in that town? If so, what action have they taken thereon?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: The Collector of Nasik has received such a representation, and the matter is at present under the consideration of Government.

WATER FOR MALAV TANK.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA (Ahmedabad District): Are Government aware of the inconvenience and hardship caused to the inhabitants of the town of Dholka in the Ahmedabad district, by the practice of the Irrigation Department in first diverting water to Khan and other irrigation tanks and not to the Malav tank, a tank declared to be an ancient monument.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: The information has been called for.

TRANSFER OF GOVERNMENT SERVANTS WORKING AT
MAHABLESHWAR.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District): Will Government be pleased to state whether (a) there are any Government servants stationed at Mahableshwar who have been there for more than five years?

(b) Are there any rules of Government requiring transfers of Government servants ordinarily after a prescribed period, if so, what is that period?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a) Yes.

(b) There are no such general rules.

CRIMINAL CHARGES AGAINST EUROPEANS AND ANGLO-INDIANS.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District): Will Government be pleased to state the number of cases in which Europeans and Anglo-Indians have been charged with committing offences punishable under the Indian Penal Code, with result in each case during the last ten years in the Presidency of Bombay?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: The collection of the information required would involve clerical labour and expense out of all proportion to any probable public benefit.

SANITARY COMMITTEE IN SATARA DISTRICT.

* Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of sanitary committees in the Satara District before village panchayats were introduced in that district?

(b) What were the total grants allowed to such sanitary committees in the years 1920-21 and 1921-22?

(c) Have any grants been allowed to the new village panchayats, established in the Satara district either by Government or by the district local board?

(d) If so, what are the amounts of these grants?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: The accompanying statement† furnishes the required information.

YERLA CANAL WORKS.

* Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether they are aware that a public notice has been published by the sub-divisional officer, Public Works Department, in charge

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 11.

of the Yerla Canal Works, in the Satara District, as to the application of the general canal rules excepting rules Nos. 11 and 12 from the ensuing rabi season ?

(b) If so, have similar notices been published by other sub-divisional officers for the information of the other *bagayatdars* of the Satara District ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : (a) and (b) Yes.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL BUILDINGS, SATARA DISTRICT.

* Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the inhabitants of certain villages in Patan and other talukas of the Satara District paid contributions for the purpose of buildings required for primary schools before the war and that such amounts have since been lying idle either with Government or the District Local Boards ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state why the construction of these buildings has not been yet undertaken ? When do Government intend to utilise such contributions ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state the amount of such contributions made in each taluka of Satara District since 1912 and still lying with Government or the District Local Board ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) The answer is in the affirmative so far as the first part is concerned. With regard to the second part, the contributions have been invested in the Co-operative Bank, Islampur, in the name of the President, District Local Board, Satara, at 4 per cent. interest.

(b) The District Local Board states that the type-designs for primary school buildings approved by Government are costly and it desires cheap designs. The Board has decided to take up the question of constructing new school houses after the formation of the School Board under the Bombay Primary Education Act, 1923.

(c) The names of the talukas and the contributions received are as follows :—

| Taluka. | | | | Amount of contribution. |
|--------------|----|----|----|-------------------------|
| | | | | Rs. |
| (1) Khatav | .. | .. | .. | 301 |
| (2) Karad | .. | .. | .. | 200 |
| (3) Patan | .. | .. | .. | 500 |
| (4) Koregaon | .. | .. | .. | 200 |
| Total .. | | | | 1,201 |

The amounts have been invested in the Co-operative Bank, Islampur, as stated in the reply to (a) above. Nothing is lying with Government.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

DRINKING WATER SUPPLY, RATNAGIRI DISTRICT.

Mr. V. A. SURVE (Ratnagiri District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state in detail the amounts spent on water-supply in the different rural areas of the presidency during the last ten years ?

(b) Are they aware that many villages in the Ratnagiri District are in need of the provision of drinking water-supply ? If so, do they intend to take any action in this connection ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Information is being obtained.

SUB-REGISTRARS IN THE LAST GRADE.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that 50 per cent. (about 80 in number) of the total number of sub-registrars in the last grade have reached the maximum pay of that grade and are waiting for vacancies in the upper grades ?

(b) How many sub-registrars were promoted to the third grade during the last three years after the revision had been put into effect ?

(c) Is it true that the number of vacancies in the upper three grades in the Presidency during the last three years was about 20 only, i.e., about 6 or 7 per year ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : (a) The number of sub-registrars, who have reached the maximum pay of the last grade, viz., Rs. 80, is 68 out of a total of 144 in that grade.

(b) The revision took effect four years ago. The number of men promoted to the third grade since the revision is 39, while the number promoted during the last year is 28.

(c) The number of vacancies since the revision was 41. The number of vacancies during the last three years was 30.

GRADUATE SUB-REGISTRARS.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that the majority of sub-registrars who were appointed on an initial salary of Rs. 80 on the 1st March 1920 are still in the same grade ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have taken any, and if so, what steps to relieve the congestion in the last two grades of sub-registrars ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : (a) and (b) The honourable member is referred to the reply to question No. 5 put by the Honourable Member Dr. M. M. Mehta at the first session of 1924.

SHETH HASANALI ENGLISH SCHOOL, DHOLKA.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the authorities of the Sheth Hasanali English School of Dholka applied to the Educational Department for recognition in the month of December 1923 ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state whether any orders have been passed in the matter? If no orders have been passed, the reasons therefor?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) Yes.

(b) Orders have already been passed in the matter.

PRINCIPAL'S BUNGALOW, GUJARAT COLLEGE.

4. Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the old principal's bungalow attached to the Gujarat College, Ahmedabad, is reserved for the senior science professor of M. R. Science Institute?

(b) If so, will they be pleased to state who is the occupant of the said bungalow at present?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) and (b) Inquiries are being made.

L.C.P. & S. EXAMINATIONS.

* Dr. M. B. VELKAR (Bombay City, South): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether their attention has been drawn to the decreasing percentages of successful candidates at the final L.C.P. & S. examination?

(b) If so, have any steps been taken by them in this connexion; and if so, what steps have been taken?

(c) Will Government be pleased to furnish the following information for the last five years (1920-24):—

| Examinations. | Date and month. | No. of candidates. | No. of successful candidates. | Percentage of column 4. to column 3. |
|------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Intermediate | .. | | | |
| M.B.B.S. | .. | | | |
| B.Sc. | .. | | | |
| I.Sc. | .. | | | |
| B.E. | .. | | | |
| B.Ag. | .. | | | |
| Preliminary Scientific | .. | | | |
| Final L.C.P. & S. | .. | | | |

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The attention of the Honourable Member for the Bombay City, South, is invited to the reply given to question put by the Honourable Member for Poona City (Mr. Bhopatkar.)

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I should like to know what the desire of honourable members is in regard to adjournment for tea. What I want to ask them is whether they would agree to wait for five minutes more, so that we can take the votes for the two committees,

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

and then appoint the scrutineers, enabling them to do the work of scrutiny during the interval for tea. We can then adjourn for half an hour. I am in the hands of the House, they can do what they like.

Honourable MEMBERS: Proceed with the business.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The only business we can do is to proceed to vote for the two committees. Whether they wish to vote now or after tea is in the hands of honourable members.

Honourable MEMBERS: Now.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: In connection with the voting for the Public Accounts Committee, I should like to inform honourable members that they are entitled to give not more than eight votes.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: Sir, I find that my name is shown as a candidate for election to the Public Accounts Committee. I do not wish to stand for it.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Honourable members should note that they are voting for the Public Accounts Committee, and that the rules framed in connection with this election will apply. In order to refresh the memory of honourable members, I will read out what the rules are which apply to this election.

1. The voting will be by ballot.
2. Every voter is entitled to one effective vote only; when voting he should place the figure 1 against the name of the candidate who is his first choice. He is also recommended to put figures 2, 3, 4 up to 8 against the names of the other candidates in order of his preference.
3. A ballot paper is deemed invalid,
 - (1) if it bears any identifying mark;
 - (2) if no figure 1 or first preference is shown on it;
 - (3) if the figure 1 is shown against the names of more than one candidate; or
 - (4) if it is unmarked or void for uncertainty.

I have to intimate to honourable members that Mr. M. R. Jayakar who has been proposed as a candidate for election to the Public Accounts Committee desires me to inform the House that he does not wish to seek election to the committee. Therefore, honourable members will please abstain from voting for him.

Mr. D. R. PATIL: Sir, I also do not wish to stand as a candidate for the Public Accounts Committee.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Mr. D. R. Patil wishes to be excused.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI: I wish to be excused.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Mr. Saptarshi also goes out. The Thakor of Amod does not want to serve on the Committee.

The scrutineers for this election will be the Deputy President, Khan Bahadur D. B. Cooper, Mr. Hooseinbhoj A. Lalljee and Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan. Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan is himself a candidate, but I hope honourable members will not mind it. This election is to be carried out on the principle of proportional representation

which requires a great deal of calculation, and I understand the honourable member Mr. Swaminarayan has closely studied the question.

I do not know whether honourable members would desire to proceed with the election of the Finance Committee. (Honourable Members: Yes, yes.)

Before I ask honourable members to proceed with the election of the Finance Committee, I should like to invite their attention to a sad event which occurred yesterday, *viz.*, the death of Sir Gokuldas Parekh. I wish to inform those members of this Council who have had no acquaintance with the working of the reformed councils after the first reform scheme of Lord Cross came into force, and the right of electing members to this Council was conceded for the first time, that that measure brought forward several patriotic Indians for service in this Council, and amongst them was Sir Gokuldas Parekh. I had the privilege of being associated with all such stalwarts as Sir Gokuldas Parekh during those years before the Morley-Minto Reforms came in 1910. During the whole period of his career which terminated with the advent of the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms, Sir Gokuldas Parekh took an active interest in the cause of the agriculturists. It was a pleasure to hear him return to the charge now and again in the promotion of the best interests of the ryots. It is, I think, no exaggeration to say that his persevering efforts led to a better understanding between Government in the Revenue Department and a large mass of agriculturists and led to the policy of suspensions and remissions, which is now in operation.

In other walks of public life, Sir Gokuldas Parekh was a prominent figure both locally and in All-India affairs. I am sure you will agree with me when I say that the presidency and the country have suffered a great loss in the death of Sir Gokuldas Parekh. A tribute to the value of his services is all that we can extend to his memory.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University): Sir, on behalf of the Swaraj party I entirely associate myself with the sentiments you have so well expressed about the sad death of Sir Gokuldas Parekh.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Mr. President, I desire on behalf of the official benches to associate myself with what you, Sir, have so well expressed. I do not desire to repeat what you have said. But I desire to add a humble tribute from my own personal knowledge. I remember him some thirty years ago as a member of the old Legislative Council, while my own duties were those of Secretary to the Council. I remember him again later as an advocate before the appellate bench of the High Court. I desire, Sir, to associate myself on behalf of the Government benches with all you have said regarding Sir Gokuldas Parekh and the great loss in his death suffered by the presidency.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North): Mr. President, I wish to associate myself with the sentiments expressed by previous speakers. The services rendered by Sir Gokuldas Parekh to the agricultural and aboriginal classes have been very valuable. At this moment,

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

I remember all his services to the Bhils in Gujarat. I think the Mhowra Flowers Act, which is on the statute book, is the outcome of his championship of the aborigines. The difficulty was that owing to harsh rules the aborigines who used mhowra flowers as an article of food were prevented from storing it up. But when he championed their cause a provision was made whereby during the season they are allowed to store up flowers up to a certain quantity. In other ways also he has championed the cause of agriculturists and has done many good acts. It is a great loss to the agriculturists and the loss will be felt very keenly by those to whom he had been useful.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Sir, as a representative of the political party to which Sir Gokuldas Parekh belonged, I wish to associate myself with the sentiments which you have so generously expressed.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities): Sir, as a young man I have studied the old man, and I feel greatly sorry for his death.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Gentlemen, we will now proceed with the election of the Finance Committee.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Sir, is there any order of preference in this case?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: There is no order of preference in regard to the election of the Finance Committee, which is not governed by the principles of proportional representation. I hope honourable members realise that they are entitled to give not more than twelve votes and that they have to exercise that right by putting a cross against the name of the candidate for whom they desire to vote. They should in no case vote for more than 12 candidates.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University): Sir, I find my name in the list. I do not wish to stand.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Mr. Jayakar does not wish to stand.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI: Sir, I do not wish to stand.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Mr. Lalji Naranji wishes to be excused.

The scrutineers in this case will be Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad, Mr. Joseph Baptista, Mr. D. B. Adwani, and Sardar G. N. Mujumdar.

After recess.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Sir, I request your permission to move the resolution about Mr. Montagu of which I have already given notice.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I should like to inform the honourable member that the budget is to be presented to-day and therefore

[The President]

while fully appreciating the fact that a resolution of this character ought to be moved at the very commencement, I trust honourable members will be very brief in their observations, in order that the work of the budget presentation may not have to be put off till Monday.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN: Sir, I beg to move:

“That the Honourable the President of the Council be requested to communicate to the family of the late Right Honourable Mr. Edwin Samuel Montagu, its sense of profound sorrow at his sad and premature death and its sincere appreciation of the distinguished services he rendered to the cause of India's political progress as Under Secretary and Secretary of State for India.”

Mr. President, we are meeting here for the first time after the death of the Right Honourable Mr. Montagu, and I think it is in the fitness of things that we should express our profound sorrow at his sad and premature death, and also our appreciation of the services he has rendered to the cause of India's political progress, both as Under Secretary and Secretary of State for India. In obedience to the hint that you, Sir, have given me, I shall not make a long speech in support of this resolution.

The Parliamentary career of Mr. Montagu is well known to honourable members of this House. As Under Secretary of State for India under Lord Morley he received his early training in the difficult task of controlling and guiding the Government of this country, and when in 1917 the Mesopotamian muddle led to the resignation of Mr. Austen Chamberlain, Mr. Montagu was called upon to succeed him as Secretary of State for India. Soon after his elevation to that high office, he made on the part of the British Government, an announcement of its policy towards this country, which is embodied in the historic declaration of 20th August 1917. That declaration was followed by a series of measures culminating eventually in the enactment of the Government of India Act which has brought this reformed Council into existence. The tenure of office of Mr. Montagu as Secretary of State was marked by one event unparalleled in the annals of British Rule in India, namely, the elevation of an Indian to the peerage, and his appointment, first, as Under Secretary of State for India and later on as the first Indian Governor of a Province. Then later on came the important question of the treaty between Turkey and England and the allied Governments, and as honourable members are aware, the publication of a telegram in connection with that matter led to the resignation of Mr. Montagu. When Mr. Montagu resigned that high office, no one could have ever thought that such a promising, such a brilliant career, a career associated with such fruitful work in the cause of India and the British Empire, would be so soon and so suddenly cut short. We all felt that his career had suffered only a temporary eclipse from which in due course it would emerge with greater radiance and refulgence. But in the mysterious ways of providence, that was not to be, and when we received the sad news of his death, it came to us as a great shock and we all felt that in him India had lost a sincere friend who had done his best to promote the political progress of this country.

[Mr. R. G. Pradhan]

Sir, to my mind the one great merit of Mr. Montagu was that he felt a sincere and fervent interest in the evolution of this country as a self-governing member of the British Commonwealth of Nations and that he did not content himself with simply expressing that interest in words of sympathy, but that he did all that was possible for him to do under the difficult circumstances, with which he was confronted but by which he was never daunted, to shake that interest into a living, practical, national policy which England must pursue through thick or thin, through good report or evil report.

Sir, I had the privilege of having had a long interview with him in England in the year 1919 and of discussing with him some aspects of the reform proposals then under the consideration of the Government, and the tragic events that had strained the relations between the Government and the people. I also watched him working as a member of the Joint Parliamentary Committee and the one great trait of his character which impressed me was his quickness in understanding and appreciating the points of view presented by other people. Sir, he had the gift divine of statesmanship and he realised that until and unless India was elevated to the status of a self-governing member of the British Commonwealth of Nations the relations between England and India would never be as cordial as they ought to be. His great ambition, the one dominant aim of his life, was to do for India what Lord Durham did for Canada and what Sir Henry Cambell-Bannerman did for South Africa. Sir, his policy has been to some extent thwarted by events over which he had no control. But I feel confident, when India comes into her own when the voice of controversy is hushed, and when things are seen in the proper perspective, his name will be gratefully remembered in this country as of one who placed this country firmly and strongly on the road to self-government and by his own countrymen as a great statesman who strengthened the foundations of the British connection in India.

Sir, I do not wish to take more of the time of the honourable House. I feel confident that my sentiments will be shared by the members of this House and I have every hope that this resolution will commend itself to the unanimous acceptance of this honourable House.

Question proposed.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University): Sir, on behalf of the Swaraj Party I desire to associate myself with the sentiments of sorrow and appreciation which the honourable mover of this resolution has expressed in his speech.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Mr. President, I desire to associate myself on behalf of the official benches with this resolution. I think, Sir, that this tribute could not come more fittingly from any other Presidency than Bombay which has been foremost in giving effect to Mr. Montagu's schemes of reforms for the political progress of India.

Mr. D. R. PATIL (East Khandesh District): Mr. President, as a member of the non-Brahmin party I fully associate myself with the

[Mr. D. R. Patil]

views and sentiments expressed by the honourable member Mr. R. G. Pradhan. I think, Sir, that the existence of the present Council is due to Mr. Montagu and he deserves respect from every party in the Council, and therefore I think it to be my duty to associate myself with the views expressed by my honourable friend Mr. Pradhan.

Khan Sahab A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities): Sir, I rise to associate myself with this resolution on behalf of the Mahomedan community.

Mr. R. S. NEKALJAY: Sir, I beg to associate myself with the resolution moved by my honourable friend Mr. Pradhan. It is due to the vast scheme of late Mr. Montagu that the so-called depressed classes in India have received representation on the Legislative Councils and such other bodies by Government nomination.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Before I put this resolution to the honourable House, I should like to say that I entirely associate myself with the sentiments to which expression has been given and particularly to that sentiment to which the honourable mover gave expression, namely, that Mr. Montagu's career was typical of effort for strengthening the bond between England and India to the mutual advantage of both. I will ask honourable members to rise in their places and to pass the resolution in solemn silence.

Question put and carried unanimously, all members rising in their places.

PRESENTATION OF THE BUDGET.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Mr. President, I rise to ask leave to introduce the Budget for the coming year 1925-26 and to review briefly for the information of the House the financial progress of the current year.

2. In the speeches which I have had the honour of delivering in this House during the last three years, I have set forth in considerable detail the general principles of the policy of Government and these principles have received the approbation of a great majority of the members of this House: an approbation which long experience has taught Government to look for not in vocal compliments but in the more practical form of a silent vote.

Life would be monotonous if we were all in complete agreement on all points. I do not suppose that anybody could bear the tedium of sitting in this Assembly if we were not stimulated and enlivened by the acute criticisms of some of our friends on the opposite benches. By this criticism we are exhorted and encouraged to examine our failings and our deficiencies, our errors of commission and omission. And in so vast a field of work as falls to the responsibilities of a Government we are deeply conscious that there are failings and errors and we welcome the advice and guidance that may be offered to us and look hopefully to receive such advice and guidance in ample measure. Speaking more

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

particularly for the Finance Department, I desire to express our gratitude for the encouragement and assistance that we have received in all measures for the enforcement of economy and the checking of expenditure.

3. I was not present at the Budget debate last year. But I have read the discussion and I presume that some of the criticisms will be repeated again in the course of the general debate. I do not think it proper to refer now to those contentious points in the light of a debate of a year ago. I propose to wait the restatement of such criticisms in general and shall attempt to meet them in reply at the close of the discussion.

4. I propose now to refer to the completed accounts of the last financial year 1923-24. That year closed for us with results far more satisfactory than we had ventured to hope.

The actual balance shown in the accounts for 1923-24 has improved by 109 lakhs over the estimate of 435 given in the budget of the current year. The details of this improvement are given in paragraph 4 of the Introductory Note of the Blue Book, which shows that, while there was a net increase in revenue of 34 lakhs, there was a reduction in expenditure chargeable to revenue of 65 lakhs. There was an improvement of 10 lakhs under the Capital section of the budget which benefited to the extent of 5 lakhs from the provision made for famine relief under head 43; and also by 5 lakhs which had been provided for advances to cultivators and local bodies and for other capital expenditure, which was not utilised. The figures given in the Introductory Note of the Blue Book are not really so complicated as they look. A number of items could be eliminated by cross entries. Thus the decrease in Irrigation receipts is due to the increased working expenses owing to the transfer of certain canals from the Revenue section to the Capital section. On the other hand we collected more Land Revenue than was anticipated when the revised estimate was framed. The revised estimate (made after the monsoon) was unduly pessimistic. Excise, in spite of a fall in receipts from still head duty, shows an increase of 18 lakhs on account of vend fees and license fees. And we receive an assignment on account of Income Tax of 12 lakhs which was not foreseen at the time of budgetting. The decrease of 9 lakhs under Taxes on Income and the increase of 8 lakhs under Miscellaneous are due chiefly to the transfer to the head Miscellaneous of the contributions which we receive from the Central Government towards the cost of Income Tax establishments.

5. In addition to this net increase of 34 lakhs revenue, there was a net decrease of expenditure of 65 lakhs. The decrease is spread over all the branches of the administration as you will observe from the details given in the Blue Book. In part the decrease is illusory. 6 lakhs are due to the transfer from the Reserve, which is shown under the head Miscellaneous, to expenditure under other heads. No less than 31 lakhs under the heads Irrigation and Civil Works must, I am afraid, be taken as postponed expenditure, owing to the inability of our Engineers to utilise in full the allotments made before the end of the year. Part of the decrease under Excise, Land Revenue and Police is due to bills

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

for compensation and rents not having been preferred before the end of the year. Forests spent less for the same reason that their revenue was less, namely, the slump in the timber trade. These items together make up a considerable part of the decreased expenditure. The balance is a real saving, owing to the decreases of establishments and leave allowances in the Revenue, Excise and Police Departments. Finally it must be noted that the total balance was swelled by a sum of 13½ lakhs, which was credited to us by the Accounts Department as a loan from the Government of India in spite of the fact that the sum was not actually drawn.

If we regard the results as a whole I suggest that we have reason to be grateful to the administrative departments for their enforcement of stringent economy. While some members will no doubt point out that we have omitted to make sufficient provision for those subjects in which they are specially interested, it will perhaps be generally recognised that it is better to have an error on the side of caution, that it is better to have a budget which ends with a substantial balance on the right side than a budget with a substantial deficit. For at any rate that additional balance in reserve enables Government to make good its shortcomings in successive years as will be unfolded later on; and on this balance we hope eventually to receive interest from the Government of India. The negotiations to this end have been long drawn out, but we trust that that Government will meet the claim in due course.

One item in the Revenue Accounts deserves special mention.

The original estimate under Land Revenue was 575 Lakhs.

The amount realised is 509 Lakhs.

Out of this difference of 66 lakhs, 44 lakhs are due to larger remissions and suspensions while 22 lakhs have been transferred to the head XIII—Irrigation by a change in the classification of certain works.

6. I now come to the current year 1924-25.

This year, as may be seen from page 20 of the White Book, the opening balance began with 545 lakhs and closed with 467 lakhs. The reduction in our closing balance is due to the fact that 79 lakhs have been applied to the avoidance of debt. We had proposed to borrow this sum for Irrigation; but owing to the increase in our opening balance we have met this expenditure on Irrigation from our balances instead of from loan money and we save thereby some 4½ lakhs in interest.

From the agricultural standpoint the year has on the whole been favourable in the greater part of the presidency; and we have been fortunate in escaping the ravages of the great storms which swept over the south-western coast of India but stopped just within our Kanara borders; and also those storms which brought such havoc in Upper India. These latter storms however affected the water-sheds of the river Indus and caused the inundation to rise in places 3 or 4 feet above the highest recorded level. This unprecedented rise resulted in the breach of various protective embankments and also sent a flood over lands in the

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

Nawabshah district of Sind which had never previously been reached in any inundation. It is satisfactory to learn that many of the sufferers from this flood have secured compensation for their losses through the ability to cultivate lands which had previously remained fallow for want of water.

The rains came somewhat late in the year but were in time to secure a good outturn of the Kharif both in Gujarat and in the Southern Division and continued long enough to secure a very large area of rabi cultivation both in the Central and Southern Divisions. The abnormal spell of cold weather in January and this month has done considerable injury to this rabi cultivation, the result of which is not yet known with accuracy.

We had anticipated the collection of 576 lakhs under Land Revenue but owing to liberal grants of suspensions and remissions and to the transfer of an extra 6½ lakhs to the head XIII—Irrigation our revised estimates amount to 524 lakhs.

There has been some slight improvement in business and the Stamp revenue is now expected to bring in 171½ lakhs.

If the Bill for the continuance of enhanced Court Fees had not been rejected by this Council last budget session, we should have received, it is estimated, another 18 lakhs.

7. The Excise revenue is anticipated to bring in 436 lakhs; and it is satisfactory to record that the consumption of liquor continues to decrease.

Fears have been entertained in some quarters that the decrease in the consumption of country liquor has been accompanied by an increase in the consumption of foreign liquor. But the statistics of the Excise Department show conclusively that though variations in public taste and demand may occur in certain conditions, yet there has been no increase in the consumption of foreign liquor and there is no indication of its substitution for country liquor on any appreciable scale. The policy adopted by this Government in the past for the promotion of temperance by voluntary effort is therefore producing its desired effect and up to the present point public revenues have not suffered. It is, however, evident that a reduction in revenue must be anticipated very shortly and it is for this House to consider what new sources of revenue they are prepared to sanction in lieu of this Excise revenue.

Our other sources of revenue are as follows :—

- Forests,
- Irrigation,
- Justice,
- Rent on Buildings,
- Tolls on Roads,
- Receipts in aid of Superannuation,
- Registration.

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

These amount to about two crores and there remains one crore scattered about in small items.

8. The results of this year's working may be summarised as follows :

| | | | |
|-----------------|----|----|-------------|
| Opening balance | .. | .. | 5,45 Lakhs. |
| Revenue | .. | .. | 14,00 „ |
| Expenditure | .. | .. | 14,18 „ |
| Closing balance | .. | .. | 4,67 „ |

If we exclude the 79 lakhs allotted to the avoidance of debt the administration of this year shows a deficit of 18 lakhs under the revenue section. This figure of 18 lakhs, the House will recognise, is the same figure we have dropped by not having court fees enhanced during the current year.

9. I come now to the budget of 1925-1926.

The opening balance is 467 lakhs, and we propose to end with a balance of 369 lakhs.

We withdraw 98 lakhs from our balances. Of this sum it is proposed to expend 49 lakhs on Public Works under the capital head of expenditure 60, Civil Works. The details are given on page 121 of the blue book. The majority of these works are works under construction while those which it is proposed to begin next year are shown on pages 235—244 of the blue book. We might have borrowed money under the Loan Rules for most of these works, on the principle adopted in recent years, but we have decided this year to reduce our loans to the minimum.

A sum of 8 lakhs is required to make up our payment to the Government of India of 29 lakhs per annum towards the Loans and Advances Account.

Our Revenue account will then fall short of our expenditure by 41 lakhs : the revenue being 14,78 lakhs and the expenditure being 15,19 lakhs.

We have not entered on the revenue side any provision in respect of the taxation bills which will shortly be placed before this House ; and we hope the House will grant us these additional revenues which will then leave us with a surplus of one lakh. In that case our closing balance will improve from 369 lakhs to 411 lakhs. The bills to which I refer were published in the *Bombay Government Gazette* last month and are :—

A Bill for the renewal of the Court Fees Act which lapsed last year, and

A Bill for the taxation of the transfer of Land.

I will not anticipate the detailed discussion of these two bills which will be placed before this House in a few days. But I may point out that we have arrived at a stage when we cannot progress further in supplying the needs of the public unless we have more revenues.

10. Criticism has been heard in certain quarters that the expenditure of Government has been directed in greater measure to the

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

Departments concerned with the maintenance of law and order and not to the Departments which deal with what are called 'nation building' purposes. It is indeed suggested from the other point of view that it is impossible to build up a nation without the maintenance of law and order. But let us discuss the question without undue emphasis on words.

What are the nation building purposes? It appears to be assumed by some thinkers that this category is synonymous with the transferred departments; and some of our critics make it a complaint that we spend say 2/3 of our revenues on reserved departments and only 1/3 on transferred departments. But if it be remembered that this allocation charges the reserved departments with full responsibility of borrowing money: with payment of superannuation pensions: with the provincial contribution to the Government of India, it is clear that the allocation is not very helpful and the matter would seem to require some further analysis.

Take for example the expenditure on Irrigation. Can anything be described more truly as nation-building than the work of a department which protects the country against famine and adds to the welfare and prosperity of a large number of our fellow subjects? Is this department less beneficial to the nation because it is in charge of the Honourable Mr. COWASJI than if it were in charge of a Minister?

11. I submit that a more valuable analysis of the activities of Government will be secured by dividing up various departments on a more logical basis than their administration by the hands of a Member of Council or a Minister. And I have had a summary prepared of the expenditure of the last few years on departments which deal with the essential foundations of law and order and finance and those which deal with such beneficial activities as:

Roads and Buildings (Development Departments),
 Medicine,
 Public Health,
 Agriculture,
 Co-operation,
 Education,
 Irrigation,
 Forests,
 Industries,
 Famine Relief,

and I find that if we take 1919-20, an average year before the Reforms, the expenditure on essential necessities has increased by 28 per cent., and the expenditure on other activities has increased by 179 per cent. I append to this speech a brief table* detailing those figures.

Now amongst these essential necessities the House will observe from numerous entries in the white book that expenditure on the Lee Commission proposals is included. This expenditure is sometimes discussed in the public press in no very favourable terms; and our critics are apt

* *Vide* Appendix A.

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

to magnify or even multiply the sum at stake. This sum can be accurately compiled from the figures of this budget; they amount to Rs. 9·1 lakhs in the current year and to Rs. 10 lakhs next year. This is an increase of 11·3 per cent. to the cost of the All-India services, which rises from 87 lakhs to 97 lakhs. Let us put the matter in a more homely manner in round figures. If the population of the presidency be taken at 2 crores, and the expenditure at 16 crores, the State levies eight rupees per head. Of this sum the All-India services cost less than one anna in the rupee; and the increase due to this report raises the cost from a total of seven annas per annum to a total of less than eight annas per annum. This is the price that we have to pay for measures which an impartial tribunal decided were necessary to preserve the contentment and efficiency of a very important section of our public services.

12. I come now to the question of the general financial position of Government in regard to its ordinary income and expenditure.

The House is aware that Land Revenue has ceased to expand for the time being.

Government has postponed the execution of revision settlements and it is estimated that in the current year has on that account suffered a loss of 4½ lakhs of rupees. The extension of the period of settlements in Sind to twenty years has also checked the increase of revenue.

13. I would remind the House very briefly of the essential factors of this problem of revision settlements. The history of these settlements goes back to days before the British rule began. On the basis of revenue that was paid by each tract of country the burden was distributed by an elaborate system of the valuation of the soil carried out some 70 years ago. Since that individual distribution each cultivator has been able to improve his land and to invest capital in wells and embankments and in other manifold methods of tillage without any fear of increased taxation. The exemption of his improvements from taxation which existed from the first was secured to him by law in the Bombay Land Revenue Code some 50 years ago. I lay some stress on this point because complaints which have been heard from other Provinces have been supposed by uninformed critics to be applicable to Bombay.

Now what is the purpose of the revision of assessments? Some honourable members no doubt hold that the only purpose is the increase of assessments. That is far from being a correct statement of the case. The purpose has been to remedy the old anomalies, the uneven pressure of payment which existed in former days and to apply a more regular standard throughout the country. And when it has been found upon enquiry that the cultivator has suffered in any tract Government have shown their sympathy in a very practical form; for there are many instances on record when assessments have been reduced and increases postponed.

14. It would no doubt be recognised that increase of assessments has been the normal result of the progress of the country, and it would be strange if it were otherwise. For no one can be found to deny that in the last 70 years there has been a vast improvement in communications.

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

Roads and bridges are the tangible form of improvement within the experience of every one of us. So also with the extension of railways. The present net-work of railways has all sprung up within these 70 years; and the cultivator has benefited by being able to bring his produce to the great markets of the world: whereas formerly he was dependent on small local markets where there was little demand for his crop and it would have cost him more than the value of the crop to carry it over the hills and through the valleys which formerly prohibited access to the larger markets.

The rise in assessments represents therefore a very small proportion of the high prices which the cultivator has been able to secure for his produce through the benefits conferred upon him by the State during the last three generations; and these prices have also shown a great tendency to increase. Money has become more plentiful in the country and prices have shown a continued tendency to rise both by the changes in currency and in the system of credit.

15. These changes in the value of money have increased the cost of the services of Government. As every one knows salaries have gone up twofold in humbler ranks and, in decreasing proportion upwards, to zero at the top. The cost of all activities of Government whether in the Agricultural, Medical, Public Works or other departments has increased so greatly that additional sources of income are necessary. And since any increase of resources in Land Revenue is withheld temporarily by the will of this House, it is necessary for Government to look elsewhere for the requirements of the people.

16. The burdens of the agriculturists have been further lightened in recent years by the operation of the system of suspensions and remissions. When the harvest is reported to be unfavourable in any locality the collection of revenue is suspended in that locality; and if that particular locality suffers from an unfavourable harvest for several years the suspensions of the earliest year are automatically remitted and written off. These suspensions have been worked on so generous a scale that we find that in the year 1922-23:

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Suspensions amounted to | 107 lakhs and |
| Remissions to | 21 lakhs. |
| In 1923-24 : | |
| Suspensions | 93 lakhs. |
| Remissions | 43 lakhs. |
| In the current year again : | |
| Suspensions | 56 lakhs. |
| Remissions | 24 lakhs. |

Now these years are reported by our Agricultural Experts to have been on the whole fairly favourable. The grant of these large concessions is therefore another indication of the tender regard which Government display for the protection of the interests of the ryot. It will readily occur to the intelligence of this House that if the revenue from this one source falls off in this remarkable degree, it is necessary to secure the assistance

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

of other sections of society in bearing the common burden. That is the point to which I seek to invite the careful consideration of this House.

17. Now let us turn to the question of Excise.

Government have steadily pursued the policy of restricting the consumption of alcohol and of all drugs such as opium and hemp drugs. The results of this policy continue to be very satisfactory. The consumption of country liquor has fallen steadily from 28·4 lakhs of gallons in 1920-21 to 18·4 lakhs in 1923-24 and to an estimated consumption of about 16 lakhs in the current year. Our expert adviser, the Commissioner of Excise, is alarmed at the growth of illicit distillation and Government realise that they are running a risk in this matter but are adhering to the policy on the advice of their Minister.

There is no room for doubt as to the reduction of licit consumption. Opinions differ as to the cause. There has been some progress in temperance movements in which some members of this House have taken a very keen interest. Their advocacy of voluntary self-control is warmly welcomed ; but in certain areas there is reason to fear that illicit distillation exceeds licit consumption. The high price at which liquor is now being sold offers great temptations to law-breaking. With the high price the revenue has been maintained at about the average figure of the last few years, *viz.*, 4½ crores of rupees.

To some of our critics this seems a very large sum of money. In order to form a reasoned judgment on this contentious point, it is perhaps worth while to recall to memory the fact that in the United Kingdom with a population a little more than double the population of Bombay the duty paid on spirits and wines exceeds considerably 50 times the sum levied in Bombay.

The House has expressed its wish to proceed onward to a policy of prohibition and Government are advancing on that road. But it is my duty to bring to the serious attention of this House the expert advice of our Commissioner that the next stage must see a large reduction of revenue ; and this House is now definitely confronted with the problem of how to replace a revenue which represents one-third of our total income. The loss of a revenue of 4½ crores, if the countervailing revenue were not granted, would open up vistas of the curtailment of the beneficent activities of Government which no one could regard without dismay. This sum represents more than the total expenditure on the Education and Police Departments. It is clearly impossible to curtail expenditure on this vast scale. Is there any single member of this House who is prepared to face the consequences of such a loss of revenue ?

18. The third principal source of our revenue is Stamps.

Owing to the serious depression prevailing in business in the Bombay City and throughout the country, our Stamp revenue even with the increased rates which were sanctioned in March 1922 failed to rise appreciably above the revenue of 1920-21 (177 lakhs) ; and last year when this House was invited to continue the life of the enhanced Court Fees Act it refused to grant sanction. The financial position has now become still more

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

serious for the reasons just described and Government has decided to ask this House to revise its decision of a year ago. I may be permitted to state very briefly the general results of the proposed legislation.

19. The Stamp revenue is divided into two parts:

(a) Non-Judicial which deals with transfers of property, sales of land, mortgages and so forth; and

(b) Judicial which relates to fees payable for the transactions which are dealt with in Law Courts, both Civil and Criminal.

During the year 1922-23 these fees were raised by legislation sanctioned by this House in March 1922 representing an average increase of some 25 per cent. No indications have come to the notice of this Government that the pressure of these enhanced fees was seriously felt in any quarter. It certainly did not lead to any decrease in litigation or other transactions which were taxed by means of these stamps. The people are not usually reluctant to draw attention to any financial burdens that may appear to be oppressive. But when we enquired of District officers the reports were to the effect that no complaints had been received.

20. Now it is worth while to enquire when are Court Fees payable. They are paid for the most part by persons who have recourse to law courts for the institution of suites. And I believe that it will be generally agreed that these gentlemen who receive the assistance and protection of the State for the recovery of their debts are people who do not ordinarily contribute to the support of the State either by payment of land revenue or perhaps still less by payment of excise revenue. These are some of our most worthy and esteemed citizens. They derive perhaps the largest share of benefit from the protection accorded by our police forces and our courts of justice. They take their full share of benefit of our roads and hospitals and other public activities but I think it is correct to state that they do not pay any large share to the support of these institutions.

It is urged, and quite correctly urged, that Justice should not be a source of revenue. But when we consider that our Administration of Justice costs us 76 lakhs and brings us in a corresponding revenue of only 16 lakhs; and when we remember that Courts by themselves without the assistance of Police and other departments of Government could not possibly perform their functions, I suggest for the consideration of this House that no tax could be more fair than an increase of Court Fees to be levied from this section of society. The bill which we hope the House will accept would bring us in a revenue which is computed at 18 lakhs. If this figure be compared with the remissions of land revenue it will be observed that it falls far short. If it be compared with the imminent decrease of excise revenue it can only be called a drop in the bucket. But I submit that it can quite legitimately be regarded as a first step in the attempt to re-adjust the burden of taxation, to make a section of society almost exempt from that burden to pay a small degree of contribution towards its share.

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

Calculations put before this House in 1924 showed that out of an estimated increase of 18½ lakhs 7 lakhs will be collected in the city of Bombay and 11½ lakhs in the four Divisions as shown below :—

| | Lakhs. |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Northern Division | 3½ |
| Central „ | 3 |
| Southern „ | 2 |
| Sind „ | 3 |
| | — |
| Total .. | 11½ |

And as the House is aware no increase whatever was proposed in payments on applications relating to sums below Rs. 500 and therefore probably payable by the poorer classes of citizens.

21. I now come to the second bill : A Bill for increased taxation on the Transfer of Property. The history of this bill is interesting. Some years ago the Municipal Corporations of Madras and Calcutta were able to obtain permission to levy additional rates of tax on the transfer of property within municipal areas.

When the Reforms system was introduced the Government of Bombay was considering the various sources of revenue allotted to them under the Government of India Act and Rules. And since a tax of this character was definitely allotted to Provincial Governments under the new law, the Government of Bombay contemplated the adoption of this bill when the Municipal Corporation of Bombay addressed the Government and asked that a bill should be passed giving them this revenue. Government replied that this tax was a part of provincial revenues and was reserved for provincial Governments.

Meantime negotiations had been in progress between the Corporation and the Government regarding schemes of primary education for the introduction of compulsory primary education and for the improvement of hospitals. In the course of these negotiations heavy claims for assistance from provincial revenues have been made on behalf of the city of Bombay.

In regard to compulsory primary education there is some little difference of opinion specially relating to the interpretation of an undertaking given by Government to supplement the municipal resources. This House will no doubt remember that a decision was taken to grant a subsidy of one-half the additional expenditure on primary education over a certain datum figure in accordance with a programme of improvement put forward by the Corporation. This committed Government to a subsidy of Rs. 62,500 in the first year, rising by an equal amount every year to Rs. 6,25,000 in the 10th year and to 9 lakhs in the 11th year on the introduction of compulsory primary education. According to that programme Government contribution for the five years ending 1923-24 would have amounted to 9.4 lakhs. But Government have actually contributed 16.9 lakhs or 7½ lakhs more than was originally stipulated :

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

and this expenditure was undertaken by Government after it was put before the House and passed by them.

The Corporation, however, have increased their expenditure on primary education to a far greater extent than was originally contemplated and now claim half the share of new developments. They urge that Government should raise their subsidy in a few years to some 25 lakhs. And since the Corporation are dissatisfied with the Government decision they have given notice of their intention to sue Government in the High Court ; the first suit of the kind, I believe, filed in the records of the High Court.

22. Then in regard to medical relief. The House may be aware that important developments are pending. In 1907 an agreement was made with the Municipal Corporation that while Government would maintain the five hospitals then existing all other medical relief must be provided by the municipality. The total cost of these hospitals in that year was about 4 lakhs. They now cost about 14 lakhs. But the city of Bombay has outgrown the measure of medical relief otherwise provided by the municipality. Government have recently addressed the municipality and offered, subject to the approval of this House, that the further provision of medical relief, which is admittedly necessary, should be undertaken from a fund which should consist of three parts :

- one-half from the public,
- one-fourth contributed by the municipality, and
- one-fourth contributed by Government.

It is probable that a considerable liability may fall upon Government by reason of this undertaking.

The improvement of the J. J. Hospital is one object in view. This is the principal centre of medical teaching in the Presidency. The popularity of the medical profession has increased so greatly in recent years that the J. J. Hospital does not provide sufficient material in the form of patients for the medical teaching of the students. It is proposed to enlarge very greatly this hospital by increasing the number of beds from 300 to 600 and the cost of this measure will thus increase the financial liability of this Government.

23. In various other methods the city of Bombay is directly benefited by expenditure borne by the general tax-payer. I would only refer to the heavy cost of roads and bridges in the vicinity of Bombay and the financial liabilities which Government are undertaking for the development of the city. Government have therefore come to the conclusion that it is but right and proper to ask the citizens of Bombay to contribute to the provincial exchequer by means of a tax on the transfer of property which it is estimated would bring us in a sum of 12 lakhs.

Similarly with the other chief cities. I need not do more than illustrate the assistance recently given to these places. The House is aware of the very heavy expenditure that has been incurred on water-supply and drainage at Poona and grants have similarly been given to Ahmedabad and Karachi and at the present time a scheme for the improvement of hospitals in Ahmedabad has been prepared and is before this House.

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

The main-stay of our revenues is Land Revenue paid by agriculturists and in the judgment of Government it is only fair that our system of taxation should be gradually adjusted so as to impose a more equitable share on the towns where public revenues are expended in considerable measure. The proceeds of this tax in these towns is estimated to represent a sum of 6 lakhs of rupees.

24. There is a third source of revenue which Government also propose now to tax and that is the betting on the race-course. In bringing this proposal forward Government are fulfilling a pledge which was given some time ago to this House; and from the views previously expressed in this House it is clear that some opposition may be expected from two different points of view.

There are gentlemen with high ideals who consider all betting wrong and who are unwilling that Government should become participators in conduct which appears to them reprehensible or even immoral. They therefore oppose such a tax on the highest principles. I cannot hope to persuade such men that their consciences are too tender. I can only point out to this House that in this measure we are adopting the practice followed in a large number of countries. I believe that all Colonies of the Empire have adopted this system. It is followed on the continent I think by all countries; and we find that it has been lately adopted by the sister province of Bengal.

Then there is the second class of critic who does not object to taking this money provided there is enough of it and we shall no doubt be told that we propose to be unduly lenient.

25. Well, Sir, this question has caused us a great deal of thought and we found that there were many difficulties to be overcome. In the first instance we had hoped to levy a rate under the conditions of the license which we give to the Turf Club under the Bombay Race-Courses Licensing Act, 1912 (Bombay Act No. III of 1912). The Income-tax authorities interposed a formidable objection. We had maintained that the payment of license must take precedence over the claims of the Government of India to Income-tax. As the Government of India had taken as high a tax as 17 lakhs from the Turf Club, they did not view our proposal with any high favour. They communicated to us a legal opinion which we could not defeat or disregard, to the effect that this license fee could not be levied under the existing law. We were therefore compelled to prepare a separate Act for the purpose.

At this stage then we learnt that part of the race-course is being acquired for railway extensions in connection with the growing developments of the city. The Turf Club were therefore driven to undertake a very high scale of capital expenditure to reclaim a large area of swamp, to relay the whole of the race track and to build new grand stands.

26. It was reported to us that since the Club had only a brief terminable lease, it was necessary for them to pay this whole capital expenditure from revenue and that the operations would not be completed until next winter. We were satisfied after examination that there was

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

serious danger that if we pressed for the receipt of a substantial revenue now, we might lose all prospects of any revenue at all and we came to the conclusion that we should wait and give time to the Club to complete its capital expenditure and then we should be able to obtain a stable source of revenue.

At the same time we found that owing to the great commercial depression the receipts of the Club were rapidly diminishing. In particular we ascertained that that part of the racing which was carried out at Poona had failed to be remunerative. After full and careful examination of the situation, we have come to the conclusion that we should introduce a Bill at the next sessions and make it applicable with effect from next winter to the Bombay races and the summer following to the Poona races. By this measure we hope to secure in the year 1925-26 a revenue of 6 lakhs of rupees and a higher revenue the following year, and we trust that we shall receive the support of this House, when the Bill is placed before it.

The revenue that we hope to derive from these three Bills, if they are accepted by the House, is therefore I repeat :

18 lakhs—Court Fee Stamps.

18 lakhs—Transfer of Property,

6 lakhs—from the Turf Club.

We have framed a Budget which will leave us with a small balance of one lakh with the help of these 42 lakhs of additional revenue.

27. The demands for advance in every direction are very insistent and we have had to reject and postpone numerous schemes which are admittedly of great public importance. Education, Medical, Agriculture, P.W.D. to name only a few, are crying out for further funds but we have only succeeded in providing for things that we regard as absolutely necessary. If however we are so unfortunate as not to persuade this House to give us their confidence in this matter, it would be necessary to cut down services now being rendered to the public even though Government consider them to be of essential benefit. And since the frame-work of Government must be maintained if we are not to allow the administration to lapse into chaos, it follows of necessity that this retrenchment must be made primarily in those departments which minister to the more advanced needs of the community.

The House is confronted with a very urgent issue and it is necessary that that issue should be placed before it in the most plain and distinct terms. It is not possible for Government to consent to a closure of Courts of Justice, to the dismissal of police forces necessary for the protection of the people or to withdraw any of the officers required for the collection of revenue. These primary services of a civilized Government must be maintained in efficient working. I assume that there can be no dispute on this point. For we all know by observation, if not by personal experience, that nothing but the strong arm of Government can protect its citizens from the desperate adventures of wild and lawless men. It follows therefore that retrenchment must fall with a heavy hand on

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

those services which are not essential to life, however beneficial they may be to the advance of prosperity and the higher ideals of civilization.

This House will not have failed to observe recent events in other parts of India and the bitter complaints of citizens who have suffered from the closure of schools and hospitals, the bad repairs of roads and buildings and the cessation of work of the Agricultural and Co-operative Departments. That has been the baneful effect of the policy pursued in other provinces; but Government have full confidence that the members of this House will not permit themselves to be led astray in a similar course of action so patently injurious to the welfare of their constituencies.

The first two Bills will be introduced in the course of the next few days and we hope to receive the full support of this House in passing them into law.

28. I come now to a consideration of those activities of Government which are financed from loan funds. I presented to this House a general survey of these activities last year, and I will not repeat that account in any detail. It has been a grievance with certain members of this House that, owing to the form of the presentation of the budget in previous years under which the loan policies came at the close of the discussion the important problems connected with those policies received little attention. The time allotted for the discussion of the budget demands is limited by statute to a maximum of 12 days—a longer period, I believe, than the Government of India occupy for the discussion of a budget ten times our figure. Nevertheless our experience has been that so much time has been taken up in debating details in regard to the various departments that those members of the House who are interested in the wider survey of our financial projects for the future have been debarred from giving us their advice.

The responsibility for determining the form of the presentation of the budget rests by rule upon the Finance Member. I consulted the Finance Committee, and with their approval, I propose to alter the order for the discussion of the budget and place in the forefront the portions that relate to the development of Bombay city and the irrigation schemes in Sind and the Deccan.

29. Moreover we have presented in the blue book this year a careful synopsis of our loan commitments. I would remind the House of the figures which I have given in previous years, and on which there has been no increase. In 1923 I pointed out that the total commitments approximated 60 crores. In fact so far as Bombay development is concerned, during the current year strenuous efforts have been made to curtail expenditure and to reduce commitments. The Honourable Member in charge of the General Department will explain in detail the measures he has taken.

The reclamation of the Back Bay has been in progress, and members of this House will no doubt be interested in visiting and inspecting the area which has already been reclaimed. The great wall continues to stretch its arms out into the sea, and has successfully withstood the

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

assaults of the monsoon. When I was in England in July I heard that the wall had been battered to pieces in a storm; but on my return in August I learnt that this was one of those flights of fancy with which prophets of evil seek to depress the spirits of the public. And in fact the wall had been subjected to a severe strain, and had triumphantly resisted.

30. A great impetus will be given to the success of our Development schemes in the suburbs of Bombay by the opening of the first system of electric trains from Kurla to Victoria Terminus. This electrification will be continued shortly on to Bandra and other stations on the B. B. and C. I., and to Thana and beyond on the G. I. P. This new line of electric railway will enable large numbers of clerks and business men to establish their homes in rural surroundings at a far cheaper cost than in the Bombay City. Bombay was the pioneer in railway construction 80 years ago, and is once again the pioneer in the application of electric power to railway traction. For this great event the gratitude of the community is due both to the authorities of the G. I. P. Railway for the persistent advocacy of their schemes and their engineering skill in overcoming the many obstacles arising from the congested condition of the Bombay City, and also to the Tata Company which have provided the electric power. This railway is a signal example of the happy union of Indian financial enterprise with Western mechanical science, and is only the first step in the new developments which hold great promise of immense benefits to the health and happiness of our citizens in this area. When Poona and Bombay are within a three hours journey and electric trains speed up the ghauts to Poona on one line and to Nasik on the other, the Deccan will be linked more closely with the City of Bombay, and both will advance in further prosperity.

31. In Sind the Sukkur Barrage project has made a satisfactory start. At the headworks the land has been laid out, embankments constructed and railway lines laid, and a great deal of plant has been imported and got ready. Several of the huge excavators, which are to dig out the canals, have been set up, and some have already started work. These excavators are enormous machines which are estimated to do the work of a thousand men in a day. The engineers are busy aligning and designing the canals. The land on the alignment selected is in process of being acquired and we have every reason to be gratified with the zeal and efficiency of the establishments that are employed on this vast enterprise.

32. In the Deccan the Bhandardara Lake is now complete, and the Bhatghar Lake and subsidiary canals have made good progress. The effect of these great irrigation projects in saving from the horrors of famine many thousands of cultivators whose lands are situated in tracts of the Deccan frequently liable to a total failure of rainfall, will be appreciated by this House.

As I have mentioned before, the total burden on the provincial exchequer of these irrigation works in the Deccan and Gujarat amounts

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

to 14 crores of rupees on which we obtain a return of less than 3 per cent. In other words, close on 50 lakhs of rupees in the form of interest are every year presented to these fortunate landowners. Since these men now secure a very high rent for their lands, and their property has been immensely increased in value, it will only be fair to the tax payer in other parts if these irrigated lands be brought under contribution to pay some additional rate to the land revenue. This House will be invited to assist Government at a later session to devise the best and fairest method of bringing these lands under contribution.

33. There are few problems of administration of greater complexity and greater urgency than the adjustment of taxation to those shoulders that are best able to bear the burden. The Government of India are making an attempt to obtain a scientific basis for the readjustment of taxation through the inquiries which are now on foot by the Taxation Enquiry Committee. That committee is visiting Bombay very shortly, and I hope it will receive much valuable information from our economic experts in this city.

This House will no doubt be chiefly interested in the view that they may take of the proper distribution of the revenue obtained from income-tax. This year again we receive no benefit from the income-tax collected in this presidency. This Government have lost no opportunity of expressing their dissent from the system that was established under what is known as the Meston Settlement; and although we have failed to secure any redress during these last four years, we do not propose to acquiesce in the anomalies of the system without continuous protests. Our protests will be put before the Taxation Enquiry Committee, and we know that we have in this matter the unanimous support of this House.

In every federal system of taxation in the world provincial governments share with the federal government the proceeds of the income tax. The province of Bombay with its highly developed industrial life contributes large sums to the income-tax—far larger than any of the great agricultural provinces of the country. Its administrative needs are necessarily on a higher scale suited to the more advanced standard of industrial life. We can but point out the grievous anomaly that no part of the revenues derived from industry should be made available to the provincial governments for expenditure on the needs of industry. We therefore welcome the arrival of the Taxation Enquiry Committee in the confident hope that they will recommend the removal of this anomaly and the redress of our grievance.

With these words, Sir, I beg to introduce the budget.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The budget is duly presented.

Before adjourning the meeting I should like to inform honourable members that the scrutineers have reported the result of the election

of the finance committee, and the following gentlemen have been duly elected in the order in which I read out their names :—

Mr. B. G. Pahalajani,
Khan Bahadur D. B. Cooper,
Mr. R. G. Pradhan,
Mr. D. R. Patil,
Mr. G. B. Pradhan,
The Thakor of Amod,
Mr. Hooseinbhoj A. Lalljee,
Khan Saheb A. M. Mansuri,
Mr. W. S. Mukadam,
Mr. C. M. Saptarshi,
Mr. V. R. Kothari, and
Mr. Mahomed Ayub Shah Mahomed Khuhro.

The council will now adjourn till 2 o'clock on Monday, the 23rd February 1925.

23 FEB. 1925]

Monday, the 23rd February 1925.

The Council re-assembled at the Town Hall, Bombay, on Monday, the 23rd February 1925, at 2 p.m., the Honourable the President, Sir IBRAHIM RAHIMTOOLA, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
ANGADI, Mr. S. N.
BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
BHURGRI, Mr. J. M.
BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
BUNTER, Mr. J. P.
DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
DELVES, Mr. R. H. A.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
GHOSAL, Mr. J.
GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH
GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
HUDSON, Mr. L. S.
JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
JATOI, Khan Saheb HAJI SERAI IMAMBAKSH
JATOI, Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
JOG, Mr. V. N.
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
KALBHOR, Mr. G. M.
KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.
KARKI, Mr. M. D.
KAZI INAITULLAKHAN
KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
LALJI NARANJI, Mr.

LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.
 LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 LINFORD, Mr. J. W.
 MADAN, Mr. J. A.
 MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO, Mr.
 MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
 MAVALANKAR, Mr. G. K.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
 MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
 NANAL, Mr. B. R.
 NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
 NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
 NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 OWEN, Mr. A. C.
 PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
 PATEL, Mr. D. N.
 PATEL, Mr. G. I.
 PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED KHAN
 PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 PIR RASULBAKSH SHAH
 POWAR, Mr. M. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 PRATT, Mr. F. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOUSENALLY M.
 SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
 SARDESAI, Mr. S. A.
 SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH
 SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
 SEDGWICK, Mr. L. J.
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.
 SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
 THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
 TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
 VELKAR, Dr. M. B.
 WILES, Mr. G.
 WOODS, Mr. E. E.

The Honourable the President : Questions.

SIND ALLOWANCE TO ACTING ASSISTANT DEPUTY EDUCATIONAL INSPECTORS.

* Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City) : Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some of the primary teachers in Sind who are acting as assistant deputy educational inspectors are not allowed to draw the Sind allowance on the ground that they are drawing salary in excess of the present scale of their pay ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Yes : It was not intended that the Sind allowance or special pay of Rs. 5 should be added to pay according to the *old* scales, as the initial pay of these scales for Sind was already Rs. 5 higher than that of the old scales for the Presidency proper. It follows therefore that all primary school teachers who retain their old pay under the rules of the new scheme are debarred from the Sind allowance or special pay of Rs. 5 irrespective of whether they are acting as Assistant Deputy Educational Inspectors or not.

SLAUGHTER OF CATTLE.

† Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City) : Will Government be pleased to furnish the number of (a) bullocks or bulls ; (b) cows, and (c) calves that were slaughtered in municipal areas in this presidency during the last year for which the figures are available ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : 47,088 bullocks, 56,847 cows and 1,876 calves were slaughtered. Besides 8,099 cattle, details of which are not available, were also slaughtered.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : May I know during which year so many animals were slaughtered ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : The honourable member put the question regarding last year, and that is the information that I have given him.

VILLAGE PANCHAYATS' PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government be pleased to state (a) the number of villages in each division, district by district.

(b) The number of panchayats in each district.

(c) The number of primary schools conducted by such panchayats, if any.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : (a) and (b) Attention is invited to the answer given to question No. 29 put by Mr. R. G. Pradhan (Nasik District) during March 1924 session of the Council.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

(c) The question should be put to the Honourable Minister in charge of Education.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Sir, am I to put the question now to the Honourable the Minister for Education ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Yes, if the Honourable Minister is prepared to answer it now.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : I have been asked by the Honourable Khan Bahadur.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I do not know if the Honourable the Minister for Education is prepared to answer the question now. If he is not, you will have to give him notice.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I am sorry I am not prepared to answer it now. I want notice.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Sir, the Honourable the Minister in charge of local self-government could have sent the question direct to the Honourable the Minister for Education.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I do not know on what grounds the honourable member bases his suggestion. If he will look to the Rules and Standing Orders he will find that honourable members are required to ask for information from each individual Member or Minister. Therefore in framing the questions honourable members should take care that they are asking information of a particular Member of Government. As a matter of convenience questions addressed generally in the name of Government are admitted. But that does not mean that the effect of the Rules and Standing Orders is in any way over-ridden. Honourable members should address each question in such a manner as to elicit information from only one Member of Government.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA : We had asked the Government in this very House what were the portfolios held by each Member of Government, but it was stated that the information was confidential. How are we then to address our questions to the right Member ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : The information will be laid on the Table.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE : May I know what is the position of members until then ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : In theory that information has not been put before the House, but in actual practice every honourable member knows that one Minister is in charge of local self-government, another is in charge of Education and the third is in charge of Excise and Forests. For all practical purposes that information has been available to the honourable House. Theoretically the list has not been placed before the House as was done four years ago. But I find that even that formality will be satisfied now. In view of the assurance given, I hope honourable members will have no difficulty in complying with the rules and Standing Orders.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Sir, I will cite another instance. In the case of the Labour Department one does not know.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: But the assurance has now been given that the information will be placed on the table.

QUARTERS FOR BOMBAY PORT TRUST OFFICERS.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any quarters have been built by the Bombay Port Trust for their officers;

(b) if so, for what officers have these quarters been built, and at what cost;

(c) whether any house allowance is granted to higher officers not provided with such quarters, and if so at what rate;

(d) whether any quarters have been built for the subordinate officers and clerks;

(e) if not, whether any housing allowance has been granted to them; and if so, at what rate;

(f) whether any chawls have been built for the workmen in the Port Trust workshop;

(g) whether any resolution regarding the housing accommodation has been submitted by the Port Trust Employees' Union to the Port Trust authorities;

(h) if so, what action has been taken or is intended to be taken by the authorities in the matter?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: (a) Yes.

(b) Quarters have been built for officers whom it is considered desirable to house near their work and for married officers, whose families are resident with them. The cost of residential quarters for higher officers completed by 31st March 1924, is about Rs. 21 lakhs.

(c) House allowances are granted to all officers who are not provided with free quarters on the following scales:—

| Maximum pay of the appointment of which the officer holds substantive or officiating charge. | House allowance admissible to officers entitled to free quarters. | | House allowances to other married officers. |
|--|---|--|---|
| | A In the case of a married officer whose wife and/or family are resident with him in Bombay. | B In the case of an unmarried officer or of a married officer whose wife and/or family are not resident with him in Bombay. | |
| Above Rs. 270 up to Rs. 350 | Rs. 85 | Rs. 50 | Rs. 50 |
| " " 350 " " 500 | " 125 | " 75 | " 75 |
| " " 500 " " 750 | " 175 | " 100 | " 100 |
| " " 750 " " 1,000 | " 225 | " 125 | " 125 |
| " " 1,000 " " 1,250 | " 250 | " 150 | " 125 |
| " " 1,250 " " 2,000 | .... | .... | " 100 |
| " " 2,000 " " 3,000 | .... | .... | " 100 |

(d) Yes.

(e) If subordinate officers entitled to free quarters are not provided with Port Trust quarters, they are granted a house allowance of 10 per cent. on their pay.

(f) No chawls have been exclusively built for workmen of the Port Trust workshops, but workmen therein employed are eligible for being housed in the chawls erected by the Port Trust for their workmen in general, and some are so housed.

(g) Yes.

(h) The resolution is being considered along with other proposals affecting the accommodation of employees.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: May I know what officers are entitled to free quarters?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: It is in the answer: 'If subordinate officers are not provided with Port Trust quarters, they are granted a house allowance of 10 per cent. on their pay'.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: My question is, what subordinate officers are entitled to free quarters, and what subordinate officers are not?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: That is not a part of the honourable member's original question. If he will give notice I will get the information for him.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: As regards this question, I may say that the clerks have been omitted. The question (d) is "whether any quarters have been built for the subordinate officers and clerks".

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The answer is given "Yes".

Mr. S. K. BOLE: Is it a fact that clerks are provided with free quarters?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Mr. President, you have answered the question for me.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE: May I know whether Government have drawn attention of the Port Trustees to provide quarters for their workmen?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Not, as far as I can remember.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE: Is it a fact that Government has drawn the attention of mill-owners and the Municipal Corporation to the necessity of building chawls for their workmen? If so, why have they not drawn the attention of the Port Trustees for chawls for their workmen?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: I am not quite certain whether Government have drawn the attention of the Corporation and of the mill-owners regarding the desirability of building chawls for workmen. I will enquire.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: As regards my question, where are the quarters for clerks located?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : I do not know just now : I will require notice of that question.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : As a matter of fact they are not in existence, as far as I know.

INSTITUTIONS FOR TRAINING PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS.

* Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many institutions for the training of primary school teachers exist in this presidency ?

(b) how many of them are colleges, and where they are situated ?

(c) how many of them are schools and where they are situated ?

(d) how many of them are private or grant-in-aid institutions and where they are situated ?

(e) how many classes are attached to each of the institutions mentioned in (a), (b) and (c), and

(f) how many students receive instruction in each of such institutions ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The accompanying statement† gives the information required. With regard to parts (b) and (c), there is no essential difference between a training college and a training school, the former term being usually applied to institutions teaching the full course and the latter to those teaching a year's course only.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : How is it that in the Ahmedabad Training College for Men there were three classes before and only two now ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Because the third year training class is taken away.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : Was the number of students less in that college ? Has the attendance of students fallen off ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : No.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : Then, why was the number of classes reduced ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Government did not think it necessary to increase the number of third-year trained teachers, and therefore the third year class was stopped.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : What were the reasons for taking away the class ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Experts in the department wanted it to be abolished.

MOULVI RAFI UDDIN AHMAD : May I know the names of the experts and also the reasons given by them ?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 12.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The resolution in the matter was passed before I took charge as a Minister and if the honourable member will give notice, I shall see whether the information can be supplied.

MOULVI RAFTUDDIN AHMAD: Has the policy been decided now and has the Minister given his own consent to it?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I think it is.

SCHOOL BUILDING AT PASTA.

* Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware that the people of Pasta in Sindkheda taluka, West Khandesh, collected about Rs. 800 for a school building at their village about ten-years ago;

(b) are Government aware that at about the same time the old school building at Pasta was sold by auction and that about Rs. 700 was realised?

(c) if the reply to (a) and (b) is in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state—

(i) with whom these two sums have been lying and whether any interest accrues to them, and

(ii) whether the school building is likely to be built; and if so, when?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) Rs. 860 were collected in 1913.

(b) The building was sold by auction in 1912 and realised Rs. 700.

(c) (i) The amount shown under (a) earns interest, the total accumulated balance on 1st August 1924 being Rs. 1,202-8-7, which is invested as under:—

Rs. a. p.

900 0 0 in War bonds of 1930 in the custody of the Accountant General, Bombay.

120 0 0 in the form of cash certificates in the custody of the Mamlatdar and the Sub-Treasury Officer, Sindkheda.

182 8 7 in the Postal Savings Bank in the name of the Revenue Patil, Pasta.

The amount under (b) has been credited to the District Local Board Educational Fund.

(ii) The work of constructing a school building at Pasta will be taken up as soon as funds permit. The District Local Board has been requested to take in hand first the construction of those buildings for which local contributions have been received.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE: May I know what is the routine adopted for these grants? Whether it is in order of precedence or whether any other method is adopted?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: These matters are generally entrusted to the district local board and they act in these matters according to their convenience.

RELIEF FROM INSUFFICIENCY OF RAIN.

*Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Having regard to the condition of the rainfall in the eastern and other parts of the Poona district will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they intend to suspend any part of the land revenue; if so, what amounts in each taluka?

(b) what amount of tagai is intended to be given in each of the said talukas;

(c) whether they intend to take any steps for relieving distressed cattle, and if so, what steps do they intend to take?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: In view of the late good rains no relief measures are necessary.

Mr. G. M. KALBHOR: Are Government aware that some hardship was caused by the late good rains?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Government have no information about any damage done on account of the late rains.

Mr. G. M. KALBHOR: I am ready to give you some information on the point.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: I shall be very grateful to the honourable member.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR: The reply is "in view of the late good rains no relief measures are necessary". Is it the information of the Honourable Member in charge, or is the information based upon the reports received from district officers?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member cannot ask that question. Government give the answer on their own authority and it is Government's answer and they are responsible for it. The Council can hold them responsible for it.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR: Is it not a fact that eastern parts of the Poona district had not sufficiently good rains?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: That is not the advice given to us by the responsible officers of Government.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

REMISSION AND SUSPENSION OF ASSESSMENT IN MUNDARGI PETHA,
DHARWAR DISTRICT.

* Mr. V. N. JOG (Dharwar District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of villages in the Mundargi Petha which were granted (i) remission, (ii) full suspension, and (iii) half suspension of the assessment for the years 1922-23 and 1923-24 ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state on what basis the anna valuations of the Mundargi Petha for these years were prepared ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) (i) No remission was granted in any village in the Petha.

(ii) Full suspension was granted in 19 villages during 1922-23 and 5 in 1923-24.

(iii) Half suspension was allowed in 13 villages in 1922-23 and 4 in 1923-24.

(b) It was estimated by the Mahalkari after a personal inspection of the crops and enquiries on the spot. The annewari thus made was further checked by the Prant Officer.

FAMINE IN NARGUND PETHA.

* Mr. V. N. JOG (Dharwar District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that famine conditions have been prevailing in the Nargund petha during the last three or four years ?

(b) Are they aware that men and cattle have left the Nargund Petha in large numbers on account of famine ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state what amounts out of the land revenue in the Nargund Petha for the year 1923-24 were remitted or suspended ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) There was some scarcity in the petha in the years 1922-23 and 1923-24.

(b) Some cultivators migrated to the neighbouring tracts where there were good crops and returned home in time for field labour.

(c) Rs. 93,000 were suspended.

PROFESSORS AND PRINCIPALS OF GOVERNMENT COLLEGES IN
PROVINCIAL AND IMPERIAL GRADES.

† Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to supply the following information about the professors and principals working in Government colleges of this Presidency in provincial and imperial grades :—

(1) name, (2) educational qualification, (3) period of service, (4) provincial or imperial, (5) salary, (6) periods of work per week, (7) whether he has published any original work, (8) whether he has published

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

any notes on text books appointed by the University, (9) and the number of university examinations held by him last year ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : A statement* furnishing the information is placed on the Council table.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : I want to know when the term of No. 9, College of Engineering, Mr. A. V. Pearce, is going to expire ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Mr. Pearce was appointed temporarily to the post of Instructor in Engineering Drawing and Design on 1st January 1920, and was confirmed in his post on 1st April 1921. He is now a permanent member of the B. E. S. and the period of his service will ordinarily terminate when he reaches the age of 55, i.e., on 5th May 1949.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : Is it a fact that the workshop classes are taught by Mr. Khare ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : It is not a fact.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : May I know whether this gentleman knows geometry ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : If the honourable member gives me notice, I shall find that out.

MILL ACCIDENTS IN SHOLAPUR.

Mr. G. M. KALBHOR (Poona District) : Will Government be pleased to state—How many accidents have occurred in each of the mills at Sholapur since the passing of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 ;

What was the nature of the accidents and the names of the persons injured, and what amount of compensation has been paid to each person concerned by the respective mills ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : The accompanying statement† furnishes the information required.

GOVERNMENT TIMBER DEPOTS IN KANARA.

‡ Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state :—

(a) How many Government timber depôts are there in talukas of Sirsi and Siddapur and petha of Mundgod ?

(b) What quantities of timber have been annually brought and sold in each of such depôts during the last ten years ?

(c) What are the amounts of expenditure annually incurred in operations commencing from felling and ending in stocking the timber in each of such depôts and in maintaining and keeping up of such depôts during that period ?

* Vide Appendix 13.

† Vide Appendix 14.

‡ This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

(d) What are the amounts realised annually by sale of timber in each of those depôts and what are the amounts of royalty on the timber sold during that period?

(e) What quantities of timber are now in stock in each of such depôts and of how many years' standing are they? What is their present value?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: A statement* furnishing the required information is placed on the Council table.

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN KANARA.

† Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to state:—

(a) How many public as well as private vernacular and Anglo-vernacular schools there are in Kanara classified under different heads, primary, secondary, high schools, etc., and the places in which they are situated?

(b) The total number of boys and girls respectively receiving education in such schools?

(c) Figures showing how many of these boys and girls respectively belong to the different castes and communities?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) There are in Kanara 365 schools classified as under:—

| | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|-----|
| Primary Schools (including 8 classes attached to schools) | .. | .. | .. | 349 |
| Secondary Schools | .. | .. | .. | 9 |
| High Schools | .. | .. | .. | 3 |
| Special Schools | .. | .. | .. | 4 |
| Total .. | | | | 365 |

Lists‡ showing the names of the places where the schools are located are laid on the Council table.

(b) The total number of boys and girls receiving education in the above schools is as under:—

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|----|----|----|--------|
| <i>Primary Schools.</i> | | | | |
| Boys | .. | .. | .. | 13,675 |
| Girls | .. | .. | .. | 3,536 |
| Total .. | | | | 17,211 |
| <i>Secondary Schools.</i> | | | | |
| Boys | .. | .. | .. | 738 |
| Girls | .. | .. | .. | 9 |
| Total .. | | | | 747 |

* Vide Appendix 15.

† This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

‡ Kept in the Secretary's office.

| | | <i>High Schools.</i> | | | |
|-------|----|-------------------------|----|------------------|-------------|
| Boys | .. | .. | .. | .. | 732 |
| Girls | .. | .. | .. | .. | 28 |
| | | | | Total .. | 760 |
| | | <i>Special Schools.</i> | | | |
| Boys | .. | .. | .. | .. | 267 |
| Girls | .. | .. | .. | .. | <i>Nil.</i> |
| | | | | Total .. | 267 |
| | | <i>Grand Total.</i> | | | |
| Boys | .. | .. | .. | .. | 15,412 |
| Girls | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3,573 |
| | | | | Both together .. | 18,985 |

(c) Statements* giving the information required are laid on the Council table.

LOPPING OF ROADSIDE TREES ON HUBLI-SIRSI MAIN ROAD.

† Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that the roadside trees on both sides of that portion of the Hubli-Sirsi Main road which lies within the boundaries of the Dharwar district have been indiscriminately lopped?

(b) Will they be pleased to state (i) whether the work of lopping such trees is entrusted to contractors or done departmentally, (ii) whether such lopping is done with the sanction or approval of the Executive Engineer of the district, and (iii) what price has been realised by selling or otherwise disposing of such loppings?

(c) Will they be pleased to state why these roadside trees have been treated in this manner?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN:

(a) The roadside trees on the portion of the road in question are not indiscriminately lopped.

(b) (i) The work of lopping such trees is done departmentally.

(ii) The lopping is done with the approval of the Executive Engineer.

(iii) No price is realised for such loppings as the wood is worthless as a marketable commodity.

(c) It has been the established practice to lop excessive growth from trees for the reason that the road surface under them becomes full of pot-holes on account of constant raindrops from above. This keeps the road always in a muddy condition and thereby it gets cut up by traffic as the rays of the Sun are unable to penetrate and dry up the moisture on the road. Lopping is also done when branches are generally loaded within 12 feet from road surface with a view to prevent obstruction to loaded carts and other traffic.

* Kept in Secretary's office.

† This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

Mr. M. D. KARKI : I want to know whether the loppings of these road-side trees were not collected and carted away by the Public Works Department ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : I have no such information.

MESSRS. HOWARD BROTHERS' TIMBER AGENCY.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the place of business of Messrs. Howard Brothers, forest contractors ;

(b) the terms of agreement, if any, entered into by them and Government regarding the disposal of forest produce, with the date of the agreement and the place of its execution ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : (a) 38, Trinity Square, London, E. C. 3.

(b) The Government of Bombay have not entered into any agreement with Messrs. W. W. Howard Brothers and Company.

Mr. M. D. KARKI : Was any timber entrusted to Messrs. Howard Brothers by the Government of Bombay for sale ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : I want notice.

KUMTA TALUKA KACHERI.

* Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware of the inconvenience caused to the public by the unsatisfactory condition in which the ground floor of the Kumta taluka office has been kept ?

(b) If so, what are the reasons for keeping it in that condition ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) Yes.

(b) The present building was constructed in 1865-66 and is very old. Every item of the building from the ground floor to the roof requires special repairs. In view of the fact that it will soon be necessary to construct a new Kacheri for which a site has already been selected, it was thought undesirable to spend money in carrying out special repairs to the present building.

Mr. M. D. KARKI : Within how many years will the new Kacheri be built ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : When funds are available and it will be absolutely necessary to build.

MUKHTIARKARS AND RESIDENT MAGISTRATES IN SIND.

* Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) In what year was the principle of direct recruitment of mukhtiarkars and resident magistrates introduced in Sind ?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

(b) How many probationers have been appointed to these posts since then ?

(c) How many have been confirmed as such after being appointed as probationers ?

(d) How many such probationers have not yet been confirmed ; and how long has each of them been a probationer ?

(e) Are the orders for the direct appointment to the posts of mukhtiar-kars and resident magistrates still in force ?

(f) When was the last appointment made under these orders and what is the name of the person so appointed ?

(g) Is it a fact that there are some probationers appointed in 1916 who have not yet been confirmed ? If so, what are the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : The following replies give the information required so far as resident magistrates are concerned—

(a) 1904.

(b) 43.

(c) 24.

(d) One has been on probation for six years. The services of three were dispensed with. Three resigned. One was re-transferred as Subordinate Judge. Two were provided for in the subordinate service. Nine dropped out altogether. These latter eleven had been taken up only in temporary vacancies.

(e) Yes.

(f) Mr. Mahomed Ishaq Badruddin. In October 1918.

(g) No.

PROTECTED MONUMENTS.

* Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state when an ancient monument was first declared to be protected monument in this presidency under section 3 of the Ancient Monuments' Preservation Act, 1904 ?

(b) What is the number of such protected monuments in (i) Bombay presidency, (ii) Ahmedabad and (iii) Surat ?

(c) What is the total amount spent by Government during the last ten years on their preservation ?

(d) Are Government aware that there are several protected monuments in the city of Ahmedabad which require early repairs ?

(e) Is any financial assistance given by Government to public bodies desirous of preserving or repairing a protected monument ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : (a) In the year 1909.

(b) The total number of such protected monuments in the Bombay presidency including Sind is 735 out of which 40 are in Ahmedabad and 2 in Surat.

(c) Rs. 6,25,768.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

(d) The yearly inspection reports of the Executive Engineer, Ahmedabad district, do not show that early repairs are needed to any of the protected monuments in Ahmedabad city which are maintained by Government at their expense.

(e) No.

The question does not arise in the case of monuments in private possession unless there is an agreement with Government to the effect.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI: With reference to the answer to (b), are Government aware that the Sidic Bather mosque in Ahmedabad, a protected monument, has been recently repaired by raising a subscription of Rs. 7,000 otherwise it was liable to great damage?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Government is not aware of that fact, but if the honourable member gives notice I will make further inquiry.

REMOVAL OF BOMBAY MILCH CATTLE STABLES TO TROMBAY.

* Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities):

(a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Bombay municipality intend to remove the stables for milch cattle from Bombay to Trombay?

(b) Are Government aware of the hardships that are likely to be caused both to the owners of the milch cattle and the public by such a measure?

(c) Have Government received any memorial from the owners of milch cattle or the public on the subject?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: (a) In 1920-21 the corporation definitely decided that, in view of the nuisance resulting from milch cattle stables in Bombay, the policy should be to allow no new stables to be erected, and to get rid of the existing stables as occasion arose. They also decided to provide land in Trombay for those cattleowners who chose to move there, and to arrange, if necessary, the transport of milk supplies thence. Arrangements to this effect are practically complete.

(b) No hardship is likely to be caused either to the public or to the cattle-owners when the dairies are removed from the city. Milk should be purer and cheaper. The cattle-owners at present pay exorbitant rents amounting in some cases to Rs. 10 per month per head for milch cattle stabling in Bombay. They will pay much less under better conditions outside at Trombay or elsewhere. They are not compelled to go to Trombay, but can remove to any place they choose outside the city.

(c) This part of the question has already been answered at the last session of the Council.

NAZARANA.

* Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars): Will Government be pleased to state the amounts of—(a) annual

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

and occasional nazaranas levied on inam villages and lands in this presidency during the year 1922-23 ;

(b) the judi levied in respect of dumala villages and lands in the Southern and Central Divisions for the year 1922-23 ;

(c) fines levied as under section 135F of the Land Revenue Code in Inam villages in the Central and Southern Divisions for the year 1922-23 ;

(d) Kadim cash allowances which have lapsed to Government in whole or part and thus ceased to be paid but which were collected from the inam villages in the Poona, Satara and Belgaum districts during the period 1900 to 1923 ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : The required information is given in the accompanying statement.*

EXPANSION OF REFORMS.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars): Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a copy of their memorandum to the Government of India on the subject of the Reforms in connection with the preliminary inquiry that was held under the chairmanship of the Home Member to the Government of India ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : The attention of the honourable member is invited to the answer given to the honourable member for Nasik district in October session, 1924.

SURVEY OF CERTAIN INAM VILLAGES IN BELGAUM DISTRICT.

† Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars): Will Government be pleased to state :—

(a) whether the inam village of Kallol, taluka Chikodi, district Belgaum, has been surveyed under the Survey Settlement Act I of 1865 ;

(b) whether the inamdar had applied to Government for the introduction of the survey settlement in the village ;

(c) whether the said village is treated at present as surveyed and settled in any respects ; if so, in what respects ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) No. The village was surveyed before the Act in question came into force ; but the survey settlement was validated by section 3 of Bombay Act I of 1865 and subsequently in 1872 Government extended the provisions of section XXXI of the said Act to this village.

(b) No. The survey settlement was introduced into this village in 1860-61 under extraordinary circumstances under which the inamdar's application for the survey settlement was not necessary.

(c) The village is shown in the revenue accounts as surveyed and settled and is treated accordingly.

* *Vide* Appendix 15-A.

† This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

TOUR OF DEPUTY EDUCATIONAL INSPECTORS IN GUJARAT.

* Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District): Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some deputy educational inspectors in Gujarat go on tour without their own conveyance and bedding, etc., and that the village teachers have to make arrangements for such things ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The answer is in the negative.

OFFICERS OF THE SUKKUR BARRAGE SCHEME.

* Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District): Will Government be pleased to give the following information regarding officers engaged in the Sukkur Barrage Scheme:—

- (1) Name of the officer whose pay is Rs. 1,000 or above per month.
- (2) Monthly pay.
- (3) Nationality.
- (4) Designation.
- (5) Qualification.
- (6) Date of appointment.
- (7) On what pay he was appointed.
- (8) By whom appointed.
- (9) What pay he used to draw in the service or department in which he was last engaged.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: The requisite information is embodied in the statement† attached.

GRANTS AT SPECIAL RATES TO GIRLS' SCHOOLS.

* MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS (Eastern Sind): Will Government be pleased to state what aided girls' schools have been receiving annual grants at special rates, and if any of them received more last year than the grants it had received in the previous year, the amount of such excess in each case ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Girls' schools in Sind receive grants at one-half of the expenditure instead of at one-third as in the rest of the Presidency.

The Indian Girls' High School, Karachi, receives an additional grant of Rs. 3,000 towards the pay of the Head Master.

The Poona Seva Sadan is paid grants at the rate of two-thirds of the expenditure.

Neither of the latter schools received more in 1923-24 than in 1922-23.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: With regard to the Poona Seva Sadan, may I know why this special rate of two-thirds grant is given ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: If the honourable member will give me notice, I shall find out.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 16.

GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOLS IN SIND.

* MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS (Eastern Sind): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in Sind there are still two districts without a Government high school, and that in the whole of the Presidency there are only two districts without such institutions, namely, those just referred to?

(b) When was the need of a high school for the district of Larkana first recognised by Government and when was the school actually started?

(c) Which of such schools have been provided with a Government building, and when?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the building of the Government high school at Hyderabad was condemned by the Civil Surgeon, Hyderabad, as far back as 1909, as insanitary and quite unsuitable for the purpose?

(e) If so, why has not a better building been provided since?

(f) Are Government aware that the Hyderabad municipality have sanctioned the grant of a piece of land to the Educational Department for the purpose of an extension of the school?

(g) If so, when do Government propose to build a suitable building thereon?

(h) What has been the total expenditure on building for Government secondary schools during the last 15 years in the whole presidency including Sind, and how much of it has been incurred in Sind?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) The answer to the first portion is in the affirmative and the answer to the latter portion is in the negative.

(b) January 1913 and August 1919 respectively.

(c) The accompanying statement† gives the information required.

(d) The answer is in the affirmative.

(e) Because the question of the additional land required for the high school was not settled until April 1924.

(f) Yes.

(g) When funds permit; the plans and estimates for the building are under consideration.

(h) Rs. 11,94,598 and Rs. 59,699 respectively. Plans and estimate the latter amounting to Rs. 2,87,474 for a new building for the Larkana high school have been sanctioned, and the work is in progress.

SPECIAL GRANT TO SIND.

‡ MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS (Eastern Sind): Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that girls' schools in Sind have to pay much higher salaries to graduate and undergraduate women teachers than those in the presidency?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Yes.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 17.

‡ This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

BRIDGE OVER KOLUMB CREEK.

* Mr. B. R. NANAL (Ratnagiri District): Will Government be pleased to state whether they made any inquiries as to whether it is necessary to build a bridge over the Kolumb creek on the northern side of Malwan? If so, do they intend to take any action?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: The Kolumb creek is within the jurisdiction of the district local board, Ratnagiri. At the request of the board the Executive Engineer, Ratnagiri district, prepared plans and estimates for the bridge over the creek and forwarded them to the president of the board in 1918 but nothing further has been heard on the subject up to date. It is for the board to take the necessary action in the matter.

FEES FOR OPERATIONS.

* Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR on behalf of Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is true that in the memorandum of the Surgeon General No. D.—2734 dated 5th July 1921 it is stated that the amounts credited to Government for operations performed in all the civil hospitals of the presidency were Rs. 2,375 in 1918-19; Rs. 516 in 1919-20, and Rs. 430 in 1920-21?

(b) What were the number of operations performed during each of these three years in all the civil hospitals of the presidency?

(c) If the reply to (a) be in the affirmative, what were the reasons for such disproportion in the amounts collected during these three years as operation fees?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) This has already been replied to.

(b) It is not possible to state separate figures for each hospital as these are not given in the combined annual reports of these institutions, and the individual reports are destroyed after one year.

(c) The figures asked for in (b) not being available, it is impossible to institute a comparison, but the amount collected is certainly small. There are many hospitals, however, where operation fees are hardly ever charged, nearly all the patients being poor, and probably some in which operation fees have not hitherto been charged at all.

I. T. F. DISTRICT BRANCH COMMITTEES.

* Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement giving the names of the members of every District Branch Committee of the Indian Territorial Force and mentioning the steps taken by each branch to promote and popularise recruitment to the Force?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: The necessary statement† is laid on the table.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 20.

REGISTERED VILLAGE LIBRARIES.

* Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing—

- (a) the number of registered village libraries in every district ;
- (b) how many of them are aided ; and
- (c) the total amount of aid given to such libraries ;
- (d) Will they be further pleased to state whether they have taken or intend to take any steps to establish new libraries or extend such libraries, and if so, to specify such steps ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) A list † showing the number of village libraries in each district is laid on the table.

(b) and (c) None of the libraries is aided.

(d) This part has already been answered.

DEVELOPMENT PLOTS IN BOMBAY.

* Mr. PUNJABHAI THAKERSI (Bombay City, North): Will Government be pleased to state—

- (1) How many plots are being advertised for sale in the Bombay city by the Development Department ?
- (2) For how long are they being so advertised ?
- (3) What are the highest offers obtained for each ?
- (4) At what prices do Government intend to sell them ?
- (5) What is the actual cost incurred on each ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : (1) Four.

(2) From six months to two years.

(3) and (4) Government are not prepared to furnish the information, as it would not be in the public interest to do so.

(5) The cost including interest, establishment, etc., charges incurred on each of the four schemes up to the 31st October 1924, is as shown below :—

Rs.

1,42,637 on Bombay Scheme No. 6—Clare Road.

10,12,839 on Bombay Scheme No. 7—Hornby Road.

2,22,131 on Bombay Scheme No. 8—Murzban Road.

7,89,156 on Bombay Scheme No. 9—Dadar Distillery.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI : Does the answer to (2) mean that the advertisement was continued for six months to two years ? What was the necessity to advertise for such a long time ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : The plots have been available for sale during the period mentioned in the answer.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI : Why has the advertisement been continued for such a long time ? That is the question.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 21.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: They have not been advertised as a regular advertisement, but a board has been put up on the site stating that the plots are available for sale.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: Has there been no one to take up all these plots all the time?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: That is so.

Mr. G. I. PATEL: In regard to (3) and (4), may I know whether Government have fixed any limits, the highest and lowest?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: A limit has been fixed.

Mr. G. I. PATEL: May we know what offers were received by Government in the neighbourhood of the fixed limit?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: I do not think it is in the interests of Government to divulge what offers were received by Government.

Mr. G. I. PATEL: What were the percentages to the limits fixed?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: I do not think that it is quite in the interests of the Development Department to divulge that. That is my personal opinion.

Mr. G. I. PATEL: Has the Honourable Member got the information about varying percentage here?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: At present I haven't the information before me; even if I did want to give it, I could not do so at present.

Mr. G. I. PATEL: What is the percentage ratio to the limits fixed?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: What is the use of pursuing the question in different forms?

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR: Were any offers made for any of these plots?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: One offer was received. One plot has already been sold. I think I can mention that plot. It is at Dadar, at Rs. 50 a square yard.

LOCAL FUND CESS ON WATER RATE.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA (Ahmedabad District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have passed any orders regarding the levy of a local fund cess on the water rate levied under the provisions of the Bombay Irrigation Act of 1879?

(b) If so, whether any of the local boards had applied to them for orders regarding such a levy? If so, which?

(c) Whether they had consulted all the district local boards before ordering the levy on water rate?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: (a) Yes. Please see Government Notification no. 4453-B, dated the 19th August 1924.

(b) and (c). No. The cess was levied under the powers vested in Government by section 95 of the Bombay Local Boards Act, 1923.

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY EDUCATIONAL INSPECTORS.

* Mr. H. D. SAHEBA (Ahmedabad District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether there is any rule to the effect that those who have previous experience of the inspecting branch gained by working as assistant deputies should alone be appointed as deputy educational inspectors ?

(b) If so, whether this rule has been departed from : and if so, in how many cases during the last three years ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state their reasons for such departure in each case ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) No. The posts of Deputy Educational Inspectors are generally filled up by selection from senior and capable Assistant Deputy Educational Inspectors.

(b) and (c) In one case an officer from the collegiate branch was appointed as a Deputy Educational Inspector, mainly because he was a non-Brahmin. His work is satisfactory.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : May I know the name of this gentleman ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Mr. Tavde.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : Was he appointed after seeing that his work was satisfactory or in anticipation that his work would be satisfactory ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : He had done good work in his college and it was expected that he would do good work as inspector, and the expectations were highly fulfilled.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : Are we to understand from this that a college career of a man is to be considered sufficient for raising him to the post of a deputy educational inspector ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Yes, sometimes it is.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : Are Government, in these matters, guided by a definite policy or principle, and if so, will the Honourable Minister place on the Council table any papers or statement relating to the same ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The general policy of the Government is to see to the efficiency of the departments of Government, and beyond that I do not think it is necessary for me to say anything.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : The Honourable Minister says in his reply that an officer was appointed as a deputy educational inspector "mainly because he was a non-Brahmin" and I am asking this question

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

whether Government have been guided in this by any policy, whether they have laid down any policy, and if so, will the Honourable Minister do the needful?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I think Government's policy in this respect has been published in a press note lately.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA: Is that for existing servants or new recruits? I think it is for new recruits. If not, it does not do any justice to existing people. And since when has the Director of Public Instruction acquired the power of gauging the efficiency of "dark horses"?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: He is supposed to know who might prove efficient.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM: In this particular case, was the appointment made on the advice of the Director of Public Instruction or did he get the information or advice from headquarters?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The advice was of the Director himself.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM: Will Government be pleased to put on the Council table the correspondence regarding the matter?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I do not think that Government would be prepared to place the correspondence on the table.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM: Is it because it is confidential?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: All such correspondence is confidential.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: Will the Honourable Minister state briefly the policy of Government in this behalf?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I think the press note which was recently issued gives sufficient details about the policy.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: May I know the date of the press note?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I shall find it out.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: Does not the press note referred to relate to clerks? Does it refer to the appointments of officers also?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The Honourable Minister has stated that he will give the date of the press note, and honourable members will then be able to see what the press note is.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: I have seen the press note. It refers to clerks and other subordinates. Here the question relates to the appointment of an officer.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Then the question is relevant.

The Honourable Minister does not seem disposed to reply. Let us get to the next question.

TRAINING COLLEGES FOR MALES.

* Mr. H. D. SAHEBA (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) How many training colleges for males are there in the presidency? Which of these are in charge of B.E.S. men and which in charge of S.E.S. men?

(b) How many scholars are there in the first, second and third year classes in each of these colleges?

(c) Did Government consult the local boards and municipalities when they decided to close the third year class in the Premchand Roychand Training College?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) Five. The training colleges at Poona, Dhulia and Hyderabad are in charge of B.E.S. officers, while those at Ahmedabad and Dharwar are in charge of S.E.S. officers.

(b) The accompanying statement† gives the required information.

(c) No.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR: What do the letters 'B.E.S.' and 'S.E.S.' mean?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Bombay Educational Service and Subordinate Educational Service.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA: Why are the training colleges at Ahmedabad and Dharwar put in charge of Subordinate Educational Service Officers and those at Poona, Dhulia and Hyderabad in charge of Bombay Educational Service Officers? Why is that distinction made?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: For the convenience of the department.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA: Then, will Government see the desirability of having the Subordinate Educational Service Officers in the other colleges also, in view of the financial stringency?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I am sorry I have not understood the question.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA: In view of the cheapness of the Subordinate Educational Service Officers, will Government look to it that the other colleges also are in charge of these officers?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: That is a suggestion for action.

POLICE OUTPOST AT NIHADI.

* Mr. G. B. PRADHAN on behalf of Mr. SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the police outpost at Nihadi in the Murbad taluka of the Thana district was abolished about a year ago?

(b) If so, has the Government building used for this outpost been disposed of or demolished?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 22.

(c) Will Government be pleased to state the reasons that led to the abolition of this outpost ?

(d) Is it a fact that the Umbardara, Sadaldara, Gayadara and Bhandardara passes of the western ghats, and the frontiers of Ahmednagar and Poona districts are within three to eight miles from this village and that the Malsirghat is about 14 miles from this village ?

(e) Is it a fact that owing to the abolition of the outpost of Nihadi the nearest existing police outpost at either Shirosi or Vaishakhara is more than 15 miles distant from these passes and frontiers ?

(f) Is it a fact that the areas and hilly forest tracts round about Nihadi and on the frontiers to the north, south and east of this village are inhabited mostly by Kolis, Thakurs and similar people ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : (a) It was abolished in October 1922.

(b) It has been handed over to the Revenue Department.

(c) It was abolished on account of retrenchment in the Police Department.

(d) It is a fact.

(e) It is not a fact. The nearest existing outposts are at Shirosi and Vaishakhara and are each about 8 miles from Nihadi. The distance of Shirosi to Umbardara is 10 miles, to Sadaldara 12 miles, to Gayadara 12 miles and to Bhandardara 15 miles. Vaishakhara is 6 miles from the boundary of the Poona district and 19 miles from that of the Ahmednagar district.

(f) It is a fact.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : Do Government intend to restore the outpost at Nihadi, in view of the hardship caused to the inhabitants ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Is the honourable member suggesting that it should be restored. (Mr. G. B. PRADHAN intimated assent). Then I am afraid that question is a suggestion for action which I am not allowed to answer.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : I ask the intentions of Government.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I should like to have notice of that question.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS TO WORKMEN EMPLOYED ON G. I. P. RAILWAY EXTENSION WORKS.

* Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI on behalf of Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The number of workmen employed on the G. I. P. Railway extension work between Bombay and Kalyan, who have been killed or injured by passing trains during the last two years ?

(b) What precautions are taken to warn the workmen of approaching trains ?

(c) Are the chargemen (mukadams) held responsible for accidents to workmen under their charge ?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

(d) In how many cases has compensation been awarded to sufferers or their relatives ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) Killed 2. Injured 14.

(b) Flagmen are always posted to protect workmen.

(c) Mukadams are generally held responsible for accidents, but if a workman is injured due to want of caution on his part, the mukadam is not held responsible.

(d) Nil. Most of these were contractor's men.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : Was any compensation awarded to the relatives of the persons killed ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : No.

Mr. G. I. PATEL : Does not the Workmen's Compensation Act apply to these cases ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I do not think so.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Order, order. The following is the result of the scrutiny of the votes received for the election of the members of the Public Accounts Committee :

Mr. Lalji Naranji.

Mr. A. F. I. K. Pathan.

Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad.

Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan.

Mr. H. B. Shivdasani.

Mr. N. E. Navle.

Mr. Hoosenally M. Rahimtoola.

Mr. S. N. Angadi.

I declare these gentlemen duly elected members of the Public Accounts Committee.

I do not think it is necessary, but it would regularise the proceedings if I repeated the announcement which His Excellency made that, at the current session of the Council, two days have been allotted by His Excellency for non-official business. The actual days will be determined according to the arrangement which Government may make for their own business.

There is another matter which I should like to ask the Council about. An application has been received requesting that the Council may be photographed. I should like to know what the wishes of the House are in the matter.

Some Honourable MEMBERS : No.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I hope honourable members will think about it and let me know.

Now, we proceed with the general discussion of the budget. In regard to this I have the power to fix a time limit on speeches. On the last occasion, I fixed 20 minutes for each speech, and I propose to fix

[The President]

the same time limit now. In view, however, of the fact that this discussion is limited to only three days, I hope honourable members will be as brief as possible, and will not consider it a matter of honour to take the whole of the 20 minutes.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Sir, may I take this opportunity of mentioning that when we come to the demands for grants, Government propose to take them in the reverse order to that in which they are printed in the Blue Book, pages 22 to 23. The intention is that we should begin by taking the loan account first. We will then take the whole of the demands in the reverse order. I mention that for the convenience of honourable members who may wish to prepare their motions. That is the arrangement arrived at after consultation with the Finance Committee.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): We have not been able to follow what the Honourable the Finance Member stated.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The Honourable the Finance Member has the power of regulating the manner in which the demands for grants should be considered by the House, and he informs honourable members that, on the present occasion, instead of taking the departments in the order in which they appear on pages 22 and 23 of the Blue Book, he will take them in the reverse order; that is, the last item will be the first to be taken up, and the first item will be the last.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University): Sir, before the House proceeds to business I wish to make a suggestion to Government, which I am asked to make by a large number of honourable members of this House. According to the agenda of business which was circulated to honourable members on the 22nd January 1925, the order of business is as follows: General discussion will take place on Monday the 23rd, Tuesday the 24th and Wednesday the 25th of February; then the 26th and 27th of February will be taken up for Government Bills and supplementary estimates. Then for 12 days detailed demands will follow; and then again two days, the 16th and 17th of March, are set aside for Government bills and supplementary grants. It is suggested for the consideration of the Government that these two days, the 16th and 17th of March, which are allotted for the same kind of business as on the 26th and 27th of February, may be put together and that the detailed demands for grants may follow after all this business is over. This will suit the convenience of honourable members because it will give them longer time to consider budget items.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Mr President, two days, the 26th and 27th of February, are reserved for Government bills, not business, and supplementary estimates, in order to give the Honourable the Finance Member an opportunity of introducing his Court-fees and Stamp Bills immediately after the general discussion. It is hoped that these bills will be read the first time on the 26th and 27th of February and then referred to the select committee. In order to give an interval

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

to the select committee to look through those bills, the 16th and 17th of March are at present further set aside for second reading of Government bills and supplementary estimates. If it is desired to have these two further days set apart earlier, it would suit the Honourable the Finance Member to have these two days on the 9th and 10th of March instead of on the 16th and 17th of March. I wish to put forward that suggestion that the second reading of bills and supplementary estimates may be taken up on the 9th and 10th of March instead of on the 16th and 17th.

MOULVI RAFI UDDIN AHMAD: Under the circumstances, a large number of honourable members think that the present arrangement as printed on the agenda is suitable.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I should like to know what the leader of the Swaraj party has got to say, because he raised the question.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: I appreciate the difficulty of the Government which the Honourable the Leader of the House has explained. In that case I think it is better to leave the agenda as it is, because we do not want the discussion on the demands for grants to be interrupted.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I suggest there is another point as to that. Sunday the 8th is a holiday, which means an interruption, and Wednesday the 11th is a holiday which means another interruption. There would be less interruption if we allot the intermediate 9th and 10th for the bills, and then get straight along with the remaining financial discussion. Therefore, I suggest the 9th and the 10th for the bills.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: I have listened carefully to the Honourable the Leader of the House. Notwithstanding what he has stated, I am of opinion that the arrangement should remain as it is.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I think it would be better if honourable members think over it and see what will suit them best. The suggestion amounts to this: the demands for grants should be taken for the first 6 days and there is an interval of 4 days, two of which will be holidays and the remaining two will be earmarked for the consideration of the second reading of bills; and then to have 6 more days for the discussion of grants. I should like honourable members to consult together and let me know to-morrow what will suit them best.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: If honourable members of the various parties in the House let me know what will suit their convenience we will consider what we can do in the matter to suit them.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Sir, I congratulate the Honourable the Finance Member on his recovery and welcome him back in our midst, but I cannot congratulate him on his budget. The budget is a sad reading from beginning to end; and compared with 1923-24, it presents very sad features, regarding the future prosperity of the Presidency. In 1923-24 our revenue was 14 crores and 52 lakhs, and

[Rao Saheb D. P. Desai]

we had a surplus of 29 lakhs. In the year 1925-26 our revenue is 16 crores and 16 lakhs, and still there is a deficit of 41 lakhs. Though the revenue has increased over a crore, the expenditure of Government has overgrown this revenue. Now it is the business of this House to see whether this one crore of rupees and over, allotted for expenditure in the coming year, is for the general benefit of the Presidency or not. The Honourable the Finance Member would have us believe that it is for the general benefit, that they are all nation-building departments; but I would differ from him and state that nation-building on plans suggested by him is rather too costly. What is the use of increasing the police strength at any cost? What is the use of keeping that police if it is to be kept at the expense of our well-being? When the people are starving and nothing to protect, what is the use of keeping law and order through the police? I would put it that such sort of progress is too costly. I would now point out that as compared with 1921-22, when I entered this Council, expenditure on the real nation-building departments was 48 lakhs more than what it is in this budget, even though we now get more revenue. I am talking of only ordinary revenue and not of borrowed funds. If the Honourable the Finance Member takes the year 1921-22 as a basis he will find that in fact under Education, Medical, Public Health, Agriculture, Industries and Public Works, expenditure from ordinary revenues was 48 lakhs more than what it is in the year for which the budget is presented. I drew his attention in the Finance Committee to this aspect of the case, but in framing the budget he does not appear to have accepted my suggestion and increased the expenditure on these departments in the same proportion as the revenues have increased.

Then, Sir, I again make the same complaint as I did last year, namely, that in framing the budget Government Members are too hopeful and cheerful. Land Revenue has been put down as 5,60 lakhs. May I draw their attention to the fact that within the last ten years it was only once that they realised under Land Revenue a sum as big as 5,58 lakhs? That was in the year 1922-23. Then, how is it in this year, when the cold wave has spoiled, according to the Honourable the Finance Member himself, a large part of our crops, when the deficient rains of last year have affected the outturn of rabi crops in Gujarat and other parts of the Presidency, and also when there is scarcity of rainfall in Gujarat, how is it, looking to all these considerations, the Honourable the Finance Member is going to realise 5,60 lakhs, unless it be at the spear point? I should therefore think that only 5,00 lakhs would be realised. And the same mistake is repeated more or less by all Members of Government, except, I believe, the Forest Minister. If we add all these over-estimates of revenue to the 41 lakhs of deficit, the actual deficit would be over a crore of rupees for the year. Now, when we are dealing with a year when the probable deficit would be over a crore of rupees, I should think it is not the time to consider the recommendations of the Lee Commission which puts up our expenditure, I think, by 10 lakhs. I think that 10 lakhs is not after all a large amount, but

[Rao Saheb D. P. Desai]

I should like to know whether the persons for whom the Lee Commission has made its recommendations really deserve it. Sir, if you look to the past budgets, you will find that all the superior establishments have received more than one revision; some one, some two, and some three. And if you will again examine the exchange situation at present you will find that a 25 per cent. increase of pay automatically goes to them. For every rupee they get 1s. 6d. at home. Therefore, if we take these percentages of increase since 1919 and the increase by the exchange condition, we will find that they have got more than 40 per cent. increase in their salaries. In these circumstances, Sir, I strongly feel that when our finances are not in a fair condition Government should not have included these increases recommended by the Lee Commission. At least they should have consideration for other matters.

After saying generally that the expenditure budgetted for actually far exceeds the probable income, I should like just to suggest one or two points for the consideration of my honourable friend opposite, I mean the Honourable Member for Irrigation. The Development Department that he so fortunately controls is, according to my humble view, after four years of expenditure, giving us nothing. You will see, Sir, that the total revenues have come to about 47.88. Out of this 47 lakhs, 20 lakhs are paid by the agriculturists in the form of the cotton cess. Therefore, the real revenue comes to about 27 lakhs in all, from the sale of land, rent of tenements, etc. It is therefore high time, Sir, to see whether the Development Department or at least that side of its activity which relates to the building should be carried out or not. I mean the suburban schemes and the building of chawls and tenements, the receipts from which are falling. Last year we got a certain amount: now we are getting less than that. That is why I say that we should consider now whether we should go on with the Development Department or not. In fact after strenuous advertisements in newspapers and even by enlisting the services of literary men to write booklets on the Development Department, and even by granting loans to people, people do not come forward either to buy plots or to erect buildings. Then, what is the use of going on with this sort of activity and burdening the Presidency?

In irrigation also, Sir, I am rather pessimistic about the present policy. Specially as regards the Sukkur Barrage, if the expenditure goes on at this rate, I think that the barrage instead of being a boon to the people of Sind will be a curse to them. Of course, if due economy is observed, and anticipations of Government prove true, then I think that the time might come after 30 or 40 years when we may get 8 per cent. of the capital expenditure as revenue. But it is hard on the ordinary agriculturists of those parts of Sind where there is already an assured supply of water to ask them to pay about 31 or 41 per cent. more of revenue simply for an assured supply of water which they already get by inundation, and I am making this proposal to reduce the expenditure on Sukkur Barrage as much as you can only in order that agriculturists may be saved from this sort of an increase of assessment. What I urge is that the total expenditure on barrage that is put down at 18.35 crores may

[Rao Saheb D. P. Desai]

be reduced to about 12 crores so that the agriculturists of Sind may not have to pay a very large amount to such an extent as they will be compelled to pay under the Barrage Scheme.

Again, Sir, the prices to be realised for lands is a matter for consideration. Unless the value that is put down in the estimates is realized, I do not think the Sukkur Barrage is going to pay you at all, and for that reason alone, if for nothing else, it is but fair to reduce our expenditure as much as we can.

One thing more, Sir, and that is of a general nature, and that is that a complaint is made by my honourable friends the Ministers and Members of Government opposite that this House is not supporting them; some of the honourable members opposite are making that complaint. I may here tell them, Sir, that this House would support them (hear, hear) but at the same time the House expects them to be independent of their subordinates; and the experience of this House is, and the controversy between Sir Maurice Hayward and Sir Chimanlal has conclusively brought to our notice, that their subordinates are their superiors. They have to act according to the wish of their subordinates, they have no independent wish of their own. Under these circumstances, how will they be guided by us? They are under the rules compelled to be guided by their subordinates and, therefore, it is useless for this side of the House to guide them in any matter because their advisers and their philosophers are some one else; and that has been the feeling on this side and, therefore, so long as those rules continue, the Legislative Council cannot give satisfactory support.

An Honourable MEMBER: What rules?

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: They have got some rules under which when there is a difference of opinion between Ministers or Members of Government and their Secretaries, His Excellency has to decide the matter. That is one of the rules. In that case, Sir, where is this House? If His Excellency is called upon to decide between a Minister and a Secretary then what is the use for this House here?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Sir, I ask whether the honourable member is in order in bringing in the name of His Excellency.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: Sir, I would not go any further. But I have said what I have said. One reason for such an arrangement is, and the experience of this House is, that the position of their own men, the Ministers, who take the whole House or the majority of the House with them is that they have to submit to a Secretary who is subordinate to them. Not only they are submitting themselves to him, but in asking us to support them, they ask us also to bow to their subordinates. We may be loyal to them.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: I rise to a point of order. The honourable member is directly addressing the Ministers.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Quite a technical point. The honourable member will please address the Chair.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: We are in fact loyal to the members of Government and Ministers. But, in order to oblige us to be loyal to the views they express, we ought to know that they are their own views and not those of their subordinate officers, and that is where the rub comes in.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: What is the remedy?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: I would like to ask, to what rules does the honourable member refer when he says that there is a rule saying that the Governor decides the matter when there is a difference of opinion between a Secretary and a Minister?

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: I think mention of that rule was made in the controversy between the Honourable Sir Maurice Hayward and Sir Chimanlal Setalvad.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I suggest the honourable member should read the controversy with greater care.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: Sir, is a personal reference to His Excellency prohibited?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: You cannot criticise His Excellency's action, but personally I do not think there is any objection to a reference to the name of His Excellency in the debate. But no criticism direct or indirect can be allowed so far as His Excellency is concerned as the representative of the Sovereign. As regards the other point of order I may disabuse the mind of Rao Saheb D. P. Desai and others by the mention of one simple fact that the Ministers are responsible to the House, and if their policy or attitude is unacceptable to honourable members, they have got the remedy in their own hands. What is the use of discussing matters in that spirit? The Ministers are taking full responsibility for their policy, and they are responsible to you and you can deal with them as you like.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI (Indian Merchants' Chamber): Sir, the first impression that was made on my mind on hearing the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member in presenting the budget is in short, "Give us the money that we want according to our own ideas and help us in taxing this Presidency as we like, and trust us and we will do everything for the nation building departments and for all the needs of the Presidency." It is a very serious question before the House and a very serious responsibility in considering the budget of the present year. I call it serious because it is not a deficit of 50 lakhs or 42 lakhs for this year, but if you will carefully read the speeches that are made in presenting the budget, it is an invitation for the future also that in future also money will be required, and you will have to go on taxing the Presidency, and you will have to accept the policy that is laid down by the Finance Member of this Government. I will refer to that portion of the speech where it is said that it is an undoubted fact, however, that as years go on notwithstanding every attempt towards the curtailment of expenditure

[Mr. Lalji Naranji]

the demands will go on increasing. Here the deficit is not owing to any want of curtailment of expenditure, but the deficit is, as pointed out by his predecessors, owing to the increased expenditure and also owing to very little less decrease in the revenues.

Another thing that I would like to point out is, Sir, that if you will look at page 17 of the White Book, you will see the figures which will show conclusively the point that was brought out by Rao Saheb Desai that out of a total expenditure of Rs. 16,67,10,000, for reserved departments alone Rs. 10,88,05,000 are provided, out of which though Rs. 6,18,09,000 are voted and Rs. 4,96,96,000 are non-voted; and for the transferred departments, the total expenditure is Rs. 5,79,05,000 out of which non-voted are Rs. 63,72,000. Thus the total voted will be Rs. 11,33,42,000; but from that, the reserved will be Rs. 10,88,05,000. It might be said that the reserved also is amenable to vote. But certainly these items can be certified and Government can go on spending that money for those departments (reserved). So really speaking, the only item that is left to this House in practice, though not in theory, Rs. 5,15,33,000 and Rs. 65,72,000 is not votable out of transferred. Now, Sir,.....

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: I cannot follow the honourable member at all. Which figures is he quoting?

Mr. LALJI NARANJI: On page 17 of the White Book. The total expenditure shown there is Rs. 16,67,10,000 out of which, total of the reserved voted and non-voted comes to Rs. 5,31,85,000 and the total of transferred comes to Rs. 5,79,05,000. The voted items, as I said, come to Rs. 11,33,42,000 and non-voted come to Rs. 5,33,68,000 and I point out again that for reserved amount, that is, for Rs. 10,88,05,000 Government have got power to certify it. So really speaking, this House has no power over it. But they have power over only Rs. 5,15,33,000 out of the transferred, which is the only item that is really voted, and I do not think any member of the House can refuse to spend such money out of this total of Rs. 16,67,10,000.

Now, Sir, the question before the House is where to find the money and how to find it for the deficit shown by the Honourable the Finance Member. Usually, in every country when the budget is presented, people always consider about the increase or decrease of the wealth of that country, but as we are a subordinate portion of India which is another subordinate portion of the Government of Great Britain, certainly we are prohibited from going into that broad question here, namely, the question whether the wealth of this Presidency has increased or decreased. That is the most important question. Whether the agricultural wealth or industrial wealth is a different question, but the simple question will be whether the wealth of this Presidency has increased.

Now, Sir, I read only a few days ago in the last mail of 17th January, about the budget that was presented in Ireland after it became a Free State and the criticism there. The points there are similar to

[Mr. Lalji Naranji]

the points that are raised before us to-day. I will only refer to one paragraph that has appeared in "The Statist" which shows clearly what Ireland feels and what Ireland has found after they became a Free State, and their experience is applicable to us. It is no use our complaining to the world that we are overtaxed. But what are the reasons? In my opinion our experience is also similar to their experience. In the "Statist" of the 17th January, at page 85, I see that severe attacks were made on the financial position and the Free State critics emphasize the heaviness of the burden of taxation, the economic rehabilitation of the Continent, and so on. This is what appears in that journal:

"The past week was notable for severe attacks by Messrs. Dillon and O'Donnell on the financial position of the Free State. Both critics emphasised the heaviness of the burden of taxation, a point on which few will disagree with them. What they have failed to realise, however, is the inevitable costliness of taking over *en bloc* an organisation adapted to the spending capacity of Great Britain, and the difficulties experienced by a newly-created State in adapting its expenditure to its resources.

Mr. O'Donnell refers to a taxation figure of £ 10½ million in 1914 and one of £ 29 million in 1920, but the Free State did not come into existence until 1922 and the present Government cannot therefore be held wholly responsible for the allegation that the cause of the swollen Budgets and crushing taxation was the "multiplication of establishments and officials; the needless pensioning of men who were ready to serve the country if allowed; and the salaries wholly out of proportion to earnings in professional business careers in the Free State". Incidentally, it may be remarked that many officials took advantage of the Treaty to retire on pension."

I will explain to you, Sir, the main substance of this. What has been the experience of Ireland? That is the same experience as we have, though it might be said by some that we have got more freedom by the reforms. But have we got more freedom? It is no use mere saying that there has been advantage to one interest or another interest, to one community or another community. But, Sir, I attach the greatest importance to the point whether we do not find similar difficulties here to what are found in Ireland. Ireland is a similar country like ours. Two-thirds of the population there represent agriculture and one-third of the population of Ireland represents either labour or industries. So there is a great similarity between us and them, and we find, if we have got a critic's eye, that there are too many appointments, whether it be reserved or transferred, voted or non-voted. If there be any honest intention on the part of England to help us, I do not think there is any other solution but that of the economic problem. If the economic problem of this country is not improved or solved by their policy, certainly there is no hope of any prosperous budget, and these budgets will go on and proposals will come to you for taxation in one form or another. We find here that there is a deficit. We find also that there is a prosperous budget in the Central Government. We are not concerned with that. Why is there prosperity there and why is there deficit here? The deficit is caused because this country is not creating any wealth that the country ought to create. The country is mainly agricultural. The Honourable the Finance Member has pointed out in his speech that there are no resources, in the increase of land revenue and that there are prospects of decrease in the revenue of excise and so he only

[Mr. Lalji Naranji]

goes to a third item of stamps and is taxing that resource. But he does not point out here that this taxation is justified. I do not find anything in his speech to show that this taxation is justified by the prosperity of this presidency. You are not going to tax anyhow for simply whom that you want money. Again you bring the argument that you want money for the nation-building departments. Out of the increase in expenditure of 67 lakhs they say that about 35 lakhs will go for all these nation-building departments. As my predecessor has pointed out, for the nation-building departments I believe, Sir, that the issue now before this country and also before this presidency who expect to hear a report on March 9th (Reforms Enquiry Report) is a very simple one, whether dyarchy should end and whether the whole Government should be elected. The executive Government may be executive, you can give all the privileges to them, but these privileges can only be given when you can control them fully and not when, as at present, your control over them is very small, next to nothing. That is a very important point and this House will have to say in unmistakable terms, firmly, that this Presidency believes not in this dyarchy and that this dyarchy must end sooner or later, sooner in the interests of this presidency, and if Great Britain is honest, she must administer the country in such a way as to make economy in the administration all round and to solve the economic problems. She must see that India makes economic gains which are justifiable to India. What I propose is that legitimate wealth of this country must remain in this country. It is no use fighting about a few items here and a few items there, and so long as you cannot control the expenditure of money, all this is a farce. We are made only instruments in voting money to the Government over which we have no voice. That is the issue before the country, and we must make that point very clear to the Government and to those people who are going to guide our future.

Now, I wish to put forward another point, and that is in connection with the next budget that will be presented in England. Honourable members of this House must probably have read that they are thinking of reducing one shilling in the income tax. In order to convey a proper idea of what the reduction of a shilling in income tax means, I should like to give some figures. I think it was stated on the 17th of January, that the reduction of a penny would amount to a total reduction of 4·9 millions £, that is, 40 lakhs £; and a reduction of one shilling in income tax will bring the total reduction to 58·8 millions £, that is 5,80 lakhs £, which amounts to the total revenues of our country. Just imagine a small country like England, by her industry and by her domineering over other countries—whether to those countries' interests or not, I will not say—being in a position to forego a revenue of 58 millions £, only in one item of income tax! Leave aside the other items, but in regard to one item alone England proposes to reduce the taxation by such a huge sum. Compared to that, our finances are a mere trifle. In spite of our having such a big population as 30 crores, toiling in this country and owning land, their wealth is not theirs.

[Mr. Lalji Naranji]

Another point is that this buget has suggested new taxation. I think honourable members of this House are well aware that the decided opinion of the country, through the Legislative Assembly, was that the Taxation Committee should not be appointed first, but that there should be appointed an Economic Enquiry Committee first. Government have, however, evaded that issue. So long as an Economic Enquiry Committee is not appointed, what is the use of determining what tax should be paid by one or the other of the interests concerned? I must say that this is only an excuse by which Government are finding means to create dispute among the several interests—between Capital and Labour, and among other interests. I know that the time at my disposal is limited, but, if the Chair allows, I should like to place before the House some figures. The question is of fresh taxation, not for the ensuing year only, but for ever for the future, in order to find money for the nation-building departments. I maintain that the cause of all our trouble is not so much that we are not producing enough, but that our producers do not get the value that they ought to get by the currency policy, the exchange policy and by several other policies of not allowing this country to prosper, and the interest of this country being sacrificed for the interest of the country which administers this country.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: May I draw the attention of the honourable member to the fact that so far as the general discussion of the budget is concerned, I have had to impose a time limit of 20 minutes, so as to give everybody a chance to deal with the budget as a whole. It would conduce better to his own ideas if he would reserve the major part of his criticism in regard to increased taxation to the time when the first reading of the bills for imposing additional taxation is moved. At that time, there would be no time limit, and he can deal exhaustively with all the aspects of additional taxation which he may wish to bring forward. I would therefore ask him, having regard to the fact that he has got only three minutes more—I cannot extend it to more than five minutes, as more time given to one honourable member takes away the time of subsequent speakers—whether it would not be better if he reserved his remarks on legislation for imposing additional taxation to the occasion when we come to deal with it. He can then speak at as great a length as he likes.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI: I will take your advice, Sir, and deal with the budget proper.

This year, the White Book, and especially the Blue Book gives more information, no doubt. On page 39 of the Blue Book Government have given a statement of the debt charges, and that statement will show that our total debt to-day is Rs. 58,02,42,000, of which a sum of about Rs. 11 crores is not repayable to the Government of India. The rest of the debt charge, however, will have to be repaid, and the details of how the amount is to be spent over the various departments are also given. Now, we must not forget that our presidency has a revenue roughly of about Rs. 15 crores, and what is our liability for these debts?

[Mr. Lalji Naranji]

If you will refer to page 72 of the White Book, you will see that though the interest that we have to pay is Rs. 3,06,45,000, the total item is shown as Rs. 1,54,46,000, and the balance is shown as transferred to other departments, namely, Rs. 64,57,000 for interest transferred to commercial departments, Rs. 9,78,000 for interest transferred to construction of irrigation, etc., Rs. 50,000 for interest transferred to Forest Department and Rs. 77,14,000 for interest transferred to Development Department. Now, if we look to page 31 of the White Book, we find that the interest which we expect to receive on loans granted by the Bombay Development Department is Rs. 1,35,38,000, and if we include the interest that we expect to get from loans by the Provincial Government, the interest on arrears of revenue and the interest on general balances deposited with the Government of India, the total comes to Rs. 1,59,27,000. It would, therefore, appear to a layman that we are paying roughly Rs. 158 lakhs and getting in return Rs. 159 lakhs, and roughly the account squares. But really it is not so, because there is an expenditure of about Rs. 1½ crores over other departments, for which we shall have to pay the interest charges.

Then about the Development Department, the Honourable the General Member made remarks to which I had no occasion to reply. He was very particular in getting certain figures, and saying "What is wrong with my department?" I will show him and the House how the Development Department stands from the figures which I shall give for the years 1922-23, 1923-24 and 1924-25. I shall give the budget estimates, the revised estimates and the actual accounts for each year. In 1922-23 the expected revenue from the Development Department was Rs. 89,93,000, the revised estimate came down to Rs. 50,66,000, and the actual accounts showed a revenue of Rs. 27,58,000. In 1923-24, the estimated revenue was Rs. 1,06,75,000, the revised estimate was Rs. 38,10,000, and the actual accounts showed a figure of Rs. 28,44,000. In 1924-25 the estimated revenue was Rs. 63,89,000, the revised figure came to Rs. 36,42,000, and the actual accounts are not shown. In the next year's budget, it is estimated that there will be an income of Rs. 48,14,000.

It is left solely to the caprice of Government as to how money is to be saved. That could be seen from the figures that are given on pages 142 and 143 of the Blue Book. The total expenditure on the Back Bay Reclamation for the portion which honourable members have seen and may have occasion to see this year also, up to the end of 1923-24, is Rs. 3,38,88,682 and the probable cost during 1924-25 is Rs. 68,85,860 and the amount proposed to be spent this year is Rs. 57,15,382. All the three figures give a total cost of Rs. 4,64,89,894.

The other point I wanted to bring to the notice of the House is that they have shown a reduction in the establishment of 13 lakhs. That is not so. That is the cleverness of the accountant and the Honourable General Member himself. An increase of 6 lakhs is shown in another place. They have simply transferred from one head to another. On page 154, under Minor Head-A.—Works and Acquisitions, from the

[Mr. Lalji Naranji]

revised estimate of 6 lakhs and 33 thousands it has increased to 12 lakhs. I admit there has been a saving of 5 lakhs, but there is no reduction of the actual establishment to the extent that is required. In the note that they have attached they say that they are going to give up the suburban development scheme. On the Back Bay Reclamation they have spent very nearly 5 crores, and as a business proposition it is necessary that they should complete that scheme.

One other point is that the total expenditure proposed to be incurred on the development is $2\frac{1}{4}$ crores : and of this amount 77 lakhs is to be paid as interest. When they estimated a revenue of one crore 6 lacs in 1923-24 they actually realised Rs. 28,44,000. The excuses like 'there is no demand for land and there is a slump in the market' would not be of any use always. We have to pay the interest and the sinking fund, all of which lead us to the deficit.

In the Sukkur Barrage, the total proposed expenditure is Rs. 3,26,67,400. The actual expenditure on works is Rs. 2,83,80,000. The interest will be roughly 20 lakhs, and there is a transfer of 10 lakhs to capital account and another portion of 10 lakhs from the Famine Insurance Fund. How figures are juggled, it is difficult for a layman to find out.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District) : Mr. President, the general discussion on the budget affords an opportunity to honourable members to take a bird's eye view of the general administration and to make practical suggestions for the better government of the province. But the field is so vast that it is impossible in a twenty minutes' speech to do full justice to the numerous questions that call for consideration. In the present transitional state of our constitution, it is impossible to isolate provincial from national finance, and both form fundamental questions of constitutional or administrative policy. Questions of constitution, finance, administration and so forth are mutually interdependent and therefore any practical suggestions which we honourable members can make can only be limited in their scope and can hardly go to the root of the more important of the questions which we are called upon to consider. It is in this spirit, then, that I wish to approach the budget. I intend to consider the budget in a very practical manner with an overwhelming sense of responsibility as if some one on the opposition bench were going to make room for me and I were to be called upon to carry out the politics I advocate.

The budget estimate for 1925-26 shows a deficit of 41 lakhs of rupees which the Honourable the Finance Member desires to convert into a surplus of one lakh of rupees, in case his taxation proposals are accepted by the Council. It is, however, necessary to realise the true nature of this deficit. The closing ordinary balance for the year is Rs. 3,68,90,000. Deducting from it 1,48,39,000 on account of famine insurance and 2 crores the minimum balance which Government are bound to keep, it still leaves a balance of Rs. 19,51,000. Then again, against item 47 Miscellaneous, we find from a foot-note that the amount under that head includes 15 lakhs for Reserve with the Finance Department for

[Mr. R. G. Pradhan]

unforeseen expenditure. In other words, it would seem that there are four different kinds of reserve balances, namely :

(1) 2 crores, the minimum reserve balance, (2) Rs. 1,48,39,000 reserve on account of Famine Insurance, (3) 15 lakhs reserve with the Finance Department for unforeseen expenditure, and (4) Rs. 19,51,000. The Honourable the Finance Member has not told us for what purpose and on what account this reserve of Rs. 19,51,000 is kept. In the absence of any explanation I take it that this balance is the outcome of a desire very natural among all Finance Members to accumulate, miserlike, large balances. This deficit of 41 lakhs is in fact exclusive of these various kinds of balances. I know full well that Government are bound to accumulate a certain amount as famine insurance. I also recognise the wisdom of the arrangement which prescribes that two crores of rupees should be kept by Government as its normal minimum balance. But I do not understand why to this normal balance should be added a further balance of Rs. 19,51,000 besides 15 lakhs kept as reserve with the Finance Department. I wish the Honourable the Finance Member had given a statement showing how much amount had similarly been kept during each of the past five years and how much of it had to be expended as unforeseen, so that we may be in a position to know the provision if any that must be made in the next year's budget. If we then take into account these two sums, namely, 15 lakhs and Rs. 19,51,000 the total amount comes to Rs. 34,51,000. That is to say, the real deficit is not 41 lakhs, but only Rs. 6,49,000. In this connection it is impossible not to refer to another item. We are told that the expenditure on the Lee Commission's proposals for 1925-26 will be 10 lakhs of rupees. In other words, if this expenditure had not arisen, not only would there have been no deficit, but an actual surplus of Rs. 3,50,000 without any recourse to additional taxation. I shall no doubt be met with the argument that this line of reasoning is neither practical politics nor practical finance, and the Honourable the Finance Member himself has somewhat indulged in a special pleading in order to show that the additional cost on account of the Lee Commission's proposals is a mere bagatelle. But we, the representatives of the people, who are asked to bear this additional taxation, and whose political sense is likely to be impugned in case we do not, must be pardoned if we think and feel that the cost of the recommendations of the Lee Commission is at all events one factor in the situation that has led Government to approach this House with proposals of additional taxation. I shall not say much on this particular point. Brevity of criticism is the best way of expressing what we feel about it. The fact that while the finances of the country were still far from satisfactory and social services were being stunted for want of funds, the Civil Services felt no compunction in asking for further increases in their salaries and pensions, thereby adding to the cost of administration, cannot but make us feel that, after all, their own material gains are still dearer to them than the interests of the people. I do not wish to pursue this topic further. I shall only express the hope that now that they feel that their position and prospects are secure, they will realise more

[Mr R. G. Pradhan]

and more keenly that their true function in the governance of this country now lies in helping her to attain the goal of responsible government as quickly as possible. We shall not grudge them their increased salaries, pensions and allowances, if they will fulfil this higher and more glorious mission that is now theirs.

I do not accept *in toto* the position maintained by the Honourable the Finance Member that our sources of revenue have been tapped to their utmost and cannot yield increased revenue. If land revenue is practically at a standstill, it is due to the defective policy of the Government with regard to the agricultural economy of the province. The Government ought to have realised that land revenue is the sheet anchor of our finance, and therefore they ought to have directed their policy towards making it as much independent of the uncertainties of rainfall as is humanly possible. This would have been achieved if the claims of irrigation had received from the first that attention which I am glad to note they are receiving in an increasing measure at the present moment. The portion of land revenue due to irrigation is about 68 lakhs of rupees. This can be raised to a considerable amount by further expenditure on irrigation works. In the Deccan there is ample scope for small irrigation works, and if they are carried out, the frequent necessity that now arises for giving remissions and suspensions will disappear and land revenue will not be liable to fluctuations but will on the contrary show decided increase. I am told that small irrigation works do not pay. I cannot help thinking that this is not the proper spirit in which that matter should be approached. In the long run, such works will fructify in increased revenue, in the avoidance of frequent remissions and suspensions on any large scale, and in distinct improvement in the economic condition of the agriculturists. Then again, there are about ten lakhs of acres which can be, and therefore ought to be, brought under cultivation. Intensive agriculture must also be promoted. If all these measures are adopted, I feel no doubt whatever, that our normal land revenue will show a decided increase over what it is at present, without throwing the least additional burden upon poor agriculturists.

Then, again, take another head of revenue, Forests. That yields 75 lakhs at the present moment. Our forests constitute a vast amount of potential wealth, and I really do not at all see why our revenue from forests should be such a small sum as only 75 lakhs of rupees. There must be something radically wrong in the system of administering and exploiting our forests. And I earnestly appeal to Government to make a thorough enquiry into the possibility of increasing our forest revenue and to appoint a small but really competent committee for the purpose.

I now come to Excise. For the last five years I have heard the cry that with growing public opinion in favour of prohibition, the excise revenue will disappear and we shall be confronted with the problem of how to replace a revenue which represents one-third of our total income. The cry is raised every year, and yet prohibition seems to be as distant as ever: the Government are still, Hamlet-like, considering the question: Prohibition to be or not to be, and the excise revenue

[Mr. R. G. Pradhan]

for the last five years has ranged from 3,42 lakhs to 4,49 lakhs. We are told on the authority of the Commissioner of Excise that the next stage must see a large reduction of excise revenue, and yet the amount budgetted for shows, not a decrease, but an increase of over 13 lakhs over the revised estimates for the current year. In these circumstances, I confess I find it difficult to take the Government seriously when they tell us that we are threatened with a large diminution and ultimate extinction of excise revenue, and I begin to wonder whether this spectre of the loss of 4½ crores of excise revenue is not called up to frighten us into either the abandonment of the goal of prohibition or submission to additional burdens of taxation. As things stand at present, we might well say: "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof", and think of facing the problem of replacing the excise revenue lost by prohibition, when prohibition is really and sincerely adopted by Government.

Mr. President, I have already referred to the reserve of 15 lakhs shown in the budget as kept with the Finance Department to meet unforeseen expenditure. In that connection, I wish to quote what the Auditor-General in India has said in his letter to this Government on the subject of the Appropriation Report for the year 1922-23.

Says the Auditor-General:

"To meet unforeseen charges, a suggestion was put by a provincial Government before its Public Accounts Committee that a reserve be placed at the disposal of the Finance Department under each head of account. The committee observed that if this were applied to all departments it would mean a reserve provision of 30 lakhs against which expenditure on schemes already foreseen would have to be reduced, and so it felt bound to assert the principle that unforeseen expenditure should be met from savings elsewhere..... I fully endorse the view taken by the Public Accounts Committee."

The Auditor General takes the view taken by the Public Accounts Committee. In face of this, the Honourable the Finance Member really owes an explanation to the House why this reserve of 15 lakhs of rupees has been budgetted for.

When we are told that our budget cannot be balanced except by additional taxation, we feel bound to remind Government of the loss to revenue caused by laxity of control over the financial administration of the province. That loss may not be comparatively heavy, but all the same care must be taken to prevent it. The Auditor General in India has thus referred to this laxity of control in his letter to the Government on the Audit Report on the accounts for 1922-23:

"The only inference to be drawn is that the efficiency of the provincial control both over Civil and Public Works Departments is diminishing. The position in the Public Works Departments is so serious that I have had to address the local Government officially on the subject."

We are told that the Government have appointed a special officer to undertake a thorough examination of the working of the Public Works Department, particularly on the financial side and I only hope that no further ground will be given for fresh complaints regarding lack of efficient financial control over the various departments of Government.

I am glad that out of the annual assignment of Rs. 63,60,000 to the famine insurance fund, the Government have budgetted for an

[Mr R. G. Pradhan]

expenditure of Rs. 53,60,000 on famine relief. This sum includes Rs. 42,39,000 under the item " Other Expenditure in the Civil Department on famine relief ". I presume, the Finance Department has examined the schemes on which it is proposed to spend such a large amount, as otherwise, under Devolution Rule 37 (G) (iii), it would have declined to provide in the estimate for the expenditure. In that case may I request the Honourable the Revenue Member to take the Council into confidence and tell us in some detail what are the various schemes, either for the prevention or relief of famine, on which such a huge amount is proposed to be expended.

Coming to the transferred departments, while thanking the Government for their frank though belated recognition of the universal public demand for increased expenditure on education, sanitation, medical relief, and so forth, I deem it my duty to say, quite frankly, that I am not at all satisfied with the administration of those departments. I, for one, am anxious to give every support I can to the honourable Ministers. Knowing as I do the defects of the peculiar constitution which they have to work, I fully recognise the difficulties of their task. But making every allowance for those difficulties I still cannot help thinking that they are not doing their best. When I think of the transferred departments I always have before my mind's eye the Royal Commission which will be appointed, if not earlier, at all events in 1930. Broadly speaking, that commission will enquire *inter alia* into the growth of education, the development of representative institutions, and other cognate matters which form the bedrock of a system of democratic self-government. If I may say so, the Ministers are custodians of, and trustees for, our further constitutional advance; it is they that will have to justify, and strengthen by their concrete policies and tangible achievements, our claims to the full measure of provincial responsibility which we are demanding. But when we look to the small progress made in the transferred departments, we are filled with anxiety about the future. Education ought to have made the greatest progress under the new constitution, but it has hardly gone beyond the enactment of the Compulsory Education Act which is still not in operation. The expansion of primary education even on a voluntary basis has been arrested in spite of the popular demand for the establishment of new schools. The question of re-organizing and improving secondary education still awaits consideration. The Government appointed a committee to enquire into technical and industrial education, but both the reports of that committee, the majority and minority reports, seem to have met the fate of being pigeon-holed. The budget provision for the introduction of the scheme formulated by the Compulsory Education Committee is the niggardly sum of 10 lakhs of rupees. Our total expenditure on education of all kinds is only 11.5 per cent. of the gross expenditure and that on primary education alone is of course much less.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : On a point of information, Sir, I find that the honourable member is making valuable criticism upon the department

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

of Education, but I find that the Honourable Minister of Education is absent. May I ask whether it is customary for Government Members to remain absent during these three days which are specially allotted for general remarks on the policy of Government in order that Government may benefit by the criticism? Is it not advisable sir, that Members of Government should remain present on such occasions?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : There is no law which enjoins the obligatory attendance of any one member of this House.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN : We have arrived at a stage in our national development when the Minister of Education and the Education Department must be imbued with apostolic fervour in the cause of education; but fervour would seem to be the last virtue of our Education Department and of my honourable friend whose privilege it is to preside over it. We are often advised to educate our masters and the Liberals in particular have received this friendly attention almost *ad nauseum*. It is, however, forgotten that true education is a slow process of inner awakening and growth, the healthy and delicious fruits of which cannot be hastened into ripeness by the hot-house stimulation of propaganda, whether it is extreme or moderate. The need, therefore, of rapid and general diffusion of education is so insistent that no effort and no sacrifice should be spared both by the Government and the people to meet it. If the Honourable the Minister of Education would really show keenness about the cause of compulsory primary education.....

Mr. S. T. KAMBLI : Sir, on a point of order, the honourable member is reading his speech.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : It is a very difficult point to decide especially when we discuss the budget. Lots of figures have got to be used and I do not intend to strictly apply the practice of not reading speeches on such occasions. I do not think anybody could charge the honourable member, Mr. Pradhan, of not being able to speak. I hope honourable members will not resort to this practice of reading speeches but will as a rule address the House orally. It is not my intention to strictly enforce the practice of not reading speeches during the general discussion of the budget.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN : If the honourable Minister would show keenness, he will, I feel confident, receive the support of the Council in the levy, if he so desires, of a special education tax on all non-agricultural incomes exceeding a minimum limit that may be fixed. Such a call on the spirit of patriotism and self-sacrifice of our people in the cause of compulsory education will not, I feel sure, go in vain.

The progress in the development of representative institutions, of local self-government, has also not been as much as it should be. Full effect has not yet been given to the first formula of the scheme of Montagu-Chelmsford reforms which lays down that there should be the fullest development of local self-government. The Local Boards Act has been to some extent liberalized, but on the other hand, it has introduced the

[Mr. R. G. Pradhan]

vicious principle of communal representation even in local bodies and the measure of liberalization is still inadequate. The district municipalities are still subject to an old pre-reform constitution. The Village Panchayats Act was passed in 1920, but its defects have retarded the establishment and development of village panchayats and they have not yet been remedied. It is no use saying that the people do not want village panchayats. If the defects of the Act make them unwilling to ask for panchayats, the more straightforward course is to amend the Act and not take shelter behind the plea of supposed popular dislike for village panchayats. In the constitutional sphere, too, the Ministers have not utilised the Reforms Act to its fullest extent. They have not urged the administration of the transferred departments on the principle of joint responsibility, nor have they asked for the appointment of Council secretaries. In their opinion, the appointment of a joint financial secretary is unnecessary. Their attitude with regard to all these matters would show that, in their judgment, the Joint Parliamentary Committee was not wise in making these recommendations. In my speech on the budget last year I earnestly appealed to them to see to it that the Reforms Act was worked to its fullest possibilities. That appeal has made no effect on them. It would seem they have no policy of their own, except the policy of drift, if it can be called a policy at all.

In conclusion, I wish to support the Honourable the Finance Member's powerful plea for a revision of the Meston Settlement. In my evidence before the Reforms Enquiry Committee, I urged *inter alia* that the provincial contributions to the Government of India should be reduced and this Government should receive a share in the income tax. I was asked how in that case I would balance the Indian Budget. The Taxation Enquiry Committee will, I have no doubt, ask the same question to the Government and I trust they will be ready with a satisfactory answer.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District); Sir, the House has been faced with a situation similar to the one which faced the House three years ago. In 1922-23 the House was faced with a deficit budget to the extent of 60 lakhs of rupees. This is another year in which the House is faced with a deficit budget. In the books which have been supplied to us it has been pointed out that the deficit is only 41 lakhs. But if we go into the figures, we shall find that it is much greater than 41 lakhs. In fact in the last year, which was alleged to be a promising year, we have actually spent away 1 crore and 6 lakhs more than the expenditure budgetted. On page 20 of the White Book we find that we have dissipated our balances to the extent of 1 crore and 6 lakhs, because the ordinary balance at the beginning was Rs. 5,44 lakhs, Development balance was Rs. 37 lakhs, a total of say Rs. 5,82 lakhs, but at the end of the year the revised estimate shows that we shall have Rs. 4,67 lakhs in the ordinary balance and Rs. 9 lakhs in the Development balance, that is to say, Rs. 4,76 lakhs. Thus we have dissipated our balances to the extent of Rs. 1,06 lakhs during the current year which has been described as a favourable year. In a favourable year we are losing Rs. 1,06 lakhs; how much more should we

[Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan]

be losing in a bad or unfavourable year ? Of course, I do not approve of the policy of having large balances which could not bear as good interest as the interest for the loans which we have been receiving from the Government of India or which we are receiving locally from the local people. But at least the actual state of affairs is that during the last year we have spent Rs. 1,06 lakhs more than what we could receive from the people. Of course, it has been pointed out that Rs. 79 lakhs have been spent for the reduction or avoidance of debt. That, of course, does not serve any good purpose because we had to use our balances for the reduction or avoidance of debt. And that proves that the ordinary revenue could not enable us to make provision for avoidance of debt. We had to utilise our existing balances to the extent of Rs. 79 lakhs in order that we might meet the sinking fund charges which are necessary. Now, what is the state of affairs during the current year ? During the current year we have been given to understand that we shall have a deficit of Rs. 41 lakhs. Now, really speaking, though this is shown as Rs. 41 lakhs, about 49 lakhs will be spent from the balances under the head of 60, Civil Works. That is to say, the real deficit is not 41 lakhs, but 41 *plus* 49, that is, 90 lakhs, and at the same time the Development Department which has promised crores and crores of rupees and was expected to bring in a return of a very large amount—nobody knows when and whether the expectations would ever be realised—goes on in the same unsatisfactory way. Now in the Development Department also on the loan that has been raised the sinking fund is not possible to be provided from the income that is derived from the operations of that department. We are spending away 20 lakhs which are being received from the cultivators. The cotton cess has been imposed and that is really a tax on the cultivators. Three-sevenths goes to the municipality of Bombay and 4/7ths goes to the Government of Bombay ; that is to say, about 37 or 38 lakhs are taken away from us the mofussil people, the poor cultivators, and they are being spent for the development purposes which cannot give any benefit to the cultivators.....

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : For the housing purposes.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : But at least it is a deficit ; it will not be possible to meet the sinking fund charges for the development loan from the revenues that you expect to get. Though you will get 20 lakhs from the cotton cess, still you will not get 9 lakhs 39 thousand necessary for providing the necessary sinking fund. That is the actual state of affairs. Moreover, other expectations in regard to this department are also not being realised. You expected to get 27 lakhs by selling land. You could not get that amount. The amount that you could receive was only 17 lakhs. Now this year you expect to receive 9 lakhs from the sale of land. Nobody knows whether these expectations would be fulfilled or not, because there is a great slump in the market, and even in the answers that are being given to the queries put by the honourable members of the House to the Honourable the General Member it has been said that there were four plots developed but only one could

[Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan]

be sold with difficulty. That is to say, the actual deficit is not 41 lakhs as has been pointed out, but is actually about one crore of rupees. Now I shall show that this is not the actual deficit, but the actual deficit is still greater. This time in land revenue they expected to get 5 crores 77 lakhs. They have not been able to get that amount, because unfortunately, when Government is very greedy, God also does not give good seasons and the result is that their expectations in regard to their budgets are not realised. For the last 3 years continuously Government have given remissions and suspensions. I think a separate head of remissions and suspensions must be provided for under land revenue, and to the extent of 50 lakhs of rupees this charge must be a permanent one because we are not getting good seasons generally, and if this 50 lakhs is not provided for the purpose of remissions and suspensions, the result will be that though there will be very bad conditions and the cultivators may be starving, though they may be forced to incur debts actually for the purpose of paying the revenue demand of the Revenue Department, no mercy will be shown to them. Therefore, there ought to be a separate head and this 5 crores and 60 lakhs that has been budgetted to be realised under the land revenue must not be budgetted by itself, but some *minus* amount must be put down under that head to make up another head of suspensions and remissions, so that the actual revenue that might be expected to be realised from this head would not be more than 5 crores of rupees, and that is what we have actually found. Unless you help these poor cultivators, who really form the pillars of the State, it is impossible to relieve their great distress and to realise their great needs. On page 41 of the Blue Book it has been said that the decrease of 45,88 lakhs in the revised as compared with the budget for 1924-25 for ordinary land revenue is due mainly to the unequal distribution of rain of the past season in the Central and Southern divisions, but that the districts in the Northern Division show on the other hand an improvement to the extent of 3,69 thousand. Now this offset has been pointed out, but this budget was, I think, prepared in the month of December. But after the month of December I can say that in the Northern Division the cold wave that has passed over it has destroyed the cotton crop to such a great extent that if the Revenue Department expects to realise their revenue without paying any attention to the actual state in which the cultivators have been placed, I think even the expectations of the current year cannot be realised if the Government have heart and sympathy for the people over whose destinies they have been placed. Unfortunately, Governments are machines. In modern times, Governments are composed of a set of individuals, and they do not have the sympathy which they ought to have for the poor people. Governments have no heart and they work like machines without any regard for the actual state of affairs, and, under the present system, it is very difficult for the man who is at the helm of affairs to know the actual state of affairs. He has to be guided always by the reports of the officers. The greatest defect in the present system of Government is that the poor cultivators cannot approach the highest authority in

[Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan]

the presidency. They generally make their representations to the talati, the mamlatdar or the Collector. Of course, the Honourable the Revenue Member who might be above all the local subordinate officials could have sympathy for the poor cultivators. But when any applications are made to him by the cultivators, he would say "Let the applications come through the Collector". If the applications were to be forwarded through the various channels, they would perhaps never reach him, and he would say "No complaints have been received in the matter". In regard to any measure of administration which may be causing hardship to the cultivators, the reply from Government always is that no complaints have been received. They say the court-fees were increased but no complaints were received. It is because the complaints have to pass through so many channels that they do not reach the highest authorities. The result is that we might be discoursing over philosophical matters, attachments may be going on in so many villages, and the people are being threatened with an additional fine of 25 per cent. on the revenue. They are already in straitened circumstances. The poor cultivators have to go to the Marwadi or the Shylock-like money-lenders living in the villages, and be at their mercy for paying the revenue demands. Therefore, what I mean to say is that these expectations of Rs. 5,60,00,000 from land revenue are wrong. If we take the statistics of various years, we find every year that if the season is bad in the Southern Division, it might be good in the Northern Division. Every year, we have some calamity in some part of the Presidency. Unfortunately, we do not get uniformly good seasons. Nobody knows why even Providence is so much against us. When you make an estimate of your land revenue, you have to take into account bad seasons. Therefore, Rs. 5,60,00,000 under the head of Land Revenue is a very great amount. There should also be a different permanent head of expenditure for remissions and suspensions of land revenue. There is an over-estimate of Rs. 60 lakhs under the head Land Revenue. Under these circumstances, what is the real deficit? It would have been Rs. 1,60,00,000. We are told that it would be enough if we provide for Rs. 41 lakhs, and for this Rs. 41 lakhs we should sanction additional taxation under a few heads, and everything will be all right. But I want to point out what the incidence of this taxation will be. If you try to realise what the effect of this additional taxation will be, you will find that it is the cultivator, the producer of the Presidency on whose shoulders the tax will ultimately fall. The middleman will not feel the burden. For example, it has been said that court-fees should be increased. What would be the incidence of this taxation? Supposing a cultivator owes Rs. 1,000 to a money-lender and is not able to repay it, the money-lender goes to the court and pays enhanced court-fees; he gets a decree and the costs are added to the decree, and ultimately the poor cultivator is the man who really bears the additional taxation, though by quibbling it may be said that the tax falls on the propertied classes. Now, one thing which has astonished me is the statement made by the Honourable the Finance Member that the tax

[Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan]

will be recovered from the middle classes, and their fault is that they do not pay land revenue and do not drink. The Honourable the Finance Member, in the course of his speech said :

“I believe that it will be generally agreed that these gentlemen who receive the assistance of the State for the recovery of their debts are people who do not ordinarily contribute to the support of the State either by payment of land revenue or perhaps still less by payment of excise revenue.”

As if these persons would have been better persons in the estimation of Government if they were drunkards !

This is the state in which we are living. Therefore, when the deficit is so great, the real remedy is that there must be stringent economy ; and the House will be well advised to take up that attitude which was taken up three years ago by a moderate Council, which forced Government to cut down their expenditure to the extent of Rs. 60 lakhs. Here also, we are faced with the same difficulty. If we do not perform our duty, these expenses will go on piling up, new projects will be taken in hand, and our debts will increase. At the end of the current financial year our debts will amount to Rs. 48 crores, and when all the projects are finished at the end of three years our debt will be Rs. 70 crores ; and what will be the annual charge for interest ? As the Honourable Mr. Lawrence pointed out, it is Rs. 3 crores at present ; and it will be Rs. 5 crores in a few years. This will mean that one-third of our revenue will have to be spent in paying the interest charges on our loans. It has been said that a portion of the loan is advanced to local bodies like the Bombay Improvement Trust, Bombay Municipality and the Port Trust and other bodies and that they will pay some interest, and that may be taken as a set off against the interest that we have to pay on the loans. But that is not a real argument. The taxes for the municipal services in Bombay are paid by the people, the taxes imposed by the Improvement Trust are paid by the people, and these interest charges will be laid on the shoulders of the people of the Presidency. Money has to be got somehow or other to meet the expenditure. The Lee recommendations are sanctioned, and Rs. 10 lakhs additional are provided for the purpose. I think the men who are paying the taxes must have the final voice in determining what salary they can pay to the services that they employ. Under the constitution under which we are working, the tax-payers have no voice at all in the matter. Some external authority says that the all-India services should be given an increase in salary, and we are compelled to pay Rs. 10 lakhs annually to them. Where is the money to come from if expenditure is going to be piled up like this ? If this state of things continues, the result will be chaos. On the one hand, in the case of poor prisoners you save Rs. 1 lakh by providing them with inferior diets, and on the other hand you spare Rs. 10 lakhs for the all-India services. If work is to be done in this way, namely, taking away from the poorest who have not got much and giving it to those who have as much as they desire, the results for the Presidency will be very disastrous. Therefore, it is desirable that the expenditure should be cut down to the lowest minimum.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Sir, I am afraid, the few words that I wish to speak are going to be irrelevant. But if the speech the Honourable the Finance Member has made while introducing the budget be relevant, then I am sure my speech also will be considered relevant, for I wish to confine all my remarks to the speech that was made by the Honourable the Finance Member in introducing the budget. That speech appeared to me as a speech made in his defence and not a speech which a Finance Member should make while introducing a budget. It appears as if it is a reply to an unwritten notice served upon him by this side of the House, notice "To show cause why the two bills which he intends to introduce should not be thrown out immediately". In reply to that notice the speech has been made. He tries to make out a case for the introduction of those two bills.

I shall show presently how the premises which he urges for the introduction of those bills and which he takes for granted are not true. He hopes to introduce those two bills on six or seven grounds. The first ground is that land revenue is not going to expand for the time being and that revenue settlements are postponed. His second ground is that the policy of Government in the matter of remissions and suspensions is very liberal, is very generous. The third ground is that Government is on the road to prohibition. I believe it has started on that road only to-day, for the resolution to that effect issued by Government dated the 12th instant was placed on the table only to-day. The Finance Member says that Government are fast advancing on the road to prohibition and that a decrease in the excise revenue is imminent and within sight. The fourth ground is that the finances of the Presidency are in a bad predicament. The fifth ground is that the two bills that are sought to be introduced do not affect the poor but only the rich. The next ground probably is that Government do not intend to make justice a source of revenue. And the last ground is that these bills will alone save the situation and that there is no other escape out of the situation. These are the six or seven grounds on which the Honourable the Finance Member asks us to vote in favour of the introduction of these two bills. Then he concludes his speech by almost saying: If you do not vote, well, you will suffer the consequences. He utters a threat, which I believe he should not have uttered. This threat covers about 21 lines. I have counted them. These threats and criminal intimidation and undue influence and coercion should be outside the House. It appears to me, as if it were a duty of the Finance Member to frighten the House and that if any Finance Member is not capable of giving threats, he is not fit to be a Finance Member. Last year also he had given similar threats in his speech which he made by proxy. He must have known by this time how we had treated those threats.

However, apart from that part of his speech containing threats, I shall try to analyse the seven grounds which he has tried to make out in his speech in order to persuade us to give our vote in favour of those two bills.

The first ground is that the land revenue has ceased to expand and that revenue settlements are postponed. I am surprised to hear this. I

[Mr. S. S. Dev]

would be very glad if it is really so ; but I am surprised to see that such a lie has been uttered in this House. The resolution of the honourable member for Nasik (Mr. Pradhan) out of respect for which the Government say that revenue settlements have been postponed consisted of two parts : First, that a committee be appointed to bring the process of revision settlement under closer regulation by statute and secondly that till that is done all revisions be postponed. Government in reply to a question by me replied in July 1924 that the resolution had been mainly accepted, meaning thereby that they accepted the first part and rejected the second. I have got a document here in my hand which is signed by the Collector of West Khandesh. It is a proclamation to the people of Sindkheda, dated 16th August 1924. The will of the House was not accepted till July, when the question was replied to. It was neither accepted till August, when this notice was issued by the Collector to the effect that the land assessment would be enhanced by 5 annas 3 pies per rupee, and that, if any objections were to be made, they should be made within two months. Later on, several applications were submitted to the Collector and the Government, but no replies had been received by the people of Sindkheda. Then they held meetings after meetings in several places passing resolutions to the effect that it would be cruel on the part of Government to increase the rates of assessment this year at least. You may be aware, Sir, that for two months July and August there was no rain and people looked up to Heavens for rain in prayerful mood. Instead of rains they got increased assessment that they should pay 5 annas 3 pies more for every rupee. It is occasions like these that tempt the Mahatmas to call this system of Government you all know as what ? Occasions like these, when Government ought to come to the help of the people when they are hard pressed for want of rains and when they are struggling for their lives and the lives of their cattle, occasions like these justify Mahatmas in calling this system of Government a Satanic one. Till August 1924 the revision settlement in Sindkheda taluka was not postponed, nor was it postponed till the 1st of February 1925. It was not postponed till the budget was framed and not even till the two bills were framed and circulated to honourable members of this House. I was told that the talatis in the taluka had been instructed to collect assessment according to the revised rates. I wish I am interrupted and contradicted. I would be very glad to be interrupted on this point. I would immediately wire to the people of Sindkheda to give notices to Government on the strength of any announcement that might be made here by the Honourable the Revenue Member—*notices to get back the excess payments that the people might have made and to file suits against Government if they would not get the refund.*

The second ground which the Honourable the Finance Member has tried to make out is that the policy of Government in the matter of suspensions and remissions has been generous. He has given the figures of remissions and suspensions for the last two years and the current year. These figures, if they prove anything, prove the oppressive nature of the land tax. It is all very well to say on paper that when the

[Mr. S. S. Dev]

harvest is reported to be unfavourable, revenue is suspended and when it continues to be unfavourable year after year, suspensions of the earliest years are remitted. But we know what actually happens in our villages. The valuation of the crop is never correct and suspension is not given till a cultivator has utensils in his hut to be auctioned and assessment to be recovered. These suspensions and remissions are evidence of the oppressive character of the tax and the incapacity of the agriculturists to pay. The next proposition of the Finance Member which I controvert is that revenue from excise is bound to decrease. A lie to that statement has been given by the budget itself. In his speech introducing the budget he says that revenue from excise is going to decrease, whereas the budget anticipates an increase. Even if you go over the estimates and accounts for the last three or four years, you will find that the excise revenue has gone on increasing down to the budgetary year. The speech ought to have been consistent with the budget or this budget with the speech. The speech anticipates a decrease, the budget shows an increase of fourteen lakhs over the current year. It appears to me that Government themselves are not serious as regards this ground. In spite of the policy of prohibition adopted by Government on paper the Honourable the Finance Member puts a question: "Is there any single member of this House who is prepared to face the consequences of such a loss of revenue" meaning thereby that no one should be prepared to have this revenue abolished. The fourth reason urged by the Honourable Member is that financially we are in a very bad predicament. It is not generally given to me to quote figures, but on this point, Mr. President, you will allow me to refer to a few figures. In 1922-23 we expected to close the budgetary year with 3,48 lakhs, but we actually closed with 4,02 lakhs; in 1923-24 we expected to close with 4,35 lakhs, but we actually closed with 5,44 lakhs; and in 1924-25 we expected to close with 4,35 lakhs, but we hope to close with 4,66 lakhs. Similarly next year although the Honourable the Finance Member thinks that we are going to close with only 3,69 lakhs, I predict that we shall close the year very nearly with 5,00 lakhs, and I say this on the strength of the figures I have quoted for the current year and the last two years. So the gloomy picture painted before the House by the Honourable Member seems to be overdrawn. The Honourable the Finance Member has often told this House, during the last several years, that we should not allow the balance to go below 2 crores, that 2 crores would be a sufficient working balance. And if we are going to close next year with 3,69 lakhs, that is almost double the minimum balance that we must have, I maintain that no case has been made out by the Finance Member for having those two taxation bills introduced this session.

Then there is another ground brought forward, namely, that our court-fees will not affect the agriculturists but only the rich. I believe the Honourable the Finance Member—I had no time to enquire—but I believe that the Honourable the Finance Member has probably never served in the judicial line. If he had, he might have known that the court-fees ultimately fall on the poor defendant agriculturists and

[Mr. S. S. Dev]

not on the plaintiff creditors. For, although in the first instance the creditors pay the court-fees, ultimately they recover them from the agriculturists. So, there is no substance in the argument that the bills would not affect the poor. Similarly there is no truth in saying that we are not going to make our courts a source of revenue. The Honourable the Finance Member takes only the two figures from the White Book under Administration of Justice and argues that our income from Judicial Administration is only 16 lakhs and our expenditure is 76 lakhs. But he forgets to add to the 16 lakhs of revenue, a revenue of 81 lakhs of court-fees for which he has budgetted under the Stamps. Court-fees is nothing else but revenue from judicial administration. So, if we add to the 16 lakhs of revenue shown under the Judicial Administration, the 81 lakhs from court-fees shown under Stamps, that will give us 21 lakhs more than what we spend on Judicial Administration. Therefore, it is also not true that we are not going to make judicial administration a source of revenue. It is further not true that we can realise 18 lakhs from court-fees and, 18 lakhs from Stamps if we increase the rates. From Government's own figures we find that in 1923-24, when the increased court-fees were in force, the amount collected was only 8 lakhs more than the revised estimates for the current year, 1924-25 in which the increased rates were abandoned. None of these grounds being sound, I believe there is no case made out and no cause shown why those two bills should not be thrown out. They will be thrown out in spite of the threats held out by the Honourable Member in his introductory speech. If my time is not up.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: You have got four minutes more.

Mr. S. S. DEV: If my time is not up, I shall refer to only one more point. When these books, the Blue Book and the White Book, were published, there were two sets of people who were very anxious to peruse them. One set was of the members of the heaven-born services, the other set was of the members of the hell-born services. The first wanted to see whether provision was made for carrying out the Lee Commission's recommendations; the second, the members of the hell-born services, called the primary teachers, poor fellows, they looked into the books to see whether anything was done for them under the resolution of the House. You know, Sir, that this time last year this House passed a resolution in the matter of the salaries of primary teachers and appointed a committee to inquire and report. The original resolution asked the committee to report within six months, but some rules and regulations came in the way, and no time-limit was mentioned in the resolution ultimately adopted. I am told, Sir, that the deliberations of the committee were over in October last and yet we have no report. The members of the heaven-born services got what they wanted and they were pleased with the budget, but the members of the other services were severely disappointed. As to this Lee Commission's report, I do not know whether it will be right or wrong for me to say in this House what

[Mr. S. S. Dev]

I wish to say, but if I may be allowed to say, I shall say in one word that the whole affair was and is a shameless affair. What was said sixty years ago is ten times more true to-day. It was then said that there was no service under the sun, other than the Civil Service in India, which was paid at so high a rate. The Civil Service receive a rate of payment which would be astounding and incredible if we did not know it to be true and knowing it to be true we must admit it to be monstrous. Therefore, it is this monster service that has to be fed at the cost of the poor people; This monster to be fed with ten lakhs of rupees in this budgetary year. After they are thus fed and not otherwise, the Honourable the Finance Member assures this House, that they are going to be contented and to work with efficiency otherwise they will be discontented and be inefficient. This may remind the Hindu section of the House of that Pauranic monster which would not be satisfied, but let alone that monster, my time is up.

Mr. V. R. KOTHARI (Sholapur District): Sir, there have been criticisms from the non-official benches that the nation-building departments are not properly provided for, and in order to meet that criticism the Honourable the Finance Member has supplied us with some figures to show that while in the nation-building departments there has been a large increase in expenditure, other departments have not benefited to the same extent. From the figures for the last five years he has tried to show that while the nation-building departments have benefited to the extent of 179 per cent. the increase in expenditure on law and order departments is only 28 per cent. But I wish to point out that this comparison has been vitiated because of the inclusion of big figures of amounts spent from loans such as on the development schemes. If we exclude the expenditure that has been incurred on the development schemes, and if we take some of the chief departments, reserved and transferred, we shall find that a very different story has got to be learnt. For example if we take Land Revenue, General Administration, Jails, Police and Administration of Justice and if we compare the figures on these departments from 1919-1920 to 1924-1925 with figures for Education, Medical, Public Health, Agriculture and Industries, we find that the expenditure on the law and order departments has gone up by 22 per cent. while the expenditure on the nation-building departments such as Education, etc., has gone up by 48 per cent. Of course there has been greater expenditure on these nation-building departments than on law and order. But what I want to point out is that the divergence is not so great as has been tried to be made out by the Honourable the Finance Member. The aim is quite clear. The reason why he has been at pains to show that the nation-building departments have got more, is to make out a case for the taxation proposals that are going to be introduced soon. We have been told that such a further expenditure on education, public health and medical relief is proposed to be made that Government are faced with a deficit of 41 lakhs and in order to cover that deficit Government wish to raise 42 lakhs extra by fresh taxation. Well, as pointed out by my honourable friend from

[Mr. V. F. Kothari]

Ahmedabad. Mr. Swaminarayan, about 3 years ago the Government was faced with a similar situation. But the method adopted by Government at that time was different from that adopted by them now. At that time the Honourable Ministers were made to say that unless the Council sanctioned extra taxation the transferred departments would starve. They roundly declared that under this era of beneficent reforms Government have a right to take what they like for the reserved departments and unless fresh taxation was sanctioned the transferred departments would be starved. I do not know how far the Council was impressed by the announcement of this undoubted privilege of the Government to starve the transferred departments, but it is true that this time they have adopted a different method. The present proposals are shaped in such a form as to make the Council swallow this fresh taxation. (But the fact is that this extra taxation is required not for the increased expenditure on the nation-building departments, but only to cover the deficit which is already there even if this increased expenditure is not undertaken.) For example it is admitted by the Government and the Chief Secretary has given us some figures to show that the revenue of this province does not expand and that it has been stationary for some years past. Now if it is stationary, how does it happen that in the ensuing year's budget we are to get 14 crores and 78 lakhs while for the last three years our revenue has been in the neighbourhood of 14 crores. From where are we to get these 75 lakhs more? Excluding the 13 or 14 lakhs due to change in the excise accounts, there remain 50 or 60 lakhs which must be accounted for. This excess is found under land revenue. It is said that the land revenue has been over-estimated; but I do not think so. It is likely that we may get 5,60 lakhs under land revenue in the coming year. What I say is that that is not the normal revenue in accordance with which we can frame our usual expenditure, 5,60 lakhs is not the normal income on which we can count every year from land revenue; and if we regulate our expenditure not by normal income but by abnormal receipts, our budget must be taken as a deficit budget. The Honourable the Finance Member has admitted in his speech presenting the budget of the year 1922-23 that our normal income from land revenue should be placed at 5 crores and from the figures of the last 6 or 7 years we arrive at the same average. So whether we receive during the next year 5,60 lakhs or 5,70 lakhs the normal revenue is 5 crores; and the deficit therefore, is not 40 lakhs but it is about 90 lakhs or a crore. Supposing the Council prefers to go without extra expenditure on education and other nation-building departments, are Government prepared to give up the taxation? Certainly not. (It is not a fact that they want it for the nation-building departments; they want it for the deficit. Education gets 15 or 20 lakhs more for the next year, and I might be inclined to congratulate the honourable the Minister, should he discover, on having secured 15 or 20 lakhs for expansion of education, 38 lakhs—I congratulate would be premature. For we all received from the type in his budget for 1923-24 made a provision of 16 provincial revenues for primary education, but as a matter of fact

[Mr. R. V. Kothari]

not a single farthing was spent from that amount. These figures are there on paper, but nothing would be spent out of them. For schemes of compulsory education will have to be prepared by local bodies and approved by Government. This will take unlimited time and the result will be that they will never be introduced and there will be very little expenditure on compulsory primary education. So though we are told that taxation is necessary for the increase of expenditure on the transferred departments we should bear this in mind that very little would be spent on those departments and that the money they would go to fill up the deficit or, worse still, to the reserved departments.) Last year it was pointed out in this House and I was one of those who did it that if we did not cut down some expenditure we should be faced with taxation next year, and that warning has come true. This year we are asked to sanction fresh taxation proposals and we do not know whether we may not be called upon to pass similar Acts in future. And supposing this money is spent on the nation-building departments as proposed what guarantee is there that next year a similar situation may not arise? The Act says that the reserved departments are to receive what they want first; so though these 41 lakhs may go to the transferred departments in the coming year, in the year following they may be eaten up by the reserved departments, and again we may be called upon to sanction extra expenditure if we did not want transferred departments to be starved. (The expenditure has swollen to a certain extent also in connection with recommendations of the Lee Commission. Of course we are told by the Honourable the Finance Member that this increase in the salary of the all-India Services was deemed necessary by an impartial tribunal in order to preserve their contentment, but he forgets that though their contentment might be preserved there would be very deep discontent amongst those who are the lowest paid among Government servants and who are not getting even a living wage. When therefore there are these two alternatives before Government whether to give a living wage to those that are included in the subordinate services or whether to increase the insufficient luxuries of the highly paid officers, I think they ought to choose the first alternative as it is the duty of every civilised Government to provide a living wage for its servants. But instead of that, what they are doing is this: they are increasing the luxuries of those who are drawing thousands every month, while they turn a deaf ear to those who do not even get a living wage. The Finance Member tells us that the increased provision for the superior services will only mean an increased percentage of 10 or 11, while the salaries of the subordinate services have been increased by 100 per cent. That is true, but these percentages are misleading. Now, for instance, we have increased the pay of primary teachers some little time back. That increase may come to 100 per cent. or even more, but that does not mean that the primary teacher is getting a living wage. On a further relief is proposed for a highly paid officer who was getting say 41 lakhs and now 81 lakhs extra by sanctioning an increase of only 10 or 20 per cent. for 41 lakhs extra by the Honourable friend from

[Mr. V. R. Kothari]

able to live from hand to mouth. (Now as a practical suggestion in the interest of retrenchment I propose that the Executive Councillorships and Ministerships should be abolished, and if this cannot be done under the Government of India Act, they should at least be reduced to a minimum. This is a serious suggestion I am making, and the reason for this is, why do we want so many Members or Ministers either to shape Government policy or to defend Government policy? So far as the shaping of policy is concerned, we know that there has been no shaping of policy for the last several years. For example, take the question of the separation of judicial and executive functions. A resolution to that effect was passed by this Council about three years ago, yet we know Government are not still able to shape any policy in this respect.) I was afraid that though the excise committee's report has been before the Excise Minister for the last twelve months or so the Minister might not announce any policy or goal and that he might take another two years to make up his mind. But this morning we were told by a resolution of Government that prohibition was to be the goal of the Government. Now, take the case of the Technical and Industrial Education Committee's report. The report was published two or three years ago, but the Education Minister could summon moral courage enough to say that the report was still under the consideration of Government. So also as regards the resolution which we passed in this Council regarding land revenue assessment. The second part of the resolution was given the go-by by the Government. So if there is to be no policy, and if Government practically do not shape any policy at all, why should we have so many Executive Councillors and Ministers? It may be contended that they are needed to defend Government policy. But we have instances of several resolutions carried by this House and subsequently shelved by Government. If resolutions are not to be carried out, why should Government try to defeat us? Whenever they defeat us, I see Government Members cheering. But I do not see why they should be so glad, when our success matters as little as our defeat! Because, there are resolutions, as I have already pointed out, which have been passed by the House but, which have not been given effect to by Government. It is unnecessary to defend Government policy, if it cannot in any way be affected by any resolutions of this House. The number of Government members may therefore safely be reduced to a minimum.)

Now, with regard to Development Department, we always say that this department should be made a transferred one. There may be several reasons why Government do not accept the suggestion, but I think there is one special reason which has been overlooked. If this department is made a transferred department, may I ask what the second Indian Member is to do? We know the first Indian Member looks after the land revenue. The second Indian Member looks after the Development Department. Now take away the Development Department from the Executive Council and make it a transferred department, is not the Honourable Mr. Cowasji Jehangir will have no work left to the province, there are other departments such as Police, General

[Mr. V. R. Kothari]

Administration, Jails, Administration of Justice and so on. But those departments are not to be entrusted to the Indian Members of the Executive Council. From the very commencement of the reforms these departments have always been in charge of the European Members. The Honourable Sir Maurice Hayward has, for example, risen from the lowest position in the Executive Council to the highest, but he has always been in charge of the Police and the Judicial departments. He has to attend to several matters as the leader of this House and it is generally the practice not to burden the leader with too many departments; but Sir Maurice Hayward has been burdened with three departments. So also as regards the Finance Department. The duties of a Finance Member are very onerous, but he must be further burdened with the department of the General Administration. For these law and order departments are not to be given to Indian Members. Perhaps this is done to enable my honourable friend Mr. Cowasji Jehangir to protest with vehemence that there is absolute equality between Indians and Europeans under the reforms; or perhaps this is done because Government thinks that as this is the most advanced province in the country it should be treated in a worse manner than some of the backward provinces; because we know in other provinces the Indian Members have been entrusted with the administration of these departments. Or perhaps this may be a reflection on the capacity of the individual Indian Members concerned. I do not know whether it is so, but I hope some explanation will be forthcoming from the Government side as to why this is being done. When such is the state of things as between Indian and European members of the Executive Council there is no wonder that there should be no equality as between the Members and the Ministers. So far as the Members of the Executive Council are concerned, they sit in the order of official precedence, in the order of seniority. But as between the Members and the Ministers no importance is attached to seniority. For instance, take the case of my honourable friend Khan Bahadur Shiakh Ghulam Hussain. He is senior to two members of the Executive Council, but he has to occupy seat No. 5. If the Ministers are not able to fight for equality even in such small matters, I do not know how they can be relied upon to fight in big matters. I think this inequality ought to be removed and they ought to assert themselves in this small trifle if they want to convince us that they are treated as equals. With these remarks, Sir, I resume my seat.

Mr. G. WILES: Sir, as a member of one of those "monster" services to which my honourable friend opposite referred, I feel some nervousness in rising to address the House. I am encouraged to proceed by the belief that the honourable member will temporarily at any rate exempt the Finance Department from his strictures. Members of the House will have discovered, possibly not without some alarm, that we have given a considerable mass of further details in the Blue Book. We have added graphs and statements of expenditure and statement regarding our capital debts and capital expenditures.

[Mr. G. Wiles]

We have added a state from the cultivators' progress of irrigation in general and Sukkur Barrage out at about 500000. We do not pretend that the book is by any means perfect, and judging from the number of errors which have already been made by speakers I am convinced that the book is not by any means perfect. But I shall be very glad to receive any suggestions for the emendation or improvement of the book, and I certainly hope if any honourable members find any difficulty in understanding any point that they will come either to myself or the Deputy Secretary and we will give any information which is at our disposal.

Coming to details, Sir, there is one point I would like to make quite clear before I proceed, and that is the exclusion in this book from the development accounts of the loans which have been taken by local bodies in Bombay. We carried out this change, because it was felt that the inclusion of these figures in the development budget gave rise to considerable misunderstanding. They came to be included more or less by accident, in the first instance, in the development demands, because the Development Department being to a certain extent concerned with all matters affecting the development of Bombay, was entrusted with the scrutiny of the demands of the local bodies for loans. This was really no reason for including in the development budget the loans which are passed on to these bodies, and for that reason, they have been excluded from the development budget in the current year. The change, I am afraid, has already given rise to some misapprehension, as I will proceed to show.

My honourable friend the member from Bombay (Mr. Lalji Naranji) has, I regret to say, caused me profound disappointment by his remarks. We in the Finance Department look to business men to give us aid and help in the working out of our programme for the new year. We have met here as practical business men to try to make both ends meet, but I regret that we have not yet had a single constructive criticism. On the contrary, we have had given to the house a complete misunderstanding of our interest charges as affecting all branches of the administration. We are told, despite the full information I have given in the Blue Book, which has not apparently been read, that we are spending no less than 3 crores, are extracting from the poor cultivators no less than 3 crores, as interest. What are the facts? No consideration whatever has been given to the other side of the picture. We are spending 3 crores; we are receiving, how much? We owe to the Government of India for instance no less than over 2 crores in the provincial loan account; we are paying interest on it; that is included on one side. But we are receiving interest from the cultivators on the other side. No notice has been taken of that. We passed on to the local bodies in Bombay last year a very considerable sum. You will find it in the Blue Book: the interest is debited to Development Department. But nobody seems to have discovered, although it is written in black and white, that no less than 1,38 lakhs—I am speaking from memory—is the interest which is received from the local bodies in Bombay. That is not a burden on the provincial revenues whatever.

An Honourable MEMBER : ~~Minister of Justice~~ mentioned that.

Mr. G. WILES : It did not reach the Indian mind. The net demands, then, to which this Government is liable are a sum of Rs. 77 lakhs on account of Development Department and Rs. 70 lakhs for the other ordinary departments of Government. In dealing with this question, I think my honourable friend from Bombay also entirely missed the point of the interest charges both on account of the Development Department and the Sukkur Barrage. Both these works are, as I hope to show in greater detail presently, works for which interest charges have been, by the special permission of the Government of India and the Secretary of State, debited to capital. The reason for that is a perfectly good reason, namely, that we are expecting to meet all the direct charges on these works by receipts in the shape of capital receipts, which will not only meet the burden of capital that we borrow, but will pay the interest thereon.

I now come to the remarks of my honourable friend from Nasik (Mr Pradhan) who did some very extraordinary juggling, with our balances, a juggling which we should find invaluable in the Finance Department. He proceeded to show, by some extraordinary method that, although we had shown a deficit of Rs. 41 lakhs, we have really a balance in hand. There have been two lines of attack on our balances ; one is to say that we have not got one, and the other that it is much too big. Last year we were told that our balance was very largely made up of camouflaged figures ; that it was hopelessly swelled by the money which we took from the Government of India and put into our balances, in order to make them look big. I would like to deal with that first. I have somewhere among this mass of papers a complete statement showing the monthly balances, which have been worked out by the Auditor-General, of every province in India. As the House is aware, there are times of the year when there is little or no revenue coming in but a very large expenditure going out. These periods are a very considerable strain on the financial resources of the provincial Government. Bombay is one of the very few provinces in India which never at any time of the year has during the last few years had an adverse balance. Our balances have never fallen below a crore and two-thirds during 1922-23 or below 3 crores during last year. I might explain to the House that when we borrow money for capital expenditure, say Rs. 10 crores which we took last year, the whole of this sum is not immediately transferred to our balances. We take it in instalments as it is required. The sums which we pass on to the local bodies in Bombay do not appear in our balances at all ; they do not pass through our accounts. There are some times of the year, that is to say immediately after receiving some of these instalments, when our balances may be increased to some extent. But that is by no means the same thing as saying that our balances at any given time do not give a sure indication of our financial strength. At no time during these years has the monthly balance of loan money advances which we have taken from the Government of India (I exclude now the excess receipts over advances which we have received

[Mr. G. Wiles]

on account of takavi (from the cultivator) exceeded Rs. 50 lakhs and the average sum works out at about Rs. 25 lakhs. The balances which we show in our printed estimates contain a very small, if any percentage of loan funds, except on account of the Development Department, and that has always been shown separately in the accounts.

Now, the argument is advanced " Why should we maintain this very large balance ? Why should not we draw on that balance to meet some of the additional expenditure ? " One reason is that it would be a fatal policy to enter upon recurring expenditure without knowing where we are going to get the revenue from in the future to meet the expenditure. That would be a policy which would lead straight to bankruptcy. We cannot start an unproductive project, involving any recurring expenditure which should be met from revenue, without first seeing where the money is to come from. We are, I have explained in the Blue Book, drawing upon our balances to the extent of about Rs. 50 lakhs on account of capital expenditure. The balance of over Rs. 4 crores with which we hope to end the year is not by any means too large. It will contain about Rs. 150 lakhs on account of Famine Fund ; and it will contain about Rs. 20 lakhs on account of sinking fund and the assignment on account of Customs duties, which will have to be withdrawn from the balances at the end of the year, in order to be invested. We have not yet received the sanction of the Government of India to invest our sinking funds. That will leave us about 23 lakhs available for use in emergency. As has often been stated in this House, our sources of revenue are extremely precarious. The failure of the monsoon at any time may involve us in a vast deficit. Therefore it is essential that we should maintain a balance of at least 2 crores of rupees. This is not needed for famine relief ; we have the Famine Fund to meet that. But, as we should be losing our land revenue, it will be necessary to meet from the balances the ordinary current expenses of the administration. With regard to the additional saving in our balance, that is held in reserve to meet the instalment of payment of 29 lakhs to the Government of India on account of the loan account. We hope next year to earn interest on these big balances for the first time. The principle that interest shall be paid on the balances has already been accepted by the Government of India ; but as the Devolution Rules contain no provision for such payment, the question has been referred to the Secretary of State.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : What will be the rate of interest ?

Mr. G. WILES : The rate of interest will be 1 per cent. less than the rate at which the Government of India are able to raise loans in the market. The exact system under which we shall be able to obtain the interest has not been determined. Probably we shall have to place a definite sum in deposit.

There is one other point raised by the honourable member for Nasik, to which I should like to reply. He referred to the reserve of 15 lakhs with the Finance Department as an additional balance, and he also mentioned some strictures of the Auditor General. I should like to point out to the honourable member that those strictures of the Auditor

[Mr. G. Wiles]

General do not fully apply to our reserve, but to the retaining of a reserve under every major head for expenditure under that head. This would be a very uneconomical way of meeting expenditure which we cannot foresee at the time of the budget. This amount of 15 lakhs is a reserve with the Finance Department and not a balance. The reasons for such a reserve are given in the introductory note to the estimates for 1922-23 (Blue Book). I shall read out that portion :

“ The Finance Department will, in the first place, see that the expenditure is in accordance with the general wishes of Council and is only incurred without Council's prior consent in the event of a real emergency, and all grants will be immediately reported to the finance committee for their information. Where no such emergency arises, supplementary grants will be asked for in the usual way. It is absolutely essential, however, that some reserve should exist for the purposes of practical administration, and that in an emergency Government should be in a position to make provision without waiting for the next sessions.”

That promise which was made two years ago has been absolutely fulfilled. Whenever it has been found necessary to make any reappropriation we have come to you for a supplementary grant, or for a reappropriation from the reserve.....

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN : May I ask how much money had been kept as reserve during the past years ?

Mr. G. WILES : I shall try to give the figures as I remember them. I have had no time to obtain exact figures.

From the beginning it had been the practice to budget for 20 lakhs. I enquired into the expenditure that had been met in past years from this reserve and I found that expenditure to the extent of about 15 lakhs had annually been met from this reserve by way of reappropriation. Therefore we have reduced the provision from 20 lakhs to 15 lakhs. At that time a promise was made that 60 per cent. of this reserve would be for the transferred departments and 40 per cent. for the reserved departments. As a matter of fact the figures have never been less than 50 per cent. on account of the transferred departments. I am afraid I shall require some more time, Sir, to deal with our loan policy.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The Honourable the Finance Member will include all these points in his final reply. There are 111 members and I cannot allow more than 20 minutes to any member. You have got three minutes more.

Mr. G. WILES : I should like to refer to one statement, which the honourable member for Bombay made with regard to the total debt. The figures are given on page 39 of the Blue Book. My honourable friend for Bombay included in his total the Bombay municipality, the Bombay Port Trust and the Bombay Improvement Trust. Excluding our pre-reform irrigation debt, of about 9 crores the interest on which is very low, about $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., the total Bombay Government debt at the end of next year will amount to about 24 crores, and not something over 50 crores, as declared by the honourable member. Twenty-four crores is the total debt which is a burden on this province. This includes expenditure up-to-date on the Sukkur Barrage and the Development Department. Our

[Mr. G. Wiles.]

total debt on account of unproductive civil works amounted in March to 148 lakhs ; and about 90 lakhs will be added to this sum during the current year. We have, as I have explained in my introductory note, already established a sinking fund for these 24 crores, not only for that part of it which is productive—a very large part of it is productive—but also for the unproductive part of it.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA (Ahmedabad District): Sir, in this budget the first department that one comes across is the Land Revenue department, and that is the department with which the masses that live in the villages are greatly concerned. The Honourable the Finance Member in his opening speech takes pride in the fact that Government have given so many lakhs of suspensions and remissions. Remissions are usually granted when for three years in succession the revenue is not collected : that means that during those three years, there was nothing from the cultivator to take. This Government is always treating persons with capital most leniently, and is looking with the most unkind eye towards the cultivators. Government holds that the assessment which the cultivator pays is the rent charged for cultivating the land. I think a great authority on the land revenue systems of British India—B. H. Baden-Powell—has stated that it is too late in the day to speak of land revenue as rent. It is simply revenue contributed by the cultivators towards the expenditure of the State. Therefore, there should never be suspension, but only remission. Under the existing system, when a certain year is bad the revenue for that year is suspended, but if it is followed by a normal year, then the suspended revenue is recovered from the cultivator in that year. This Government which prides itself as the *ma-bap* of the dumb and mute millions thinks it fair to recover double the ordinary revenue in a normal year that has followed a scarcity year and thus leaves no margin whatsoever to the cultivator. Now, look at the rich shop-keepers, who belong to the same profession as the race which governs them. These shop-keepers are treated most leniently. If they earn less than Rs. 2,000 a year they have got to pay nothing to the State ; and if they lose then nothing is recovered from them by way of income-tax. But what do we find in the case of the cultivator ? If the cultivator loses in a certain year, Government say to him : " This year's revenue is suspended ; pay it next year. If you lose for three years in succession, then you need not pay this year's revenue." But the second and third years' revenue will still be in arrears. In my district, the last two years were bad years ; and this year the only hope of the cultivator was the cotton crop. The kharif crop had already failed : it was only grass and nothing else. Then came the frost wave. But for the revenue-collecting authorities there is no frost. The land revenue demand still continues. The poor ryots had addressed petitions for relief to the Collector and to the Government. They had held up paying assessment in the hope that some relief would come to them. But what is the result ? They have been served with notices of demand, and a penalty of one rupee has been imposed for the issuing of notices. I have accidentally come

[Mr. H. D. Saheba]

to know that notices have been issued even for the payment of the second instalment which is falling due only in March. Because they waited to pay half the assessment in the hope that some relief would come to them as the result of petitions addressed to Government, they are to pay the two instalments together, and unless they meet the notices of demand, warrants would soon follow. I am an agriculturist and I know what are the difficulties of the agriculturists.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI : You are a merchant.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA : Now, it is only this year that Government have come to know that there are other classes of people inhabiting this country besides the poor agriculturists, namely, the middle class men who live in towns and cities, and who since the reforms have up to this time, contributed nothing to the State revenues. Prior to the reforms they might have contributed something ; but I do not know.

There is one other grievance of the agriculturists, namely, about the boundary marks. First notices have to be issued asking cultivators to repair their boundary marks ; and if the cultivators fail to repair them, the work is got done by contractors. The circle inspectors and talatis whose palms are greased by the contractors take care to see that the notice is not made public, and thus the cultivator does not know what he has to do. One day the contractor comes and begins to repair the boundary marks. He puts a basketful of earth here and a basketful there ; and nobody knows which boundary marks are repaired and which not. There ought to be a requisition on individual holders of land to repair particular boundary marks, and there ought to be a survey of the boundary marks, so that they might know which ought to be repaired and which not. There being no such arrangement at present, nobody knows which require repair and which not. Then, again, the contractors repair the boundary marks just before the monsoon. They throw a basketful of earth here and basketful there, and nobody knows which boundary marks are repaired and which not. Then the monsoon comes, and if the boundary marks are not of the proper size, the contractors say it is the rain that has washed away the marks, and they get from Government something like 6 to 12 annas. The Land Revenue Code says that a reasonable charge shall be levied for repair of boundary marks. That reasonable charge means 8 annas to the contractor and two rupees from the cultivator. Is that a reasonable charge ? So, at every turn the cultivator is fleeced. Whether it is a good year or a bad year he is fleeced. The contractor must be paid 8 annas and the cultivator must pay Rs. 2 to the Government.

So I think this great thing of boundary marks will be looked into by the sympathetic Honourable Member in charge of Land Revenue. If he will look into the matter, I am sure that he will be satisfied that there is a real grievance as regards these boundary marks.

Then, there is another item, namely, the special police under the special police establishment; for example the charge about the Kathiawar and the agency police has been eliminated from this year because the Government

[Mr. H. D. Saheba]

of India have taken up the Kathiawar Agency under their charge. But the tribute which the Bombay Government collected from the Kathiawar princes has been paid since the inauguration of the reforms to the Government of India and we have paid the police charges all these years and that, therefore, this would be a legitimate claim for recovery from the Central Government. (Government Benches : Hear, hear.) This charge will come to about 15 lakhs of rupees. We ought to have this police charge from the Government of India.

Then there is one thing more. There is one unproductive canal, namely, Khari-cut Canal. It is on the unproductive list. If the flood water of the Sabarmati which runs to waste were to be taken from the village of Kotarpur, a small canal dug up to Naroda and water is thrown in the Khari-cut canal, it would be a productive work and the strengthening of the Khari-cut canal and its banks and other charges would amount to about 3 lakhs of rupees and the whole work would be productive, and in that case cultivators will not have to wait for water because the policy adopted by the Irrigation Department in our district is to serve as many cultivators as possible and to take revenue from them but not to supply sufficient water to them.

Then, there is one other thing, namely, the cattle-breeding farms and the expenditure made on them. Of what use are these cattle-breeding farms if the revenue authorities do not allow sufficient gurcharan lands to villagers. They have confounded gurcharan lands with gaathan lands. Therefore, this policy of allowing cultivation to increase must be stopped if the cattle are to be improved. They must have sufficient grazing space.

Then, there is another thing, namely, the village of Vatwa. It is a village which has been, under some old arrangements, leased to a contractor. The cultivators and landlords have to pay 3 annas in a rupee more as assessment to the contractor in the Ahmedabad district. If the assessment is 1 rupee they have to pay 19 annas to those to whom it is leased. Now that lease has terminated and yet it is going to be continued. There are only 50 acres of waste land in that village including small ponds and such other things. These are Kharaba lands and the poor people living in the villages there are charged grazing fees.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI : Is it contract land or inam land ?

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA : It is on lease and the lease has terminated now, that is my information. It is only 50 bighas of land and yet grazing fees are charged. Not only that but that even on the assessed land the fees are charged and the inamdar also realises revenue from these lands which are given on assessment by taking fees from roving shepherds. Now there is one thing ; my honourable friend, Mr. Swaminarayan, characterised Government as a machine that has got no heart. I think Government has got a heart, but that it is not for animate objects like the poor people living in the villages, but it is for inanimate objects like the Turf Club. See the solicitude of this Government. Because the finances of the Turf Club are in straitened circumstances and as it has to incur some capital expenditure, Government want

[Mr. H. D. Saheba]

to delay their taxation, but if the poor cultivators' finances are not in a proper condition, they do not think it proper to delay their revenue demand, but they say that they ought to have their pound of flesh and they want nothing more nor less.

Mr. S. T. KAMBLI (Dharwar District) : Sir, Government is indeed entitled to its full share of credit for projecting, and having undertaken, the vast schemes of irrigation and development for Sind, Gujarat, Deccan and Bombay ; and, I am quite sure, that, when these schemes are completed, they will contribute to the increased health, happiness and prosperity of the people that will derive benefit from them. But, Sir, when I come to think of that portion of the Presidency from which I come, when I consider the deplorable condition of the unfortunate Karnatak, I am overcome by a feeling of utter discontent and deep disappointment. There is not a single development project or any irrigation scheme, either planned or intended to be shortly undertaken for any portion of the Bombay Karnatak. The Karnatak is mainly an agricultural country. It possesses indeed rich and valuable soil, but it is too much or entirely dependent on the vagaries of the monsoon ; and not a single year elapses, without some portion or other of this valuable country being subjected to the horrors of famine. This unfortunate Karnatak has been incessantly crying for schemes of irrigation from a long time past. I am sorry to find that this Government is viewing the needs and grievances of the Karnatak with extreme indifference and surprising apathy. The people of Karnatak have come to regard themselves as mere hewers of wood and drawers of water, to supply the needs of the other people of the Presidency. They are led to believe that Government thinks that the Karnatak exists only for filling the coffers of Government. Sir, the Karnatak forms no inconsiderable portion of this Presidency. Karnatak comprises the four districts of Dharwar, Bijapur, Belgaum and Kanara, with its rich and valuable forests. It contains a population which is equal to nearly one-sixth of the whole population of the Presidency. It contributes to the State exchequer a revenue which is not less than one-sixth of the revenues of the whole of the Presidency. With all this, their grievances are not attended to. There is a great feeling of despair among the people and this feeling has grown to such an extent that the leaders of the Karnatak have formed themselves into an Association to agitate and to break away from this Bombay Presidency and to agitate to have a separate province for all the Kanarese speaking people of this Presidency as well as of the Madras Presidency. That shows the depth of discontent which prevails in the Karnatak. Sir, it is not that there are no means for removing the grievances of the Karnatak. There are several rivers intersecting the country. The Krishna, the Wardha, the Ghataprabha and the Malaprabha intersect the various parts of the Bombay Karnatak. Not only that, there is a big river, the Tungabhadra, which serves both Madras and Bombay. The sister Presidency of Madras has projected a plan for constructing or putting a gigantic dam across the river Tungabhadra to irrigate its own districts, while the Bombay Government is sitting with its arms folded ; and even when its attention was drawn to

[Mr. S. T. Kambli]

this fact by me by means of an interpellation last year, it seems that they have devoted, as yet, no attention to this important matter. Therefore, I appeal to the Government to take these grievances into consideration and to have irrigation schemes for irrigating the rich and valuable lands which, when irrigated, will not only remove the grievances of the people but will contribute to their prosperity and will finally end in making them capable of giving more revenue to the State exchequer.

There is another grievance of this Karnatak. Though there is a college at Bombay for teaching medicine to the youth of this Presidency town and though there are several schools for teaching medicine in different divisions of the Presidency, I think I am justified in saying that this Bombay Karnatak is the only one division in which there is not even a medical school for training the youth of that country in medicine. They have to go nearly 300 or 400 miles, either to Poona or Bombay for this purpose. This is an anomaly and a blot which I wish to bring to the notice of Government and I hope they will soon establish a medical school in one of the districts of the Karnatak.

Then, Sir, coming to the question of forests. I admit that the Kanara forests are indeed rich and valuable. The Forest Department is always lavish in its praise of the rich mine of forests of Kanara, but one thing is to be noticed. Though Kanara forests are situated in the Karnatak, still the people there cannot get fuel cheap. They cannot get timber cheap and even the Government of Bombay were obliged to import timber from foreign countries for their Development Department. What is the reason of all this? Looking to the budget figures, we find that out of an income from the Forests, of 74 lakhs 48 lakhs or nearly so are to be put in for expenditure in the Forest Department. That shows the Forest Department is not run on commercial lines as our Honourable Minister for Forests is always proud or fond of saying. I am obliged to repeat, Sir, that the Forest Department is not run on commercial lines or principles but on lavish principles and on an extravagant scale of expenditure. Otherwise people should have got timber at tolerably cheap rates and fuel also at tolerably cheap rates. Although our forests contain valuable and various kinds of timber, the poor and middle classes cannot afford to pay for timber for building their houses. The reason is that the forest administration is carried on with a very lavish expenditure and requires a thorough overhauling. If people near the forests cannot get timber cheap and fuel cheap, what is the use of having such a spendthrift and extravagant administration? The Government says that the forests are expected to bring in crores of rupees of income in years to come. This sort of statement is made from time to time, but at least it appears to me that such a millenium is not likely to arrive at all under such a costly and spendthrift administration. If one cares to go through the forest budgets, one will find in the statements presented that the Forest Department is very indifferent or extravagant in expending money and is giving only a certain small margin to the general revenues. Whatever the gross income from the forests may be, the Forest Department

[Mr. S. T. Kambli]

never has given more than thirty lakhs to the general revenues. Take any year within the last 10 or 15 years, take the year when the revenue went up to 90 lakhs, the Forest Department spent 60 lakhs; take the year when the revenue was 60 lakhs, they spent 30 to 40 lakhs, and so on. It seems to be one of the whims of the Forest Department not to give more than 30 lakhs to the general revenues of the Presidency and to expend every rupee over the 30 lakhs however high the gross revenues may be.

Sir, I now come to the Excise Department. The Excise Department maintains a vast army of inspectors and assistant inspectors. Looking to the number of shops, that are situated in various parts of the Presidency, looking to the number of visits that the inspectors and their assistants are expected to pay to the various shops, looking to the time they spent in those shops, I beg to submit that the present establishment is a little bit too large. Taking the figure of nearly 5,000 for the total number of toddy and liquor shops and taking into consideration the total number of inspectors and assistant inspectors and looking to the fact that they are expected to visit the various shops only once in a month and taking into consideration the fact that they spend only five or ten minutes in each shop, and looking to the fact that they are given an area more or less compact to control, I submit that this large army stands in sore need of reduction.

Sir, in conclusion I again appeal to the Government to remove the grievances of the Karnatak by undertaking irrigation schemes and by establishing ere long a medical school in one of the four districts of the Karnatak.

There is one thing which I beg to mention. That is the recent resolution of the Bombay Government with regard to the recruitment of non-Brahmins. I express my thanks to Government for having issued that long-delayed resolution. I hope that that resolution will be carried out not only in its spirit but in the letter by the various departments concerned and I hope that the same principle will be applied in the appointments to the higher posts.

Mr. F. G. PRATT: Mr. President, I want to refer to two or three statements that were made by my honourable friend the member for Ahmedabad District (Mr. Saheba) in the course of his speech. The first of these was a grievance of the agriculturists about boundary marks. He complained that it was a hardship to the agriculturists that these boundary marks are put in order and repaired by contractors. That is a hardship which is very easy for them to escape, by repairing their own boundary marks themselves. I understood my honourable friend to make the astonishing statement that the agriculturists do not know which boundary marks were out of repair. The agriculturists, I suppose, know the boundaries of their own fields. When the cultivating season approaches, they do not enquire of somebody else as to what are the limits of their fields. They know where the boundary marks ought to be, and so it is quite easy for them to repair the boundary marks for themselves. It is a matter of ten minutes' work. If, after notice has

[Mr. F. G. Pratt]

been given to them by the revenue subordinates that their boundary marks have fallen into disrepair and are disappearing, they do not take the trouble to repair them themselves, then of course we have to do it for them, because, as my honourable friend probably is not unaware, boundary marks are of very great value and use to the agriculturists, and the proper maintenance of boundary marks forms a very important part of our revenue system. It hardly needs wasting any words about it. It is a system which prevents anybody from encroaching upon his neighbour's land, and it is a very important system in the preservation of title. That is my answer to that complaint. There is no real grievance, and even if by accident an over-charge or a wrong charge is made, it is quite easy for the person aggrieved to represent his case, and then it would be attended to by the Collector of the district or the mamlatdar.

Another point which he spoke about was about a particular village which I understood him to say (I wish he was here to hear my explanation about it) was leased out, I was astonished to hear, to a contractor. Now, there is really no excuse for that statement. The village is within easy reach of Ahmedabad which I have known well for about 30 years. I know the young lad—a minor it is true—who is the existing inamdar of the village, and I have known his father ever since the famine of 1899. The proprietor of that village whom my honourable friend described as a contractor is a Mahomedan Sayed inamdar, with a pedigree which goes back 400 to 500 years up to the time of the Delhi Emperors. He has got *firman*s going back to that time. The village is to a great extent a proprietary village, as my honourable friend ought to know if he took the least trouble to verify the facts instead of listening to the gossip which he has retailed to this House. It is a proprietary village, and the cultivators pay rents which amount to 3 annas in the rupee more than the assessed land revenue. As anybody knows who is at all conversant with rural conditions, this is a trifling rent when compared with the rents which are levied by other talukdars and inamdars up and down Gujarat and in other parts of the Presidency. When a statement of this kind comes from a gentleman who lives in Ahmedabad, it makes me feel extremely sorry that the House was misled by ill-informed gossip and criticism of this kind.

As to the statement of the honourable member that all over the Ahmedabad district the kharif crops were a total failure and produced nothing but grass, that needs no comment except that it shows the extraordinary ignorance of the honourable member about facts which are very well known in Gujarat.

Mr. B. R. NANAL (Ratnagiri District): Sir, I find myself entirely unable to accept the budget which has been placed before the House by the Honourable the Finance Member. I do not say that it is a bad budget; at the same time, I am not prepared to say that it is a good budget either. The budget outlines certain proposals for additional taxation. Now, it is not because the budget contains proposals of that kind that I say it is not a good budget. I know that additional taxation may to a certain extent be necessary and may have to be levied, but that

[Mr. B. R. Nana]

will come only when it is successfully established by Government that all other resources have failed. What we have to see in the present case is whether that has been demonstrated as a fact by the Honourable the Finance Member. Now, I look upon this budget from two standpoints. One is that of the general taxpayer of the Presidency ; the other, I may say, is a parochial standpoint, namely, of the taxpayer in the district which I represent in this Council, namely, Ratnagiri.

As regards the general standpoint, I may say at once that I am entirely dissatisfied with this budget, whether we take its revenue side or its expenditure side. When we take the revenue side, we find three items of which the revenue of this Presidency is mainly composed. These three items are land revenue, Excise revenue, and revenue from Stamps. As regards excise revenue, I am sorry to see that in this year's budget there is actually a rise in that revenue over last year's level. Whatever this rise may be due to, I say, and say it emphatically, that so long as a pie on account of excise revenue is found in the budget, our budget is disfigured to that extent. No excise revenue ought to find a place in the budget of this presidency, and Government must be prepared for the event when this excise revenue is entirely abolished.

Then, as regards land revenue, I may say that it is already very high. The view held, in this part of the House at any rate, is that the policy by which Government ought to be guided in the matter of land revenue should be that of permanent settlement. I know that the question of permanent settlement is a highly controversial one, and can be argued on both sides. But even apart from that question, however, I warn Government that the present level of land revenue is the highest that can be reached, and it is no use, whether there are Council resolutions or not to block the Government in the matter of revision settlements, looking on land revenue in the future as an expanding source of revenue.

Then there remains the revenue from stamps. That source of revenue admits of adjustment. That adjustment can only be carried to a certain extent and not further. This adjustment can take place only in relation to the taxable capacity of the people. Whether the highest level as regards the taxable capacity in the matter of stamps has not been reached is a question which again has to be considered. From the remarks I have made so far honourable members will see that the three main items of revenue upon which this presidency has been dependent up to this time have, now at least, become precarious. If the expansion of the normal activities of Government is to depend on the expansion of revenue on these three items then we had better not look for any expansion at all not merely in the immediate future but at any time in the future. Now, I may be asked if that is the view I take with regard to the revenue side of the budget, how is it that I expect the activities of Government, which I admit ought to expand, to be financed in the future. My answer is that the resources of the Presidency have been fully exploited and we cannot at this stage resort to additional taxation for finding money for the normal expansion of the beneficent activities of Government. Now what is it that justifies the view that I have placed before honourable members

[Mr. B. R. Nanal]

for their consideration? I say that we have reached a stage at which the establishments should be cut down by one-half. It may rather appear to be a revolutionary proposal to Government benches. I say there is nothing revolutionary about my proposal. It is a perfectly practical proposition, if the Government set about it in the right way. The proposition does contain an element of revolution; but it is only in the mode, not in the end. No revolution can be carried out in a day. Therefore, a beginning must be made in right earnest and, if that beginning is made, and if the Government demonstrate their sincerity in that way, then they can come before this House with proposals for additional taxation. Then the House will at any rate be prepared to consider the proposals. When I say that the establishments should be cut down, I mean from the top to the bottom. How that can be achieved cannot be explained in the space of a few minutes, but I would take up one or two departments for illustration.

In preference I will take the Judicial Department. I say, Sir, that our normal judicial activities can be carried on with half of the number of the staff, both superior and inferior, if Government repose trust in the people and entrust them with powers. Now the reform in this direction must begin with the village. We have got Village Panchayats Act. What is that Act? In the first place, it is voluntary, but it should be made compulsory for every village or group of villages. In order that Government may be able to introduce compulsion, it will be necessary that these panchayats should be invested with criminal as well as civil powers to a limited extent so as to make the institution popular. In that event a large volume of work which normally goes to the magistracy and subordinate judiciary will be taken away from them. Then we can safely cut down the number of courts both civil and criminal that we now maintain to half. Another avenue which can be safely explored is that of creating honorary sub-judges and district judges, and even, if I may say so, honorary High Court Judges. We have in the country abundant judicial talent going to rust. If proper efforts are made, a large number of gentlemen with judicial talents would be prepared to place a portion of their time at the service of the motherland. There is a large number of gentlemen, some of whom have put in judicial service under Government and still possess energy and inclination to devote a portion of their time to the service of their country, and others who have received full judicial training but have never entered Government service. If Government are prepared to trust them, they would be willing to serve as honorary subordinate and district judges.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Honorary bar ?

Mr. B. R. NANAL : Honorary bar, too, Sir. Why not? From what I know of other countries, it is because honorary gentlemen like these are utilised in the administration of the country, the cost of administration happens to be comparatively cheap.

Next, I shall take up another department, the Police. I find from the budget that this department consumes something like one crore and 77

[Mr. B. R. Nanal]

lakhs. The expenditure on this department has more than doubled during the last 10 years. We all want security of life and security of property. I do not want to abolish the police altogether. There are many gentlemen in the force who are good public servants and are discharging their duties at the risk of their lives. But the question for consideration is whether it is necessary at all to maintain such a big police establishment. Here again trust is necessary. Issue licenses for arms liberally and then you will find that you need not recruit and maintain such a big police force for the security of life and property. The question of the policy underlying the Arms Act or the rules framed thereunder cannot be discussed on the floor of this House; but Government can certainly issue instructions to their officers to issue licenses to the utmost extent permissible under the provisions of the Arms Act or its rules. In this connection, I may say that it was mentioned to me in my district that in issuing licenses the authorities impose a condition that the licensees should kill either three wild pigs or six other wild animals as a necessary condition. If that condition is not fulfilled, the license becomes liable to forfeiture. Why impose conditions of this kind? I do not know whether the rules justify or allow the imposition of a condition like this. But supposing they do, it is not necessary that conditions like these should be imposed on the licensees. If licenses are issued freely and if people are trusted freely, they certainly would do away with the necessity of keeping half the police force which we have to maintain at present.

I have mentioned one or two instances in which establishments admit of being cut down. I said they might be cut down to "one-half" that may or may not be justified as a result of investigation. But I say that this investigation should be held by Government, and Government must explore every source of this kind before they come before this House to ask for additional taxation. If after exploring all these lines, after carrying out all possible retrenchment, Government come before this House and ask for a vote of 20 crores, I suppose even that 20 crores for the expansion of the nation-building departments would be voted. Members of Government are not expected to contribute to the needs of the nation from their own private resources. As the activities are meant for the benefit of the nation, the nation must find the money. But Government must, first of all, convince the nation, or its representatives, that every farthing that has been voted has been properly applied. And I say that from this point of view the budget carries no conviction whatever to the nation that the resources already placed at the disposal of the Government have been properly administered. And I hold that until that conviction is brought to the minds of the honourable members on this side, they shall not vote a penny in addition to the resources which Government already possess. So far with regard to the general budget.

Now, I wish to say a word or two with regard to the parochial side, namely, that of my district. My district is the poorest of all. That is well known to every honourable member. It labours under the

[Mr. B. R. Nanal]

greatest disadvantages. There is only one highway running from north to south throughout the district, and even this highway is intersected in a thousand places by rivers, large and small. As soon as June comes on, these nallas and rivers get swollen and all communication is blocked. If we take Ratnagiri, the headquarters of my district, as soon as you go to the 14th mile on the Sangameshwar road, you are stopped : no vehicle of any kind after 10th June can pass across those rivers. I do find in this year's budget a provision made for a bridge over the first river that we meet, namely, the Bav, and so far I do congratulate the Honourable Minister on the inclusion of that item in the budget. But I may tell him at the same time that this inclusion is a mere flea-bite : it does not remove our grievances even a hundredth or a thousandth part. Take the other side, namely, the Ratnagiri-Rajapur road. At the 18th mile from Ratnagiri we meet a river ; then after a few miles we meet a second river. Both the rivers get swollen and are impassable after 10th June.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The honourable member's time is up.

Mr. V. A. SURVE (Ratnagiri District) (addressed the House in Marathi) : Mr. President, the budget for the present year means the one for the year 1925-26. On comparing the figures of this budget with those for the year 1924-25, every one has come to realise, at the time of reading the budget, that while the budget for the year 1924-25 amounted to nearly fifteen crores, this year, the budget has exceeded that amount by one crore. It is claimed that the reason for this (excess) is that Government are paying more attention, this year, to the comforts and the conveniences of the people. I am not in the habit of making calculations on the tips of my fingers but I can easily show to the Council, from my experience in the Ratnagiri District what big amounts have been allotted towards works of public utility in the statement of accounts for the year 1924-25. There are over thirteen hundred villages in the Ratnagiri district and many of them experience scarcity of water from March to July. A question was sent in the matter for being asked in the Legislative Council. The Honourable Mr. Jadhav, Minister of Education, gave a reply to it on the 20th February 1925 as follows :—

“We are making inquiries in the matter of water (supply).”

The information regarding the removal of hardships of people due to scarcity of water in one district could not be secured in one year. From this it becomes evident that there is no reason to make any special mention of the solicitude felt by the Executive Council of the Government of Bombay for the public welfare. The next important matter that requires to be told is that the Executive Council has given, for the public welfare for the scarcity of water to the Ratnagiri district Rs. 1,316 for 1,300 villages in two years. This matter has been communicated by them to me (personally) in this way. On the 22nd October 1924 I wrote to the Honourable Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain to sanction Rs. 33,000 only for the provision of water supply in the

[Mr. V. A. Surve]

Ratnagiri District. I received a reply No. 24291/11741-D with an accompaniment which gives a statement of the sums allotted in two years. On looking to that sum and the number of villages in the district, every village gets eight annas for water supply for one year. What solicitude for public welfare this is : That the Government which takes, at least, Rs. 9,50,000 per year from the Ratnagiri district by way of land revenue, should give through its Executive Council the liberal sum of eight annas, per village, for the supply of water that saves the lives of the people, is an indication of their solicitude and reflects credit upon them. Perhaps some will point the finger to the local boards. But the local boards do not realise land revenue and the officials should not lose sight of the fact that Government have existed long before the local boards came into being.

This is the fourth session of the Council. Some question or other about the removal of the grievances of agriculturists in every district of the Bombay Presidency is before the Council and when the Executive Council is so well disposed towards the agriculturists what good can come to them ?

Some persons from every village in my district seek the shelter of a city like Bombay owing to the scarcity of water. The money that is secured from my district does not seem to have been expended for the benefit of the people of that district but if it is expended at all, it may be for the use of those who draw fat salaries or for supplying electric lights in a city like Bombay. This is of no use to us. Our agriculturists work as peons on Rs. 10 but they have to work for 18 hours. The agriculturists do hard labour, on half rations, in the police department, the clerical staff and the military department and you have been imposing all sorts of taxes, at any time you like, on the agriculturists, in an indirect manner, for the sake of those who draw fat salaries, and all sorts of allowances and enjoy the cream (of life) to their hearts' content. Not a single river in the Ratnagiri district possesses a bridge. It is being bruited about throughout the district for the last twenty years that new plans and estimates are being prepared every month, and sent to the Executive Council of the Government of Bombay. If this be true then perhaps ten thousand rupees might have been spent on stationery. I have to make a suggestion to this Council that no single member of the Council should vote in favour of any of the bills that have been framed to enhance the tax by forty-two lakhs and that will be placed before them. It would not be proper for the members, who sympathise with the public and who feel that these bills affect the welfare of the agricultural and working classes, to vote in favour of these bills. But those members whose livelihood depends upon attending the Council or who cannot make a living without doing things detrimental to the public weal may vote in favour of these bills. I have to say this much only.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The Council will now adjourn to 2 o'clock to-morrow, Tuesday, the 24th February 1925.

Tuesday, the 24th February 1925.

The Council re-assembled at the Town Hall, Bombay, at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, the 24th February 1925, the Honourable Sir IBRAHIM RAHIMTOOLA, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
ABDULPURKAR, Mr. N. A.
ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
ANGADI, Mr. S. N.
BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
BHURGRI, Mr. J. M.
BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
BUNTER, Mr. J. P.
COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
DELVES, Mr. R. H. A.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
GHOSAL, Mr. J.
GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH
GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
HUDSON, Mr. L. S.
JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
JATOI, Khan Saheb HAJI SERAI IMAMBAKSH
JATOI, Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
JOG, Mr. V. N.
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
KALBHOR, Mr. G. M.
KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.

KARKI, Mr. M. D.
 KAZI INAITULLAKHAN
 KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
 LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
 LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBOY A.
 LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 LINFORD, Mr. J. W.
 MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO, Mr.
 MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
 MAVALANKAR, Mr. G. K.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
 MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 MUJUMDAR, Saifdar G. N.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUKHI JETHANAND PRITXMDAS
 NANAL, Mr. B. R.
 NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
 NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
 NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
 OWEN, Mr. A. C.
 PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
 PATEL, Mr. D. N.
 PATEL, Mr. G. I.
 PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED KHAN
 PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
 PATIL, Mr. D. R.
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 PIR RASULBAKSH SHAH
 POWAR, Mr. M. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 PRATT, Mr. F. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSENALLY M.
 SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
 SAPTARSHI, Mr. C. M.
 SARDESAI, Mr. S. A.
 SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH
 SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
 SEDGWICK, Mr. L. J.
 SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO, Mr.
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
 SURVE, Mr. A. N.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.
 SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.

THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI

THAKOR OF AMOD, the

THOMAS, Mr. G. A.

TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.

VELKAR, Dr. M. B.

WILES, Mr. G.

WOODS, Mr. E. E.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Order, order. Questions.

-TRAINING COLLEGE CERTIFICATE.

* Mr. S. N. ANGADI (Belgaum District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether there is a departmental rule in the educational department applicable to primary schools' teachers, which says that teachers who have passed the vernacular final examination and have put in 10 years' service should be accorded first year's training college certificate ?

(b) If so, how many of such teachers in the Belgaum, Dharwar, Bijapur and Karwar districts have been given such certificates ?

(c) Amongst those who have been given such certificates, how many are Brahmins and how many are non-Brahmins ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) This part has already been answered.

(b) and (c) The following table gives the number of holders of such certificates on 31st March 1923 in the districts specified, and the number of Brahmins and non-Brahmins (Hindus) included therein :—

Dharwar District.

| | | | |
|--------------|----|----|----|
| Total number | .. | .. | 24 |
| Brahmins | .. | .. | 9 |
| Non-Brahmins | .. | .. | 14 |

Belgaum District.

| | | | |
|--------------|----|----|---|
| Total number | .. | .. | 9 |
| Brahmins | .. | .. | 6 |
| Non-Brahmins | .. | .. | 1 |

Bijapur District.

| | | | |
|--------------|----|----|----|
| Total number | .. | .. | 12 |
| Brahmins | .. | .. | 7 |
| Non-Brahmins | .. | .. | 4 |

Kanara District.

| | | | |
|--------------|----|----|----|
| Total number | .. | .. | 14 |
| Brahmins | .. | .. | 7 |
| Non-Brahmins | .. | .. | 7 |

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

BREEDING OF HORSES.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that they used to breed horses in this presidency formerly?

(b) If so, is it a fact that such breeding has been discontinued, and if so, what are the reasons therefor, and what is the total retrenchment effected thereby?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN:

(a) Yes.

(b) The operations were discontinued as they served no useful purpose. Owing to the advent of the motor car the demand for good horses and ponies has slackened and consequently horse breeders have lost all interest in the industry. The district local boards, which desired to carry on the operations unaided, were however given some of the Government stallions, free of charge. A copy of Government Resolution No. 9274 dated 22nd October 1923 sanctioning the discontinuance of the operations was placed on the Council table. The total amount retrenched was Rs. 16,000 per annum.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: May I know why, if the horse-breeding operations were discontinued as they served no useful purpose, the races are allowed to be continued?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: I do not think the races have any connection with the present question.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: It is said that the races are allowed to be continued, because one of the objects of races is horse-breeding.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: These operations were discontinued in pursuance of the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee, and it was also found that they did not serve any useful purpose. Those were the reasons. There is absolutely no connection between the continuance of horse races and breeding of horses by Government.

TRAINING COLLEGES FOR WOMEN.

* Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many Government and private training colleges for women are in existence in the Presidency? What are their names and where are they located?

(b) What is the number of students undergoing training in such Government Colleges? What is the annual expense incurred by Government on each of such colleges?

(c) Is it a fact that the students in all such colleges, both Government and private, are examined entirely by teachers in the Training College for Women at Poona?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

(d) If so, is it a fact that there are teachers in other colleges of higher qualifications ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) and (b) The accompanying statement* gives the information required.

(c) and (d) The answer to (c) is in the negative.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : Are teachers or professors in private institutions appointed as examiners at the annual examinations ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I shall be glad to answer the question if notice is given.

FODDER FAMINE IN SATARA.

Khan Bahadur D. B. COOPER (Satara District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that there is an acute fodder famine in the Satara district this year ?

(b) Do Government intend to take any step independently of other agencies to avert such a calamity in the future ; if so, what do they intend to do ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) The recent rain has removed all anxiety about fodder and the supply is reported to be sufficient in the whole of the district.

(b) The question of storage of Kadbi against famine is engaging the attention of Government.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN : Is it not a fact that the eastern talukas of the district still suffer from fodder famine ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : That is not the report made to us by the local officers.

NEW TODDY SHOP AT AMARGOL.

Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI (Bombay City, South) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Collector of Dharwar has permitted the opening of a new toddy shop in the village of Amargol ?

(b) Is it a fact that the license for the shop in question has been granted without any auction sale having been held for Rs. 1,000 to the country liquor licensee of Dharwar ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Yes. As there was local demand for toddy in preference to country liquor the Collector of Dharwar sanctioned the opening of a toddy shop at Amargol in place of the liquor shop as an experimental measure for a period of one year. The shop was given out without auction on payment of a fee of Rs. 1,000 as it is only temporary.

Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI : What sort of experiment was the department going to conduct ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Whether that shop was a real necessity and the other shop that was discontinued was not wanted there.

Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI: What was the experiment going to be tried there at Amargol by changing the liquor shop into a toddy shop?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: If the toddy shop would serve the purpose of the people much better than the liquor shop, which would then be done away with.

Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI: Why is it called a temporary measure?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: To find out whether it is wanted or not after a year.

Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI: Is Rs. 1,000 the usual fee for a toddy shop there?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: I must have notice of that question.

Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI: Why was an auction not held there for the shop?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Because there was no special demand by another. This gentleman gave Rs. 1,000, and that was considered by the Collector to be a sufficient fee, and accordingly the shop was handed over to the man.

Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI: Is it not the practice there to give these shops by auctions only?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Yes, auctions are also held.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: Is this shop being discontinued next year?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: It will be discontinued, if it is proved that the shop is not wanted there.

Mr. V. N. JOG: Is it not a fact that the shop has already been closed?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: I am not aware of it.

MANUFACTURE OF FOREIGN LIQUORS.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state whether they have received an application from the Alembic Chemical Works to the effect that the "foreign liquors" manufactured by them may be charged at the excise rates instead of at the tariff rates?

If so, will they be pleased to state what steps have been taken by them in this connection and in connection with other "foreign liquors" manufactured in this Presidency?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Yes. The application is under consideration. As regards the concluding portion of the question the honourable member for Kaira district is referred to the reply to question No. 2 asked by him.

RATE OF DUTY CHARGED ON FOREIGN LIQUOR.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): (1) Will Government be pleased to state the rate of duty charged per proof gallon on

liquors imported from foreign countries outside India and the rate of duty charged per proof gallon on "foreign liquors" manufactured within this Presidency?

(2) If the rate in both the cases is the same, will Government be pleased to state the reason for making no differentiation between the two?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (1) For the rates of duty charged on liquors imported from countries outside India the honourable member for Kaira District is referred to items 7 to 12 in the Notification of the Government of India, Commerce Department, No. 73 T. of 22nd December 1923 republished at pages 3027 to 3043 of Part I of the *Bombay Government Gazette Extraordinary* dated the 28th *idem*. Subject to the exceptions mentioned below excise duty at the same rates is levied on foreign liquors manufactured in this Presidency:—

- (a) The duty on spirit contained in medicinal and toilet preparations manufactured in the Bombay Presidency and Indian States within its geographical limits (including Baroda) has been reduced to Rs. 5 per proof gallon.
- (b) No duty is leviable in the Bombay Presidency on denatured spirit manufactured in British India or in any Indian State.
- (c) Indian-made rectified spirit used for industrial purposes and for teaching and research purposes in educational institutions is exempt from duty, subject to certain conditions.

(2) The attention of the honourable member is invited to paragraph 109 of the report of the Indian Excise Committee (1905-06). The price of country spirit properly so called is now very high owing to the increase in still-head duty and high vend fees and cost of manufacture and competition between this spirit and Indian-made liquors excised as foreign is undesirable.

The question of reducing the rates of duty on certain varieties of Indian-made foreign liquors is under the consideration of Government.

TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIPS.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) How many candidates applied this year through the Bombay Government for the Government of India state technical scholarship?
- (b) What were the qualifications of each of those candidates?
- (c) Were there any among them who had had practical knowledge of the subjects which they wanted to study and if so, which of them?
- (d) Which of them were recommended by the Bombay Government?
- (e) To whom has ultimately the scholarship been awarded?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) All state scholarships are now granted by this Government in accordance with the Reformed Constitution.

(b) and (c) The requisite information will be found in the accompanying list* of applicants for the state technical scholarship.

(d) and (e) The state technical scholarship was awarded to Mr. R. G. Pradhan (No. 70 in the list) by this Government.

* Kept in the Secretary's office.

PROSECUTION OF THE PROPRIETORS OF THE "SAMACHAR" FOR
RUNNING A PRIZE SCHEME.

* Dr. M. M. MEHTA on behalf of Dr. M. K. DIXIT (Surat District):
(a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that the *Samachar*, a newspaper published at Surat, published a scheme entitled "Extraordinary prize competition" (अपूर्व इनामी हरिपाई) on the 7th August 1923; and that the proprietors of the paper were prosecuted and punished under section 294-A, Indian Penal Code, for doing so?

(b) Are Government aware of the fact that the "Times of India" Prize Scheme was being published at the very time when the "Samachar" was being so prosecuted?

(c) Was any warning given to the proprietors of the "Samachar" before launching a prosecution against them?

(d) Will Government state the amount of the fees paid to the Government Pleader, Surat, for conducting the prosecution in the several lottery cases during the years 1923 and 1924 (up to August) at Surat, and how much fine has been realised in these cases?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a) and (b) Government learn that the proprietors were fined Rs. 75 each on the 12th February 1924.

(c) They were not previously warned.

(d) Fees Rs. 310. Fines Rs. 287.

POLITICAL PRISONERS.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) How many political prisoners, i.e., prisoners convicted under sections 124-A, Indian Penal Code, or imprisoned under proceedings initiated under section 108 of the Criminal Procedure Code in connection with political activities, and belonging to Sind and Bombay Presidency respectively, were in different jails of the Presidency on 31st August 1924?

(b) What were their names, the name of the jail in which each was confined and the kind of imprisonment to which each of them was subjected?

(c) Which of the aforesaid prisoners were placed in a separate division in accordance with Government orders issued on 15th February 1923?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a) Fourteen.

(b) The required information will be found in the statement† laid on the table.

(c) No. 5 in the statement.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 24.

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST SUB-ASSISTANT SURGEON, MR. MOOLCHAND.

* Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the Surgeon-General with the Government of Bombay received any applications from the residents of Dadu, district Larkana, containing serious allegations against the sub-assistant surgeon, Mr. Moolchand?

(b) If so, have those charges been inquired into?

(c) If so, by whom and with what result?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Civil Surgeon and the Collector of Larkana district. They both stated that the allegations were unfounded and on the other hand they highly appreciated the services rendered by Mr. Mulchand Dhunchand. The Superintending Engineer, Western Circle, Lloyd Barrage and Canals Construction, Karachi, and the President, District Local Board, Larkana, have also spoken highly of the services rendered by Mr. Moolchand in charge Dadu dispensary.

APPLICATION OF THE BOMBAY PREVENTION OF PROSTITUTION ACT.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state in how many cases has any action been taken in each area under that Act up to the 30th June 1924, mentioning the section of the Act and the nature and the result of such action in each case?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: A statement† furnishing the required information is laid on the table.

SIND MUSLIM EDUCATIONAL UNION.

* Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state:—

(a) Whether the Director of Public Instruction has considered the resolutions of the Sind Muslim Educational Union passed at its meeting on 23rd December 1923 at Sukkur and submitted his report on the same to Government?

(b) What action has been taken on each of those resolutions?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) and (b) As the Sind Muslim Educational Union has not been recognised by Government, the resolutions have not been considered and no action has been taken thereon.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: In considering or not considering such resolutions, is it the policy of Government to be guided by the intrinsic worth of the resolutions, or by the accident that the body which passed them is recognised or not recognised by Government?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 25.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : By the work. If the work done by the association is laudable and good, then the resolutions are attended to.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : Did the Honourable Minister apply his mind to the question whether these resolutions were important or were of intrinsic worth ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The intrinsic worth of the resolutions is considered. At the same time, it is seen whether the association is recognised or not.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : What bodies have been recognised by Government, so that they would consider their resolutions ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : If the honourable member gives notice, I shall find that out.

Mr. V. R. KOTHARI : What are the qualifications for recognition by Government ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I could not answer it off-hand.

REPORTS OF PUBLIC SPEECHES.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City) : Will Government be pleased to state :—

(a) Whether it is a fact that there is a Standing Order of the Commissioner in Sind that the Government reporters taking notes of political speeches delivered in public should get their notes attested by one or more responsible local non-officials ?

(b) If so, was that procedure adopted by those who reported to the authorities the speech for which Shaikh Abdul Majid Sahib, the then Secretary of Sind Provincial Khilafat Committee and Editor of Daily "Al-Wahid", Karachi, was sentenced by the City Magistrate of Hyderabad, Sind, on 17th January 1924 to suffer 12 months' imprisonment for refusal to furnish securities for good behaviour ?

(c) If so, what are the names of the non-officials who attested the notes made by the police in this case, and why were they not produced in court as prosecution witnesses ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : (a) The Commissioner issued instructions to the District Magistrates that every effort should be made to have the police reports of speeches corroborated by independent witnesses. The District Magistrates were informed at the same time that in cases where independent witnesses were not procurable, there should be no legal objection to reliance being placed solely on the evidence of responsible police officers.

(b) and (c) There were no independent witnesses available. The evidence of the police officers was held sufficient.

GRAZING FEES IN SIND.

* Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City) : Will Government be pleased to state what

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

was the grazing fee per head of cattle when the fee was first introduced and what it is now in each of the districts of Sind, showing also the different rates of grazing fees imposed successively on a head of cattle since their first introduction down to the present day?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (1) In August 1852 the following scale of grazing fees was fixed by a committee composed of the Commissary of Ordinance, the Executive Engineer and the Forest Ranger. This scale of grazing fees *was not sanctioned* by Government, but was drawn up at the suggestion of the Commissioner:—

Scale of rates.

| | | | | Per month. | | | |
|-------------------|----|----|----|------------|---|---|---|
| | | | | Rs. a. p. | | | |
| Camels | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Buffaloes | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Bullocks and Cows | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Goats | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0 | 0 | 8 |

(2) In the year 1886 the following maximum and minimum scales were sanctioned:—

| <i>Per month.</i> | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|----|-------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|---|---|--|
| | | Maximum (for rich forest.) | | Minimum (for poor forest.) | | | |
| | | Full grown. | Young. | | | | |
| | | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | | | |
| Camels | .. | 0 4 0 | 0 2 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | } Young animals up to 2 years free. |
| Buffaloes | .. | 0 3 0 | 0 1 6 | 0 | 1 | 0 | |
| Cows and Bullocks | .. | 0 1 6 | 0 0 9 | 0 | 0 | 3 | |
| Horses | .. | 0 1 6 | 0 0 9 | 0 | 0 | 3 | |
| Donkeys | .. | 0 1 0 | 0 0 6 | 0 | 0 | 3 | } Lambs and kids 6 months old and under free. |
| Sheep | .. | 0 0 3 | .. | 0 | 0 | 1 | |
| Goats | .. | 0 0 3 | .. | 0 | 0 | 3 | |

(3) In the year 1903 the system of bi-monthly permits was introduced and the following scale of fees was prescribed for the period of 2 months.

The forests were divided into two classes:

| | | 1st Class. | | 2nd Class. | |
|-------------------|----|------------|--------|------------|-----|
| | | Rs. a. p. | | Rs. a. p. | |
| Camels | .. | .. | 0 12 0 | 0 | 8 0 |
| Buffaloes | .. | .. | 0 6 0 | 0 | 4 0 |
| Cows and Bullocks | .. | .. | 0 3 0 | 0 | 1 6 |
| Horses | .. | .. | 0 3 0 | 0 | 1 6 |
| Donkeys | .. | .. | 0 2 0 | 0 | 1 0 |
| Goats | .. | .. | 0 0 6 | 0 | 0 6 |
| Sheep | .. | .. | 0 0 6 | 0 | 0 4 |

Half the above rates for sucklings.

(4) In the year 1915 the system of 12-monthly permits was introduced and the rates sanctioned for that period were as follows :—

| | 1st Class. | | 2nd Class. | |
|-----------|------------|-------|------------|-------|
| | Rs. | a. p. | Rs. | a. p. |
| Camels | 1 | 8 0 | 1 | 8 0 |
| Buffaloes | 0 | 12 0 | 0 | 6 0 |
| Cows | 0 | 6 0 | 0 | 3 0 |
| Goats | 0 | 2 0 | 0 | 2 0 |
| Sheep | 0 | 1 0 | 0 | 0 6 |
| Horses | 0 | 6 0 | 0 | 3 0 |
| Donkeys | 0 | 4 0 | 0 | 2 0 |

Half the above rates for sucklings.

(5) Lastly in the year 1919, the rates of fees for camels and goats were revised and the revised rates stand up to now as under :—

| | 1st Class. | | 2nd Class. | |
|-----------|------------|-------|------------|-------|
| | Rs. | a. p. | Rs. | a. p. |
| Camels | 3 | 0 0 | 3 | 0 0 |
| Buffaloes | 0 | 12 0 | 0 | 6 0 |
| Cows | 0 | 6 0 | 0 | 3 0 |
| Goats | 0 | 4 0 | 0 | 4 0 |
| Sheep | 0 | 1 0 | 0 | 0 6 |
| Horses | 0 | 6 0 | 0 | 3 0 |
| Donkeys | 0 | 4 0 | 0 | 2 0 |

VERNACULAR SCHOOL MASTERS IN SIND.

* Mr. HOOSEINHOY A. LALLJEE on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to furnish (a) the number of vernacular school masters, Hindu and Mussalman, respectively, in each of the seven districts of Sind;

(b) the number of post offices managed by school masters belonging respectively to the same communities;

(c) the number of school masters belonging respectively to the said communities who have been promoted to the selection grade during the last three years;

(d) the number of school masters belonging respectively to the said communities, who have been posted in a district other than that in which their native place is situated?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: A statement† giving the required information is laid on the Council table.

LIQUOR SHOPS.

* Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to furnish the total number of shops, hotels, or refreshment rooms licensed to sell

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 26.

country, liquors and foreign liquors, respectively, as they stood on the 1st of April 1920 and the 1st of April 1924, respectively, throughout the Bombay Presidency including Sind ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Information as to the number of shops, etc., on 1st April 1920 has already been supplied.

A statement† giving similar information for 1st April 1924 is appended.

HOLLAND GHEE.

* Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether their attention has been drawn to a paragraph under the heading of 'Banavati Ghee' appearing on page 4 of the 'Al-Wahid' of Karachi, dated the 31st August 1924, alleging that as elsewhere in India, so in Karachi imitation ghee is imported from Holland and is being sold ?

(b) What has been the total imports so far of that kind of ghee in Karachi and in Bombay, respectively ?

(c) Have the Government got that ghee analysed by the Chemical Analyser to satisfy themselves if its consumption is not detrimental to the health of the people ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) No.

| | | | Cwt. | Lbs. |
|-------------|----|----|-----------|------|
| (b) Karachi | .. | .. | .. 1,868 | .. |
| Bombay | .. | .. | .. 27,049 | 77 |
| (c) Yes. | | | | |

RELIEF MEASURES IN SIND.

* Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City): (a) Will Government be pleased to furnish, in a tabular form, a statement of estimated loss and damage to the crops, cattle, other properties and the lives of the people in each of the talukas in Sind, on account of the recent floods and heavy rains in Sind ?

(b) What relief measures have been or are intended to be adopted by Government to help the distressed people ?

(c) If they have not begun any relief measures themselves, have they encouraged or assisted the efforts made by the Congress committee or any other private agencies for the purpose of mitigating the hardships of the distressed people ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) The information is being obtained.

(b) and (c) The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply‡ given to question of the honourable member for Hyderabad district.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 27.

‡ The following question and answer were printed in the 1st list :—

Mr. NOOR MAHOMED (Hyderabad District): Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that there has been considerable loss of property in some of the talukas of Sind as a result of the river floods and rain and that a large number of people have been rendered homeless ? If so, what steps do they intend to take to help the Khatedars and the cultivators to rebuild their houses and to cultivate the next crop ?

Continued on page 170.

RELINQUISHED HOLDINGS AND REVENUE WASTE.

* Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether all or any of the survey numbers mentioned in Government Notification No. S-35/9/12422 published in Government Gazette, dated 31st July 1924, Part I, at page 1710 are relinquished holdings or revenue waste numbers from the beginning, *i.e.*, from the 1st settlement ;

(b) If the former, the classes, *i.e.*, *tari*, *bagayat*, *rullen*, etc., under which they fall and the reasons for relinquishment in each case ;

(c) If the latter, whether they are used by the village cattle for grazing, and the reasons for the proposal to constitute them reserved forest ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : (a) 45 are waste numbers from the time of disafforestation ; 8 are relinquished ; 3 are forfeited.

(b) 1 Tari,

3 Partly Tari and partly Khuski,

1 Partly Bagayat and partly Khuski,

3 Partly Tari, partly Bagayat and Khuski.

No definite reasons can be assigned for their relinquishment ; the probable reason seems to be that they were isolated patches in the midst of forest.

(c) Some of them are used by village cattle for grazing ; their afforestation will not prevent the cattle from grazing in them. They are proposed for afforestation for the following reasons :—

(i) there is no demand for them for cultivation ;

(ii) they lie within the demarcation line ; and

(iii) they contain valuable tree-growth.

ARTIFICIAL TEAK PLANTATIONS IN KANARA.

* Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) what acreage of forest lands is under artificial teak plantations in Kanara ;

(b) how many such plantations exist in that district and what is the acreage, name and age of each of such plantations ;

(c) what is the estimated cost (maximum and minimum) of artificially regenerating one acre of teak plantation, the estimated period required before it becomes fit for being exploited and the estimated amount realizable per acre when exploited ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Government is aware. The final report of the Commissioner regarding the amount of the damage and the various measures of relief which he considers necessary is yet awaited. In the meanwhile the following orders have been passed :—

(1) That remission be given on the block system.

(2) That free grants of timber be made for rebuilding houses.

(3) That reserved forests should be thrown open for grazing where necessary.

(4) That suspensions of arrears of revenue and takavi be freely given.

(5) That fresh takavi grants be freely made. An additional allotment of Rs. 2,00,000 has been made for this purpose.

Flood Relief Funds have been started at Karachi and other towns.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: A statement† furnishing the information is placed on the Council table.

UNTOUCHABILITY AMONGST UNTOUCHABLES IN KANARA.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether in the schools for depressed classes in the Kanara district, any section of the pupils treat any other section as “untouchables” by refusing to come in contact with them;

(b) whether such treatment obtains between any pupils and their teachers, even when the latter themselves belong to depressed classes?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) It is reported that certain sections such as Hulswars, Chamgars, Bhangis, Mukris and Agers treat one another as untouchable.

(b) No; it is reported, however, that in the depressed class schools attended purely by Mukri and Ager children, the Mukris and Agers refuse to send their children to school if the teacher belongs to a section different from their own, but that they have no objection if the teacher is either a Mahomedan, a Christian, or a Hindu belonging to a higher caste than the Depressed Classes.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: As regards (a), is it not true that it is due to the teaching of the priestly classes?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Government have got no information on that point.

BETTA RULES IN KANARA.

* Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that the new betta rules are regarded as unsatisfactory by the gardeners of the above-ghat talukas of the Kanara district?

(b) Were the opinions of the gardeners consulted before the new betta rules were framed and were the draft rules published to enable them to put in their objections to them?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) The rules have been regarded as unsatisfactory by some gardeners in the Sirsi and Siddapur talukas but have generally been welcomed by gardeners in the Yellapur taluka.

(b) Those gardeners who cared to discuss the subject with the Collector and the Special Forest Settlement Officer were consulted. Several attempts were made to convene meetings of gardeners with a view to discussion; but no meetings could be held as the gardeners refused to attend. Draft rules were not published since the gardeners who object to them have the option of continuing under the betta lease.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 28.

REPRESENTATION TO THE COLLECTOR OF KANARA REGARDING
BETTA RULES.

* MR. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is true that some of the gardeners of Sirsi taluka represented to the Collector when he was touring through the taluka this year that the new betta rules are not satisfactorily workable?

(b) If so, what additions or alterations to the rules were suggested by them?

(c) Has any action been taken by him on all or any of the suggestions made to him? If so, on what points has action been taken, and if these do not cover all the suggestions, why has no action been taken on the remaining points?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) Yes.

(b) The objections raised were:—

† RULE 1.—*Clause (1)*.—The concession is of no use because rayats are charged 2 annas per head of cattle as grazing fees even if they graze them only in betta.

Clause (2).—The bettas being overgrown with *Mimosa Pudica* the concession is illusory.

Clause (3).—This does not cover digging a trench or building a bank all round bettas, which is necessary to protect them especially from fire spreading from Minor Forest while the loppings are drying on the ground. The clause requires the addition of "or for any other agricultural purpose".

Clause (4).—This does not allow burning the whole betta, but burning is confined to the purposes mentioned in clause (3).

Clause (5).—This does not permit the exchange of earth or stones between owners of adjoining bettas which may severally be suitable for different kinds of excavation.

Clause (6) (i).—The restriction against 'in any way injuring' trees of the four reserved kinds prevents burning bettas.

(ii) Trees lawfully cut with the Mamlatdar's permission may not be transported or sawn without permission from Forest Department which involves indefinite delay.

(iii) Of the trees mentioned in the Schedule Nos. 9 and 10 are in those parts almost always planted originally by the betta owners themselves and to levy Rupee 1 fee is unjust. It will be seen that except under clause (3) no additions or alterations to improve the rules were suggested. The objections were directed to explaining why the gardeners refused to accept them.

(c) With reference to the objection to clause (4) the rule has since been amended in the direction desired.

With regard to the 2nd objection to clause (6) a mamlatdar can now issue passes for sawing without consulting the Forest Department.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† Government Notification No. 7198, dated 16th April 1923, publishing the rules and Government Notification No. 7198, dated 4th June 1924, amending clause 4 of rule 1 are appended.

‡ *Vide* Appendix 29.

No pass is required for transit of timber from bettas within the limits of the village in which it is produced.

No further action has been taken as regards the other objections because—

(1) those under clauses (1) and (2) do not relate to the betta rules themselves but to outside matters;

(2) the apprehensions expressed in the other objections were considered to be unfounded since the bettas are under control of the revenue authorities and the Collector was in a position to see that the rules were not interpreted illiberally;

(3) it appeared that the sole real demand was for bettas on malki tenure, and that no other conditions would be accepted; and

(4) the gardeners of Yellapur, whose apprehensions had not been aroused by outside influences, accepted the new rules with alacrity.

SHERKOTDA POLICE LINES.

*Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities):

(a) Will Government be pleased to state whether any proposals have been made to change the site of Sherkotda police lines from Railwayapura to outside Sarangpur Gate?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the estimated cost of the land acquisition involved and the estimated cost of constructing the quarters?

(c) What will be the estimated rent on each tenement, and what amount is now being paid as house-rent to every constable?

(d) Are Government aware that the original site for the Sherkotda police lines, near the Telia Mill, belongs to Government?

(e) Are Government aware that there are other sites available in the vicinity of the proposed site near Kadga Pith and opposite the Purshottam Mill, and that such sites belong to Government although they temporarily vest in the municipality?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a) There are no police lines for the men of the Sherkotda police station.

(b) and (c) The site for the police lines has not yet been finally selected.

(d) The site originally proposed for the police lines near the Telia Mill belongs to Government but has been rejected owing to its very cramped and unhealthy surroundings.

(e) The Purshottam Mill site is unsuitable owing to the proximity of the municipal sanitary tramway. The Kadga Pith Leper Asylum site will not be available till a decision on the removal of the asylum is arrived at. The whole question was recently gone into on the spot by the Home Member.

ONE-YEAR-ONE-STANDARD RULE.

† Dr. M. M. MEHTA (Surat City): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that one effect of the strict

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

adherence to the one-year-one-standard rule by the Educational Department is that a good many promising and intelligent boys are debarred from going up for the I.C.S. examination ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state in how many cases in the high schools in this Presidency, Professor Sharp's recommendation to allow promising intelligent boys to skip over standards at the discretion of the head master has been acted upon during each of the last three years ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) No ; the rule is not strictly enforced in the case of promising boys who deserve more rapid promotion.

(b) There were eight cases in 1921-22, twenty-two in 1922-23 and sixteen in 1923-24, in the Government high schools of this Presidency.

POSTAL ALLOWANCE TO SCHOOL MASTERS.

* Mr. D. R. PATIL (East Khandesh District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any rule in the Educational Department that postal allowance should be given to the first assistant teacher in preference to the head master in a primary school where the latter draws a monthly salary of upwards of Rs. 50 ?

(b) What are the monthly salaries of the head masters and the first assistant teachers in the primary schools at Changdev and Wadhoda in Edlabad peta, respectively ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) There is no such rule in the Educational Department. The postal work is ordinarily done by head masters out of school hours except in cases where they are unfit or unwilling to do the work. In the latter case, the work is usually entrusted to the first assistant. In the Central Division, however, an order was issued by the Educational Inspector in 1920 to the effect that a head master drawing over Rs. 40 per mensem should not ordinarily be appointed as a post master but that in such a case the work should be entrusted to the first assistant.

(b) Head Master, Changdeo, pay Rs. 55 plus 13 + 12 personal allowance.

Head Master, Vadhoda, pay Rs. 55 plus 13 + 12 personal allowance.

First Assistant, Changdeo, pay Rs. 40.

First Assistant, Vadhoda, pay Rs. 44.

At Changdeo, the head master has been in charge of postal work since 5th May 1922, when his pay was less than Rs. 40. At Vadhoda, the present head master has been at the place for over four years. The two trained assistants were sent there over a year ago by way of punishment and hence they could not be rewarded with the postal allowance on their transfer there.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

INDEBTEDNESS OF AGRICULTURISTS.

Mr. D. N. PATEL (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) what is the extent of the present indebtedness of the agricultural population of the Presidency,

(b) whether it is on an increase or decrease,

(c) what steps have been or are intended to be taken by Government to ameliorate the indebtedness of the agriculturists ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) and (b) The honourable member is referred to the replies *to questions put by the honourable member for Poona City (Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar) at the second session of 1924.

(c) Steps have been taken by the Agricultural, Co-operative and the Industries Departments to ameliorate the indebtedness of the agriculturists—the first by introducing improved methods and seed, by extending well irrigation by boring, in order to increase the outturn and returns of agriculture, the second by providing cheap credit and reducing the rate of interest and the last by encouraging subsidiary industries, such as weaving, etc.

Mr. H. H. NARIELVALA : What is the rate of interest ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I believe it varies from 7 per cent. to 8 per cent. on loans given by the Central Co-operative Bank.

GAUGE OF ANDHERI-CHEMBUR RAILWAY.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the gauge of the Andheri-Chembur Railway ?

(b) Are Government aware of any other railway in India of the gauge ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state why this standard was chosen ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR :

(a) 4' 8½".

(b) The construction railways used by the Bombay Port Trust and the City Improvement Trust are of the same gauge.

(c) This gauge was chosen because it is far cheaper than the 5' 6" gauge and the capacity is quite sufficient for construction purposes. It is the same gauge as the tramways, and in addition to using the line for construction work, it is intended to run a tramway service for the convenience of passengers. It may eventually be linked up with the Bombay tramways.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : Is it not a fact that materials were purchased second-hand ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : No.

* Vide Vol. XII, pp. 208 and 209.

REPORT ON LEE COMMISSION'S PROPOSALS.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban District): Will Government be pleased to place on the Council table their report as regards the recommendations of the Lee Commission?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: The correspondence is confidential and Government are not prepared to lay any portion of it on the table.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: May I know whether the Government supported the proposals or disapproved of them?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: I am afraid I cannot give the information.

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISEMENTS IN NEWSPAPERS.

3. Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state in what newspapers Government publish their advertisements?

(b) On what principles are these newspapers selected?

(c) Will they be pleased to state the total amount spent by them on advertisements during each of the following years, viz., 1921, 1922 and 1923?

(d) If Government do not pay for their advertisements at the ordinary rates, what rates are they?

(e) What is the total circulation of each of these papers?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a), (b) and (e) Attention is invited to the reply* given last sessions to the honourable member for Hyderabad, Sind. No special list of selected newspapers is maintained for the Presidency proper.

(c) It is impossible to give the required information without the expenditure of more time and trouble than would seem to be justified by its public utility.

(d) No special rates have been fixed.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: Is it not possible to find out the total cost of advertisements in the whole of the Presidency?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: It will mean an examination of the records of every office in the Presidency.

RAISING QUOTA OF INDIAN TERRITORIAL FORCE FOR NASIK DISTRICT.

† Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): With reference to my question asked in the last session regarding the branch committee of the Indian Territorial Force for the district of Nasik, and the reply given thereto, will Government be pleased to state what suitable measures the Administrative Commandant and Adjutant of the Territorial Battalion have decided to adopt to raise the quota for the district of Nasik?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: The Administrative Commandant held a conference with the branch committee

* Printed in the 5th list of the last session.

† This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

on the 29th July and explained matters not previously understood. The members of the committee expressed a hope that they would be able to obtain recruits. This hope has not been fulfilled, an invitation to join the committee has since been extended to the honourable member.

BUILDING GRANT FOR LOCAL BOARD SCHOOL AT DABHADI,
TALUKA MALEGAON.

* Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to state whether it is true that they have promised a building grant for the local board school at Dabhadi, taluka Malegaon, district Nasik? If so, has the grant been made? If not, why not?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The answer is in the negative.

APPLICATION OF PUBLIC CONVEYANCES ACT TO CHANDAWAD.

* Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that considerable dissatisfaction has been caused among the people of Chandawad in the Nasik district by the application of the Public Conveyances Act to the Chandawad-Lasalgaon road?

(b) Have Government received from the people any petition urging that the application of the Act to the road should be withdrawn, and, if so, what action have they taken thereon?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: One petition of objection was received before but none after final publication of the Notification applying the Act.

HINDOO PRAJAPAR SARVE DISHAETHI BHAYANKAR AKRAMAN.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA (Bombay City): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether their attention has been drawn to a leading article appearing at pages 5 and 6 of the *Ismaili*, dated the 7th September 1924, regarding a handbill styled "Hindoo Prajapar Sarve Dishaeethi Bhayankar Akraman" dated the 23rd August 1924, printed at the Bombay Vaibhav Press and published by Narayan Purshottam Sangani over the signature of the latter and eighty-one others?

(b) If so, are Government aware that this handbill has aroused feelings of resentment in the Mahomedan community?

(c) If so, do Government intend to take any action in the matter?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a) Yes.

(b) Except for the article which appeared in the *Ismaili* of the 7th September 1924, Government are not aware that the handbill in question aroused feelings of resentment of any widespread character among the Mahomedan community.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

(c) In view of the fact that Government had under consideration, at the time the handbill was brought to their notice, the issue of a general warning against the publication of articles designed deliberately to accentuate the differences prevalent between the Hindu and Mahomedan communities, they did not deem it necessary to take any special action in respect of this particular handbill. A copy † of the warning which was issued on the 11th October 1924 is placed on the table.

MOULVI RAFI UDDIN AHMAD : May I ask what is the standard of "resentment of a widespread character among the Mahomedan community" which Government lay down?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I cannot lay down any standard for the honourable member.

TALUKA AND DISTRICT LOCAL BOARDS IN SURAT DISTRICT.

* Mr. R. D. SHINDE on behalf of Mr. H. B. Shivdasani (Surat District) : Will Government be pleased to state (a) the qualifications of voters for the taluka and district local boards in the Surat district—

- (i) in the year 1922, and
- (ii) now.

(b) The number of voters for each of the taluka and district local boards respectively in the Surat district—

- (i) in the year 1922, and
- (ii) now.

(c) The number of polling stations for the local boards elections in each taluka—

- (i) in the year 1922, and
- (ii) now.

(d) The number of villages in each taluka at a distance of more than five miles from the polling station—

- (i) in the year 1922, and
- (ii) now.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : (a) A reply † was given to this part of the question in the last session of the Council.

(b), (c) and (d) The accompanying statement § furnishes the information asked for.

EXPENDITURE ON PHOTO-COPYING.

* Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the costs incurred by Government since the introduction of the photo-copying system in the Registration Department on the purchases of machinery and chemicals required for that purpose ?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 31.

‡ *Vide* Vol. XIII, pp. 541, 542.

§ *Vide* Appendix 32.

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the expenditure incurred on the erection of the buildings required for the photo-copying work since the introduction of that system ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state the head or heads of the Civil Estimates under which the expenditure mentioned in (a) and (b) is shown ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : (a) From May 1921 to September 1924, Rs. 20,393.

(b) From May 1921 to September 1924, Rs. 9,605.

(c) The expenditure on chemicals from May 1921 to March 1923 in the initial stages of the experiment was borne on the grants of the Photo-zincographic Press. The following provision was made in the budget estimates for the years 1923-24 and 1924-25 :—

1923-24.

Rs. 10,000 for photo-
shed.
Rs. 2,600 for apparatus.
Rs. 9,000 for chemicals,
etc.

Included in the provision for "Office expenses and Miscellaneous" under "9-B—Registration."

Shown under the head Revised Estimates for 1923-24 under "9—Registration" in the statement of expenditure in England under the control of the High Commissioner for India at page 237 of the Civil Budget Estimates for 1924-25.

Rs. 4,000 for exchange ..

Shown under the head Revised Estimates for 1923-24 against the minor head "Exchange" of the major head "9—Registration" in the Civil Budget Estimates for 1924-25.

1924-25.

Rs. 1,000 for local purchase of stores.

Included in the provision for "Office expenses and Miscellaneous" under the head "9-B—Registration."

Rs. 7,000 for chemicals,
etc.

Entered under the head "9-B—Registration" in the statement of expenditure in England under the control of the High Commissioner for India at page 237 of the Civil Budget Estimates for 1924-25.

Rs. 3,000 for Exchange ..

Entered under the minor head "Exchange" under the major head "9—Registration".

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : May I know whether the item for chemicals which was thrown out by the Council last session has been included in the amount of expenditure shown ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: No.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: May I know whether the Honourable Minister took into consideration in making a provision for chemicals in this year's budget the fact that the House shows a general disapproval of the photo-copying system during the last session?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Does that question arise out of this question, Sir?

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: There is a provision made, Sir, for chemicals etc., in this year's budget. Last year there was a discussion about the photo-copying system and a general disapproval of it was shown by this side of the House and I ask whether that fact was taken into consideration by the Honourable Minister when this year a provision was made for the chemicals.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: How does it arise out of this reply?

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: Because the provision has been made in spite of the criticism passed by the Council.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: There is a definite question asked and the total expenditure is given. If the honourable member wants he can send in a separate question.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN: May I know whether photo-zinco is attached to any office or an independent establishment?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: There is practically an independent office and is attached to the building of the printing press.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN: Does the amount of Rs. 10,000 referred to in the reply for office and miscellaneous expenses refer to that particular establishment?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: It refers to the expenditure on photo-zinco.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR: May I know whether the figure of Rs. 7,000 for chemicals in 1924-25 represents the amount that was rejected by the Council last year?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: I shall have to find that out. I am inclined to think it is not.

CADASTRAL SURVEYORS.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the services of certain circle inspectors of the Revenue Departments were transferred to the Survey Department about the year 1918 as measurer circle inspectors which designation was later altered to the "cadastral surveyors"?

(b) Whether the scales of pay of revenue circle inspectors and the cadastral surveyors are different?

(c) If so, whether it is a fact that the revenue circle inspectors have better prospects than the cadastral surveyors? If so, what are the

grounds for such inequality of prospects for persons whose prospects were originally the same ?

(d) Is the qualifying test for the posts of maintenance surveyors employed in the city surveys higher than that of the cadastral surveyors employed in the Survey Department ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) Certain posts of circle inspectors in the Land Revenue Department were reduced and their incumbents transferred to the Land Records Department as special measurer circle inspectors which designation was later altered to cadastral surveyors. If this service had not been available to them, they would have been discharged.

(b) The scale of pay of each class of officers is—

Circle Inspectors—Rs. 30—5/2—80,

Cadastral Surveyors—Rs. 35—5/2—70.

(c) Yes. The circle inspectors are expected to be better educated with more all round ability than the cadastral surveyors who are a slightly less educated and qualified cadre.

(d) There is no such 'test' but the maintenance surveyors are selected and expected to be rather better men.

TYPING FUND IN CIVIL COURTS.

* Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District): Will Government be pleased to state the total amount of typing fund lying with the several civil courts in the Satara district at the end of each year since the introduction of the system of supplying typed copies ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: The balances were—

| | | | Rs. | a. | p. |
|--------------------|----|----|-------|----|----|
| on 31st March 1917 | .. | .. | 265 | 4 | 6 |
| on 31st March 1918 | .. | .. | 688 | 11 | 1 |
| on 31st March 1919 | .. | .. | 936 | 14 | 10 |
| on 31st March 1920 | .. | .. | 1,592 | 12 | 3 |
| on 31st March 1921 | .. | .. | 2,378 | 0 | 2 |
| on 31st March 1922 | .. | .. | 2,904 | 15 | 6 |
| on 31st March 1923 | .. | .. | 2,992 | 9 | 2 |
| on 31st March 1924 | .. | .. | 2,849 | 9 | 9 |

There is only one fund kept for the whole district.

POLICE OUTPOST AT AGAR BAZAAR, DADAR.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the police outpost at Agar Bazaar, Dadar, Bombay city, has been abolished ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state whether the abolition is temporary or intended to be permanent ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: The police outpost in question has been abolished since the introduction of the patrol system

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

in the year 1923. The reinstatement of the outpost is being considered along with the proposals regarding the "combined patrols and fixed posts system".

Mr. A. N. SURVE: May I know how long will it take to complete the consideration of this question?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I cannot say.

Mr. A. N. SURVE: Are Government aware of the inconvenience caused to the public?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: The consideration of the matter indicates that.

LAC PRODUCTION IN FORESTS.

Mr. V. A. SURVE (Ratnagiri District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have made any experiments as regards introduction of methods of producing lac in the forests of this Presidency?

(b) If not, do they intend to take any action in this connection?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) and (b) Attempts are being made to propagate lac in the Hyderabad and Karachi divisions but hitherto they have not met with any success. The results of the experiments are recorded in the annual Forest Administration Reports (please see page 28 of the Report for 1920-21 and also pages 17 and 20 of the Reports for 1921-22 and 1922-23, respectively).

SILTING UP OF NALLAS AND RIVULETS IN RATNAGIRI DISTRICT.

Mr. V. A. SURVE (Ratnagiri District): Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that nallas and rivulets in the Ratnagiri district have silted up and consequently the storm water flowing through them spreads and damages the fields on the sides of the nallas?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Government are not aware that nallas and rivulets in the Ratnagiri district have silted up. The country being very hilly, all the smaller streams and rivulets have a very steep fall with the result that flood water rushes down with great force and deposit of silt is generally out of the question. Where, of course, bunds or dharans are constructed across streams for irrigational purposes a certain amount of silt deposit must occur on the up-stream side of such bunds which are not provided with outlets for silt clearance.

FLAG STATIONS ON BROACH-JAMBUSAR RAILWAY.

* The THAKOR OF AMOD (Northern Division): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether any standard has been laid down by which the necessity or otherwise of providing regular stations on the Broach-Jambusar Railway is determined?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

(b) If so, does the amount of traffic at the two flag stations on that railway at Dayadra and Tanchha satisfy that standard ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) No standard has been laid down. Each case is considered on its merits.

(b) Booking offices for passenger traffic are being provided at Tanchha and Dayadra flag stations. It is, however, not proposed to open these stations for goods booking, as Dayadra flag-station is only $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles away from Tralsamadh station where facilities for goods booking already exist, and Tanchha flag-station is five miles from Amod and $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Samni, which are also goods booking stations.

Budget debate resumed.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Budget discussion.

Mr. R. D. SHINDE (Nasik District) : Sir, I wish to make a few observations on the budget proposals for the next year. I may say at the outset that the budget of the Government of Bombay makes a very sorry reading. I must compare this with the budget of a spendthrift who is lavish in his expenditure and whose income is not in proportion to his expenditure. Sir, the expenditure for the administration of the several departments of Government has been increasing steadily for the last ten years. If honourable members look into the budget on page 33 of the Blue Book they will find that even against the revised estimate of 1924-25, the expenditure in the budget for 1925-26 is in excess by one crore and 45 lakhs. The Council had on two or three occasions made it perfectly clear to Government that they should retrench their expenditure and as a result of that Government did make retrenchments to some extent about 60 lakhs of rupees at one time and about 22 lakhs on another occasion. The expenditure, especially on the General Administration, Land Revenue, Public Works and Irrigation, has mounted up considerably. In the General Administration, especially in the Secretariat, secretaries, assistant secretaries and deputy secretaries have been doubled within the last 3 or 4 years. In the Public Works Department the number of superior officers is much larger than is needed for the requirements of that department. Added to this there is in the next year an increase given to the superior service as a result of the recommendations of the Lee Commission. I think it is too late in the day to discuss the constitutional aspect of this question, namely, the action of Government in appointing the Lee Commission as well as giving effect to its recommendations, practically against the unanimous wish of the non-official members elsewhere and in this House. I wish to submit to the Council that the Government and the Lee Commission have ignored one important factor, namely, the capacity of the taxpayer to pay for these superior services. Under the limitations imposed by the Government of India Act, Sir, the non-official side has limited power in voting as well as in touching the pay and the numerous allowances of these superior officers. Expression of resentment has already been given by several honourable members that they cannot touch a single pie of the pay and allowances, such as house allowance,

[Mr. R. D. Shinde]

duty allowance, passage allowance, marriage allowance—and I do not know whether there is a honeymoon allowance for young officers—of these officers. What we have to do is simply to vote. I am afraid we cannot do that but what we can do is to pay them as taxpayers and sit still. My submission is that, unless Government retrench their expenditure on establishments to a considerable extent, this House will not be a party to put any more burden on the taxpayers.

On the revenue side of the budget the first item that attracts attention is the estimates for the land revenue. Honourable members will see that this figure of 5,60 lakhs that has been put is the highest on record. It has not been realised in any year in the past. My submission is that Government cannot expect to realise such a high estimate of land revenue. There is plenty of evidence for that statement. The Honourable the Finance Member has candidly admitted that in the past concessions in the way of suspensions and remissions have been given to a considerable extent and to my mind that is sufficient evidence that Government have, and they are doing it now, pitched the land revenue figure to a considerable extent, far beyond the capacity of the agriculturists to pay. There is also another side to that picture. And that is this, that when the Finance Department puts the estimate at that high figure, the district officers who obey the fiat the Finance Department set in motion the whole Government machinery to collect that amount. We in the mofussil know that when the district officers get to know that such an amount has got to be collected from their districts, they send orders to their subordinate officers. The omnipotent and omniscient talati as well as that creature known as the mamlatdar go round and in the secret dark of the night make reports about the probable crop, and as a result of that estimate the budget figures are made sometimes in December, that is long before the crop is ripe. My submission is that the whole procedure is erroneous and causes extreme hardship to the agriculturists. The estimates are based on the reports of crops when they are in the field, and very little allowance is made for subsequent damages caused by cold weather such as we had this year. The Honourable the Finance Member says in his speech that when the year is bad there are suspensions, and when there are continued suspensions there are remissions. But I submit, Sir, that is a very theoretical proposition, and does not represent what is being actually done in the districts. And if it were done I assure Government that there would have been very few complaints about it.

There are one or two other points as regards the collection of land revenue. The land revenue is collected at a time when prices of food-grains are the lowest in the year. The agriculturists have not to pay land revenue in kind : they have to pay it in cash. And what do they do? They bring all their produce to the market at the same time, and as a result the whole market is glutted with the produce and prices naturally fall down, and the agriculturists get very little return for their toil of eight months in the fields ; and what they do get they spend in paying land revenue. The mamlatdars and other officers, of course,

[Mr. R. D. Shinde]

use all sorts of means, from mild persuasions to harsh attachments, but the Honourable Member in charge sitting in the Secretariat may tell us that there are no difficulties in collecting land revenue and that the agriculturists voluntarily agreed to give up what they had earned by toil of eight months, by way of land revenue, and have agreed to starve peacefully. My submission is that this state of affairs must be looked into and the pitch of assessment must be settled as quickly as possible.

As regards the excise revenue, the Honourable the Finance Member has uttered a threat that in view of the policy of prohibition which the Government of Bombay have adopted, the receipts will be falling and the House should be prepared to vote additional money. I will remind the House that such a threat has been before them for the last three or four years, but the receipts under the head show a different tale. We find, on the contrary, that the receipts have been steadily increasing. I would tell the Honourable the Finance Member that when he does show to the House that there is an actual decrease or falling off in the excise revenue, then the House will agree to vote the additional necessary money and not till then. The Honourable the Finance Member has been, to my mind, brutally frank in placing before the House an alternative, that if the House does not vote the additional taxation, the money that will be necessary for the beneficent activities of Government, such as education and medical relief, will not be forthcoming. But I ask the Honourable the Finance Member in all humility whether he consulted the honourable House in piling up expenditure on the establishments. The real deficit to my mind is not due to expenditure of funds on the transferred departments, but is due to the heavy expenditure on the establishments. And I do not think this House will agree to new taxation on the score that the money is now going to be paid to the transferred departments for being spent for such beneficent activities such as aids to local boards and municipalities.

There is one more point I wish to urge, though that does not affect the budget which we are discussing, but affects the policy of Government. The non-Brahmin party in the Council have been urging upon Government that they should recruit non-Brahmins for all the services, and I am glad to see that on the eve of the opening of the Council they have circulated fresh orders on the subject. But those orders are inadequate, because they do not affect the higher services. No reference has been made in those orders to the higher services. My submission is that the same principle which they want to apply in the case of the lower services, such as the clerical and subordinate services, should be applied to the higher services also. Sir, the non-Brahmin party do not make this demand, I may tell you, in a mood of begging. They, the backward classes, form the bulk of the population of the presidency, and they pay the major part of the taxes of the provincial government. I am sure no one will deny that we, the non-Brahmins or the backward classes, are entitled to a substantial share of the public services. But, Sir, when we make that demand we have got to see the facts in their face. Since the British

[Mr. R. D. Shinde]

occupation in India all these appointments have been practically monopolised by a very small community, and that community has been raising howls against our just demands. And even when tardy recognition of our claims is made by Government, as we saw yesterday and the day before, there are howls raised. We saw it yesterday in connexion with the appointment of a non-Brahmin as a deputy educational inspector and the deputation of three or four teachers to the secondary training college. It is not disputed that they are not qualified. May I ask those who call themselves Nationalists and Swarajists one plain question, *e.g.*, whether they do want or whether they do not want the backward classes to progress. Would they oppose the just rights of the non-Brahmins to a share in the public services? Up to this time they have monopolised all the services, and when once, through circumstances, a qualified non-Brahmin gets entrance in the public services, I do not understand why they should raise such a howl as they did yesterday when they tried to heckle the Honourable the Minister for Education. Nearly 90 per cent. of the posts in the educational department are held by Brahmins. The office of the Director of Public Instruction, I may say, is a holy ground. When one or two non-Brahmins tried to enter it, they were unceremoniously hustled out of it. That is also the case in the case of the secondary training colleges. Those persons who are deputed to undergo training there are generally senior men who entered service when there were few candidates from the backward communities. Under the rules of the department generally those who are trained in secondary training college get appointments in the higher posts. If Government find that they want a certain number of non-Brahmins to be available for appointment to the higher posts, and if they depute even a junior man who has entered the department recently, I do not think, in view of the fact that the Brahmins and the forward communities have monopolised all the higher appointments, it is doing any injustice to them.

Under these circumstances, Sir, the policy which Government have adopted is a very beneficial one and that they should extend it even to the higher appointments and that selfish cries of the vested interests should not deter them from pursuing that policy.

Mr. V. N. JOG (Dharwar District): Sir, last year the Honourable the Finance Member at the time of his speech invited us to contribute towards the prudent management of the province whether our contribution was small or great. This time that invitation has not been given to us, because the Honourable the Finance Member does not mind to, or cannot prudently manage, the province. I submit, Sir, Government being so very able and containing wise statesmen, I am not inclined to believe that it is unable to manage this province prudently, but it seems that it is not the mind of Government to manage the province prudently. No one can deny that if a province is to be managed prudently, it is axiomatically true that we must try to curtail expenditure so as to live within our means. But we actually find from the budget that this year the Honourable the Finance Member has shown a deficit of 41 lakhs and he is not going to curtail expenditure in any way, but he wants us

[Mr. V. N. Jog]

to give these 41 lakhs of rupees by taxing us further. So in this connection I submit, Sir, that Government is not resorting to the ways of a prudent statesman, namely that the expenditure should be made suitable to our revenues. This can be illustrated very clearly from the various figures which have been quoted by the Honourable the Finance Member himself on pages 35, 36 and 37 of the Blue Book. Taking the figures from 1910-11, it appears that our revenue in the year 1915-16 and up to the year 1915-16 was within eight crores, and expenditure was also below that sum. Then there was a gradual rise in revenue up to 9 and 10 crores till 1918-19, and till then our expenditure was within our limits. We were saving up to the year 1918-19. Then you will find, Sir, in the year 1920-21 Government spent more. The revenue was 1,158 lakhs and it spent 1,293 lakhs and in the year 1921-22 again attempted to spend more than its revenue. In the year 1921-22 Government wanted to spend 1,554 lakhs whereas the revenue was 1,389 lakhs, but at that time this House was determined not to allow Government to spend more and the result was that it had to cut down the expenditure by 60 lakhs, and in the very next year the expenditure began to come down. The revenue for 1922-23 was 1,422 lakhs and expenditure 1,249 lakhs, *i.e.*, they saved more than a crore and a half. This went on for two years more, that is up to 1924-25. But what we find again in 1925-26 is that the revenue is less than the Government wishes to spend for the year. It is only 15 crores and little more, whereas the expenditure is 16 crores or something like that. Now in this connection what I wish to suggest is that the best way would be, instead of spending more, we should try to curtail our expenditure and that would be done by reducing the expenditure in many ways. Because to my mind I find, Sir, that in many departments there is a waste in expenditure. Especially I can quote certain instances from the Forest Department in which I find that there is a great deal of waste.

I will only take certain instances from that department. From that part of the Presidency from which I come, namely, the Southern Division, you will find, Sir, that there are many schemes of the Forest Department which have been failures. For instance I may quote the Forest Engineering Department which is nothing but a wasteful department. The adventures of this department can be compared to those of Don Quixote. I can quote a number of instances so that the Honourable Minister for Forest and Excise, if he carefully goes into these matters, will ultimately concur with me. I am not going into details or quoting several instances as regards this expenditure, because I want to reserve my remarks on this head to the time of demands for grants. But I will quote only the heads of the adventures on which money was or is being uselessly spent.

The first is Dandeli-Potoli railway. In reply to my interpellation it was said that this railway was taken in hand because it was thought profitable, but when I asked why it was stopped, it was said that it was stopped because it was considered unprofitable. Honourable members will remember that this project was taken up in the year 1922 and finished

[Mr. V. N. Jog]

in the year 1924. The administration report of the Forest Department for the year 1923 says that the railway is nearing completion. But in reply to my interpellation in the year 1924 it was stated that the railway is given up. The House will see, Sir, that nearly two lakhs of rupees have been spent upon surveying and excavation and in setting up the line, and now the whole railway is abandoned. I cannot understand, Sir, why this railway was undertaken at all. The railway was undertaken without at first having any guarantee from the Southern Maratha Railway Company that they would buy the fuel, and when the railway company did not buy the fuel the whole concern had to be given up and you will see, Sir, that if proper steps had been taken from the very beginning to ascertain the wishes of the railway company as to whether they would buy the fuel and a guarantee that they would buy for certain number of years this undertaking ought not to have been undertaken at all. Then there are other adventures which the Forest Department has undertaken and all of them are failures more or less. For instance the mono-railway and also the Kaneri river scheme which has cost Rs. 50,000 and there is not one pie worth of return from that scheme.

Then there is the Dandeli-Alnawar railway. I am told the capital expenditure for this railway is 9 lakhs and we have to lose every year to the extent of Rs. 50,000. A single full train cannot run daily on that side. When this railway was being commenced many experts on that side and also the public suggested that the railway should not be taken through that uninhabited tract, that it should run through certain populated villages and that it should not be confined only to the transport of fuel and timber but that there should also be passenger traffic. That advice was not taken advantage of, and now you will find, Sir, that there are not sufficient passengers for the railway and the railway is running at a loss. Similarly it can be said of Bommanhalli causeway. The cost of this project has gone up to nearly eighty thousand rupees. It was projected with the intention of exploiting certain territory. But it has now been found that there is nothing to be exploited and the causeway is not used by anybody. That shows, Sir, that this causeway was not required at all. But it seems that the highly paid officers who wanted shikar and good roads for their motor cars to have pleasant trips have anyhow managed to get this causeway prepared there and they have actually wasted nearly Rs. 80,000 for nothing. Then, similarly with regard to the various appliances by which the timber is taken out of the forests. There are motor tractors which have been ordered and which have been lying waste. Such a motor tractor we can find even now at Tavargatti station lying there. There is a Petter oil engine which is lying there and similar wasteful contracts have been undertaken by this department. I can quote, for instance, the sleeper contract with the G. I. P. Railway. Many of the sleepers, I am told, were condemned and the sleepers cost even more to the department than they actually fetched. Similar is the case in my part with regard to the saw mills—the saw mills at Dandeli

[Mr. V. N. Jog]

and at Sambrani. The administration report will show that the saw mill at Dandeli is causing a loss of Rs. 15,000 every year and the one at Sambrani also is causing a loss of Rs. 18,000. These figures I am quoting from the Forest Department's administration report for 1922-23. These are the illustrations which I give from my part; the illustrations might be similar in other parts of the presidency. We find that if the Government would carefully consider the plans beforehand and see that the expenditure is brought within proper limits, then there would be no necessity to come forward and say "we want more revenue". The same can also be said with regard to other departments. Take, for instance, the Excise Department. No doubt this year's report says that preventive staff should be manned more numerically. But whatever that may be, I am inclined, Sir, to believe that there is no question of increasing the staff. On the contrary, it is necessary to cut down this staff. There are various superintendents and inspectors whose number can very well stand reduction.

Then, coming to the Judicial Department, I will quote only one instance, Sir, as to how money has been spent unnecessarily, and that instance is that of an ordinary case which was being conducted in the Dharwar district. It was a case of riot, a case from Madalgeri in which the accused being rich men wanted to have the luxury of calling in the services of a counsel. If the accused had that luxury, why should Government go in for such a luxury and engage a special counsel from Bombay paying about Rs. 500 per day? It was an ordinary case and it could ordinarily be conducted by the public prosecutor of the district. He is a B.A., LL.B. and a man of 25 years' standing. He has got five LL.B.'s under him to assist him. Any one of them could look after the work. But, in spite of that, Government spent at the rate of about Rs. 500 per day, the case went on for ten days and they had to spend Rs. 5,000 there, and just now I find that the case has been taken to the High Court for appeal. Not only the public prosecutor, but even the sub-inspector concerned have come here to instruct the counsel in Bombay. Why so much waste? In appeal I do not think that two persons are necessary to give instructions. There is the record and the Government Pleader here can very well go through the record and be able to conduct that case.

So, Sir, if Government would reduce their wasteful expenditure, then there would be no need for further taxation. We have been crying since long that the administration is top-heavy and that the posts of the supervisors in the various departments should be cut down. Before Government makes out a case for further taxation, I would ask them whether all the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee have been followed. A Retrenchment Committee had been appointed and after much labour and thought it has made its report. Unless those recommendations have been considered and given effect to, I think Government have no right whatsoever to come forward and say "We want more money and that money should be provided".

[Mr. V. N. Jog]

I will close my observations with one remark as to whether the budget is just to all. As I read the budget, I have to make the same complaint which my honourable friend Mr. Kambli made yesterday, namely that that portion of the country which is called the Karnatak has from the beginning been ignored. Its wants have never been taken into consideration at all. For instance, Bijapur is so very peculiarly situated that either the eastern rains or the western rains do not reach it and once in every three years we have got a famine there. Yet no irrigation scheme or any other schemes which would relieve the distress in that part of the country has ever been thought of. It is not that that district has got no rivers. There are four rivers which pass through this district, the Ghataprabha, the Malaprabha, the Krishna and the Bhima, yet we have got no scheme to relieve these people from the hardships of famine. Is this justice to this part of the country. Similar is the case with certain talukas of the Dharwar district. I do not want to dwell longer upon it, but what is the feeling as to how that part is treated can only be seen from the fact that this year all the Kanarese districts met in December at Belgaum and appointed a committee to consider the steps and ways as to how they should achieve to have a different province altogether for themselves. That feeling is itself evidence as to how this matter is being felt in that part of the country. In short, I want to appeal to this House that whatever fears might have been raised by reading the speech of the Finance Member, let us with firm and resolute mind determine to curtail expenditure wherever it is unnecessary and not be frightened out of our wits by the threat of "No advance in nation-building departments without more money", and let us with one voice tell Government that no further taxation unless the expenditure is reduced and the retrenchment recommended is fully given effect to.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA (Bombay City): Mr. President, last year during the budget discussion the budget was called a prosperity budget. Judging from that standard, the budget presented this year must be called an adversity budget, because there is a deficit of 41 lakhs and fresh taxation is proposed. In this connection, Sir, I would like to mention that I have tried to study the budget very carefully, but I must confess that I have found it almost an impossible task to understand the figures given and the groupings made. I found very great difficulty as a layman to understand the budget. I would suggest to the Government and specially to the two Indian Members of the Executive Council who are ex-presidents of the Bombay Municipal corporation, to consider the advisability of having our budget on the form of the Bombay municipal budget if possible, and to separate the capital and the ordinary budget. This, I hope, will help the members greatly.

Another suggestion which I want to make is that the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member, which is printed, should be circulated along with the budget so that we will have more time to study it.

[Mr. Hoozenally M. Rahimtoola]

Well, Sir, I have carefully read and read over and over again the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member, but I must say that I am entirely dissatisfied with it. If I were to refute the arguments and the fallacies underlying and the vicious circle in which the arguments move, I would require at least as much time as the Honourable the Finance Member took to deliver his speech. But the time at my disposal is very short and I would therefore confine myself to only a very few points.

Sir, one of the important principles of finance is that Government should not take from the people more than they can spend in a year. Last year, on the revised estimates, Government expected a surplus of Rs. 25 lakhs on the budget of 1923-24, but the actual surplus has been Rs. 109 lakhs. This year they expect a deficit of Rs. 18 lakhs, and it is a queer coincidence that in February last year this Council rejected additional taxation to the extent of Rs. 18 lakhs and we get a deficit of Rs. 18 lakhs in the budget. For the next year, there is an expected deficit of Rs. 41 lakhs. There is another sound principle of finance, and that is that if you have taken more from the people in one year, you should return to the people that surplus which you have taken from them, during the next year. Government are very conservative in framing their estimates. They generally under-estimate revenue and over-estimate expenditure. [The Honourable Mr. H. S. Lawrence : Land Revenue ?] This is borne out by the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member himself. I would refer him to page 2 of his printed speech where he says : " it will perhaps be generally recognised that it is better to have an error on the side of caution, that it is better to have a budget which ends with a substantial balance...." I therefore conclude that, instead of having a deficit this year, we will have a surplus, and also a surplus next year. In case there is a small deficit, it ought to be met from the surplus of the year 1923-24, and no fresh taxation should be imposed, because Government ought to return to the people what extra they have taken from them during previous years.

Now, I come to the remarks of the Honourable the Finance Member about law and order, and I would refer him to the appendix which he has appended to his printed speech. There we find that during the four years 1921-22 to 1924-25, they have spent about Rs. 44,40,00,000 on Development Departments and Rs. 28,61,00,000 on Law and Order Departments. Now, Sir, the Development Departments include the Bombay Development scheme. The Bombay Development scheme is an extraordinary and temporary expenditure ; it is not a permanent expenditure. This expenditure will be recouped in after years. Therefore, if we deduct the Rs. 13 crores for Bombay Development scheme from the Rs. 44 crores odd spent for all the Development Departments, we get a figure of Rs. 31 crores, which gives an average for each year of Rs. 7,84,00,000 for Development Departments and the average for the second department, namely, Law and Order is Rs. 7,15,00,000. That means that Government have been spending annually Rs. 69 lakhs more in the first department than in the second department. Therefore, the

[Mr. Hoosenally M. Rahimtoola]

increase of 79 per cent. in the Development Departments is illusory. The real basis to arrive at the figure is to separate capital from ordinary expenditure, and work out the figures, and those figures will be the figures on which we can base our judgment. I hope the Honourable the Finance Member will work out those figures and give them to the House in his reply to-morrow.

Now, Sir, I come to Law and Order. It is said that for the proper government of the country and the advancement of the people, law and order must be maintained, and that they are necessary before advancement can be achieved. But do Government know why they have to incur such heavy expenditure in maintaining law and order? The real reason is that Government have entirely neglected the economic uplift of the people, and have done very little for the economic improvement of the people. The agriculturists are weighed down with taxation; our merchants and industrialists receive very little help; on the contrary, hindrances have been put in their way, and no encouragement has been given to them. Government have gone on increasing liquor shops and thus put temptation in the way of the people. Then, against the wishes and the protests of the house and the people they have allowed the Turf Club to increase its revenue by opening a third enclosure. Not only that, but the real needs of the people in the shape of railway carriages for attending *jatras* are not provided for, but for attending the races third class special trains are run. This leads to the ruination of the people. The result is starvation, and that leads to crime. People cannot remain starving for long. They do not like to steal, but there is no alternative before them but to do so; they know that they will have to go to jail, but they also know that there in the jail they will get something to eat.

Now, Sir, I will come to another point. I have worked out figures of the population, the revenue, and the expenditure of the various provinces of India, and what do we find from those figures? The population of the Punjab is about 2 crores, the revenue is Rs. 10 crores and the expenditure is Rs. 10 crores; the average comes to Rs. 5 per head of population. In Madras the population is over 4 crores, the revenue is Rs. 16 crores, and the expenditure is Rs. 16 crores; the average expenditure comes to less than Rs. 4 per head. In the Central Provinces the population is 1,39,00,000, the revenue is Rs. 6 crores 27 lakhs, the expenditure is Rs. 5 crores 29 lakhs; the average expenditure per head is less than Rs. 4. In the United Provinces the population is Rs. 4 crores 52 lakhs, the revenue is Rs. 12 crores and the expenditure is Rs. 12 crores; the average expenditure per head is less than Rs. 3. In Assam the population is 76 lakhs, the revenue Rs. 2 crores 25 lakhs, the expenditure is Rs. 2 crores 29 lakhs; the average expenditure per head is about Rs. 3. Lastly, in Bengal the population is 4 crores 66 lakhs, the revenue is Rs. 10 crores 29 lakhs, the expenditure is Rs. 10 crores 3 lakhs, the average expenditure per head is about Rs. 2. I want to know from Government why, when other provincial Governments have spent only about Rs. 2 to Rs. 5 per head of population, Bombay spends Rs. 8, and still they are not satisfied, but want more money. Is it because they are giving greater facilities and greater

[Mr. Hoosenally M. Rahimtoola]

services than the other provinces of India? Are they unique in this respect? The people of the Bombay Presidency are paying from twice to four times as much as the people of the other provinces of India, and still the Government of Bombay are not satisfied. They want more and more money every year and want to impose new taxation every year. How long is this to continue? I want to know, Sir, from the Honourable Ministers who are representatives of the people how they can tolerate such a position. How can they come and insist that they want still more money from this House? With these words, Sir, I resume my seat.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts): Mr. President, I have read and also listened to the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member and I find that the dominant note that runs through the whole speech is that, unless fresh sources of taxation are sanctioned by this House, the whole presidency will be faced with bankruptcy. He draws a very lurid picture when the excise revenue will disappear, and tries to make out a case for the two taxation bills. Taking your advice I shall reserve my remarks with regard to those two bills till they are actually presented to the Council. For the present I shall confine my remarks to a general discussion of the budget, and also take the hint of the Finance Secretary and point out where we want improvements in the White Book and Blue Book.

There are certain graphs appended to the budget and these graphs afford interesting reading. We find that the revenue has been steadily growing up and though the expenditure was kept below the revenue for some years we find that during the last few years, the expenditure has gone beyond the revenue. I will first point out to the Honourable the Finance Secretary my grievances as regards the Blue Book and the White Book. I am speaking subject to correction. I find that several allowances, such as house allowance, travelling allowance, payable to the all-India services are made non-votable. I have carefully read section 72D, clauses 3 and 4. I do not know whether salary includes the different allowances payable to the all-India services. If that is the decision of His Excellency given according to the Act, that decision has not been communicated to us. The next sub-section says that the decision of His Excellency will be final on the point. If we are informed that it is the final decision of His Excellency, it will set at rest our minds once for all. The section says:

"salaries and pensions of persons appointed by or with the approval of His Majesty or by the Secretary of State;"

I understand that these travelling and house allowances are not part of the salary. Leave aside the Lee Commission allowances, but allowances like compensatory allowances, and house allowances have been made non-votable. Thus a limitation has been imposed on the powers of this Council and what has been given by one hand has been taken away by another. The next sub-section says:

"If any question arises whether any proposed appropriation of moneys does or does not relate to the above heads of expenditure, the decision of the Governor shall be final."

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

I raise this question in the event that it has not been previously decided, and if decided, for reconsideration.

The second grievance is this. The Honourable the Finance Member in the Finance Committee asked me to raise this question in this House. There are provisions made for temporary establishments in the Blue Book. These temporary establishments are parasites sapping the growth of the parent tree, and this portion of the establishment appears year after year. They are never shown as extraordinary or additional items of expenditure. Neither the consent of the House nor of the finance committee is taken for any particular temporary establishment. These temporary establishments become gradually permanent temporary establishments and the expenditure on these goes up year after year, for which no provision is made as an extra item of expenditure in the Blue Book. They must be shown as additional items of expenditure in the Blue Book.

Then I find, Sir, that travelling allowances, house allowances and contingencies swell up year after year and these items ought to be pointedly shown to the House as extra items. We find that in some cases the provision for contingency has jumped up from Rs. 500 to say Rs. 5,000 and yet they are not shown as extra items or additional items of expenditure in the Blue Book. These are my grievances and these can be remedied in the preparation of the White as well as the Blue Books.

The next thing to which I request attention of the Honourable the Finance Member is to his statement that revision settlements are necessary, and that they are doing it for various reasons. He says that the State has a right for a share of the unearned increments. I admit that it has that right, provided he makes out a case for such a demand. The Honourable the Finance Member says that they have provided roads and railways, we have got good markets and we get good prices for our produce from the fields. While he said that, he did not look to the other side of the picture. He has not said how much area of land remains fallow. There are several lands that remain fallow near cities. From my own experience I can say that while I used to pay an assessment of Rs. 105, I got a return of Rs. 85, and pay Rs. 25 out of my pocket, because no tenants were available and the lands remained fallow. The Honourable Member ought to take into consideration that requisite facilities have not been given to cultivators. The Forest Department sells every blessed thing in the forests. Gocharan has been reduced. The cultivator cannot step into the forests, and cannot even take country bidi leaves. Every small thing is sold by auction to contractors and there is not even enough material for rabi purposes. There are restrictions imposed everywhere. The grazing fee has been raised instead of being reduced. He is handicapped in a dozen other ways. Has the Honourable Member taken into consideration the growing costs of production and the high prices the cultivator has to pay for his bare necessities of life. The Honourable the Finance Member ought to take into consideration all

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

these facts and justify the right of the State for a share in the unearned increment. The Honourable the Finance Member stated that the revision settlements have been stopped. It was rightly pointed out by the honourable member for West Khandesh (Mr. S. S. Dev) that the revision settlements have not been stopped. As a matter of fact revision settlement is going on in my own district, and in the Kolaba district. As a matter of fact revision assessment is being levied in the Panvel taluka of the Kolaba district. It is no good saying in the speech that revision settlements have been stopped in view of the resolution passed by this Council. On the other hand scant respect has been shown to that resolution and other resolutions of the Council. Therefore my submission to the Honourable the Finance Member is that when he states that the State has a right for additional assessment in the shape of revision settlement he should also take into consideration the fact that in the contentment of the agricultural classes is your strength and in their prosperity your security.

Then, I may also point out what has been told me by my honourable friend from Karachi, as regards the Madrassa that has been started at Larkana. Unfortunately we have got enough of differences among ourselves. I never knew for a moment that the State was accentuating those differences. What a sad thing it is! Let us be brought together: do not accentuate our differences. If there is a high school and that school happens to be a Government institution or a municipal institution it ought to be open for all classes without reference to caste or creed.

(At this stage Khan Saheb A. M. Mansuri stood up and made some remarks which were inaudible at the Reporters' table.)

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Interruptions cannot be allowed unless the honourable member in possession of the House allows them by resuming his seat.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: Mr. President, what I am putting forward is this: that we are sons of the same soil; let us be brought up together. Please do not accentuate the differences further; we have got enough amongst ourselves.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Will the honourable member make his statement clear?

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: A high school is there and it is called a Madrassa, so that students of other communities are not allowed into it.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: Is that gossip; or is it a true statement?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Do you object to its being called a Madrassa?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Students of other communities are allowed.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: Sir, I wish the honourable gentleman would apologise to the House for what he has said.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: What have I said to apologise ?

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: You said that students of other communities are not allowed.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: On the contrary, I am pleading: let us be brought up together as we are sons of the same soil.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Is the honourable member (Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad) rising to a point of order ?

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: Yes.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: What is the point of order ?

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: The point of order is this: a wrong statement has been made by the honourable gentleman, for which he is bound to make an apology.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member has made a statement. If he is contradicted, he accepts the contradiction, and the contradiction prevails.

Khan Bahadur S. N. BHUTTO: Mr. President, if I am permitted, I may throw some light on the question. There is a school at Larkana which is called a Madrassa. But it was started for Mahomedan zamindars' boys and it was maintained at their cost. Not a pie was contributed towards it by any other community. Therefore, students of other communities are not allowed as the school is solely maintained by the Mahomedan zamindar class. Since two years the school has been transferred to the district local board, it was decided by an unanimous vote of the board, Hindus and Mahomedans, with one voice that the institution should continue as a communal school.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: So long as the policy in the presidency remains that there should be communal institutions, it is futile to discuss it on the budget. A special discussion on the policy should be raised if any honourable member wishes to do so.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: What I was urging, Sir, was this: let us be taught in the same schools. We are sons of the same soil, let us be brought together. After all, let national ideas prevail amongst us. I do not understand why my honourable friends should take offence at that statement. Each and every one of us is pleading for the prevalence of such sentiments whenever an opportunity arises.

Then, Sir, it has been pointed out to us that the revenue is not able to meet the expenditure. It has been repeatedly said that this presidency is a model presidency and that it is setting an example to the other presidencies. If that is so, may I request the honourable members occupying the Government benches who belong to the all-India services, that they will set an example to other members of their service by saying: "Though we are entitled to these higher rates of pay under the new rules, we shall forego them, because the finances of the presidency do not permit the payment of such rates". Will not that be setting a good example to the other presidencies and to the other officers of this presidency? We

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

are told that these increases are a mere flea-bite. We are told further that if we reduce the number of members in the all-India services, and if we practise economy that way, then there would be a danger of inefficiency in the services. No doubt we want efficiency. But supposing our purse does not permit our having efficiency at that cost, will we not be right in foregoing part of that efficiency?

Sir, it is painful to refer to the Bombay Development Department: it is painful to tell anybody that he is wrong. But I have read and re-read the speeches of the honourable the Director of the Development Department and of the Honourable the General Member last year. The speeches do not satisfy me that the Development Department has been a boon to the community and will continue to be so. I think the Honourable Member in his expectations is wrong. The Government for which he speaks is wrong. The verdict of history will be they are wrong. We shall see. I hope I am wrong; and I wish I am wrong. Though I am an optimist, I cannot entertain the faintest expectation that the Development Department will turn out a boon. I have taken out the figures for the last four or five years, and what I find is that the estimates made in the budget were never realised. I could not get the detailed figures for 1922-23. In that year it was anticipated that the total revenue would be Rs. 89,93,000, but the realisation was only Rs. 27,85,000. In the year 1923-24, the anticipations from sales of land and sales of water were 78 lakhs and 1 lakh respectively, and the realisations were only 10 lakhs and 60,000. In 1924-25, the anticipated income from land sales was 27 lakhs, but the realisation was only 7 lakhs. For the coming year the anticipation under sales of land is Rs. 9,33,000, and under sales of water Rs. 1,15,000. As regards rent, what I see is that with the increase in the number of buildings there is actually a decrease in the rent. And if you refer to the appendix in the Blue Book (page 138) you will find that the budget for the next year anticipates revenue from sales of land, sales of electricity, rent, etc., far more than the revised estimates for the current year. Perhaps because I am not placed on that high pedestal on which the honourable members of the Government benches are placed and from which they can get a better view of the horizon, my sight is limited: I cannot gaze into futurity with that clarity of vision with which they can. After all, I am a democrat, and I believe in public criticism and public instruction. I am here to represent the views of the people. I therefore say to Government: please pay us the compliment of believing that what we say, we say from the bottom of our heart. We bring these views to your notice with all the sincerity at our command. If we make mistakes, it is due to wrong calculations or insufficient data. You point out to us those mistakes. But my request is this: you need not stop those schemes with which you have proceeded headlong; they cannot be starved; you complete them. But do stop the other schemes, and do not undertake new ones. The acid test of success in these schemes is the proceeds from the sale of land and the sale of water. Government have spent 32 lakhs over the Ambernath works. That is the figure shown at page 151 of the Blue Book.

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

They have spent 8 lakhs on electric power in Ambernath. How many factories and companies are there which take their water or the land? My submission to Government is: if unfortunately your anticipations are wrong, then think of the sad legacy you are leaving to future generations in the way of having to pay interest and sinking fund charges. Sir, I find some provision made in the budget for schemes which are yet to be undertaken.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: (Made some remarks which were inaudible at the Reporters' table).

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: If I am mistaken, you can point out those mistakes.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Your time is up.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities): Sir, I cannot refrain from congratulating the Honourable the Finance Member upon presenting to us a budget in which he has made sufficient provision for the nation-building departments. He has made ample provision for those departments, namely, primary compulsory education and sufficient provision has also been made for providing better facilities for hospitals and medical relief. There has also been provision made for the engineering colleges, and there has been provision made for the Goraksha, for the Social Service League which is known to do very good work in this country especially in our Bombay presidency, and provision has also been made for the National Baby Week and as such we are proud that some amount of our revenue is given over for the care of our infants. But, Sir, after going cursorily through the budget I would like to refer to some of the main points. Our land revenue in India rests on crops and crops depend on rains and rains in India are nothing but a gamble, and so our crops are only nothing but visionary. Therefore so far as our land revenue estimates are concerned, I would like to bring to the notice of the Honourable the Finance Member that it would be far better if land revenue is calculated after making sufficient allowance for remission and suspension which are always bound to arise owing to the uncertainty of rainy season in India. Land revenue is our main and chief crop and I think Government should look at it not with one angle of vision, but that they should have also another angle of vision, that is to say, that they should not look to the collection of revenue alone but that they should give to the cultivators some facilities which they rightly claim. What is the state of cultivators and what is the system of recovering land revenue from them? Soon after the crops have grown up, an officer of Government known as talati comes on the spot and he asks for the assessment. Then a certain other officer known as the circle inspector and another known as mamlatdar come one after the other. And what is their chief demand? It is nothing but to ask for collection. Do any of these officers go to these cultivators when they are engaged in actually growing their seeds and see whether the soil that the cultivators select for their cultivation of cotton and other crops is suited for that particular cultivation? Do these officers give them the necessary

[Khan Saheb A. M. Mansuri]

instructions ? Sir, the business of these officers is only to go to the cultivator and ask for land revenue and to see that they collect it to a pie. Sir, on account of the uncertainty of rains there are frequent happenings of famine in India and if there is any safeguard for this it is irrigation. While Government is projecting irrigation works like the Sukkur Barrage in Sind which is expected to make Sind a garden and projecting similar irrigation works in Deccan they have neglected our Gujarat. Gujarat is proud of having big rivers like the Narbuda and Tapti and it pays a greater portion of revenue in the form of both land revenue and excise duty and income tax. But, Sir, although this has been brought to the notice of this House off and on, soon after the reforms, not a pie has been spent or designed to be spent for irrigation works in Gujarat.

Sir, in this budget, if you go through cursorily you will find that a good deal of money is designed to be spent after good many public works and also for the administration of justice and for the police. No doubt His Excellency remarked the other day that police is a necessary evil, and although I would certainly agree that it is a necessary evil, I must remark that we have more police than is necessary. Instead of having a large number of constables we are supplied with big officers like inspectors and deputy superintendents whom we have to pay fat house allowances and travelling allowances and what not. If you look to the number of inspectors and sub-inspectors and deputy superintendents of police you will find that their number is four times more than what it should really have been. When we wanted to cut down the police budget Government tried to do away with certain police stations in the mofussil where they were entirely necessary.

Now, Sir, coming to the question of education I am glad to note that in this budget after a great cry of some of my honourable friends, Government have been kind and gracious enough to sanction two central schools for Mahomedans but that is only a bit of a sugar loaf thrown at us. The real necessity of the Mahomedans are still not attended to as they should have been. There is a great necessity for *parda* schools in this Presidency for Mahomedans girls. Now, Sir, I have to thank Government for a press note which has been recently issued in which mention has been made that 50 per cent. of the services in the subordinate departments will be reserved for the backward classes, and the Mahomedans are to-day amongst them. But, Sir, there is a long history behind this. After the advent of the benign British Government in this country, Government have neglected the Mahomedans for more than 50 years. Soon after their advent they started in the Bombay presidency a college for the so-called Brahmans in Poona in the year 1821 (hear, hear). In the Deccan College for 50 years they took nobody but Brahmans and thus all the services were monopolised by the Brahmans. I have not got a special grievance against the Brahmans but against Government itself. For 50 years they did not take the least notice of the Mahomedans because they thought that this was a ruling race and they should not be entrusted with any power. (Some honourable members: No, no). A few years afterwards some notice was taken of the Mahomedans and since then some little progress has been

[Khan Saheb A. M. Mansuri]

made in education. Whenever Mahomedans applied for service, they were told that sufficient number of qualified Mahomedans were not coming forward. But, Sir, now there are hundreds of Mahomedans qualified to serve in every department, but, Sir, you will see if you cast your eyes around you that there are very few Mahomedans in the top services or subordinate service. Sir, you will thus see that the case of the Mahomedans has not been considered properly by Government as it should have been done.

Sir, another thing which I want to bring to the notice of this House is that this House has been passing resolutions after resolutions, but I doubt very much in what spirit these resolutions are taken by the Government. Last year the Waqf Act was passed and we passed a resolution in this Council that that Act should be applied to this Presidency. It is more than 11 months that the resolution was passed and though representations were submitted and rules submitted to the Minister in charge, still that Waqf Act has not been applied here and it stands a dead letter up to to-day. Personally, Sir, I do not mind if the Dawoodi Bohras are exempted from its operation.

Sir, now with regard to these taxation bills which are proposed to be brought by the Finance Member, I have to urge that if he takes steps to do away with the public works, the civil works, that are not entirely necessary this year and utilises that money for the nation-building departments, then this House might see its way to consider these bills for taxation. With these remarks I beg to resume my seat.

Mr. L. J. MOUNTFORD : Sir, we have heard some very interesting discussions on various matters including our assessments and perhaps some remarks will be useful to enable members of the House to understand the principles and the practice of our land revenue administration, because I have heard a good many remarks made which I do not think should be allowed to pass unchallenged. In the first place, I would like honourable members to understand that our land revenue assessment is based on the probabilities of the land and not on the possibilities. Therefore, when we are fixing the assessment in a taluka where rainfall is poor, we take into consideration the probabilities of the land and we charge assessment accordingly. We have just as good soils, for example, in many parts of Sholapur as in West Khandesh, but owing to the fitful and precarious rainfall the assessment in Sholapur is pitched far lower than in West Khandesh. Our assessment will be found to be perfectly moderate and it is proved by the fact that before our suspensions we collected over 90 per cent. of our demand and in some years 99 per cent. Then, again, the assessment is pitched low as an average assessment that can be paid over a run of three years, so that in a bad year this assessment could easily be paid and it was easily paid. In a poor year, 1896-97, 95.3 per cent. of the assessment was collected. In 1891-92, 99.2 per cent. was collected. In order, however, to make matters still easier for the agriculturist, Government introduced the remission and suspension rules some 20 years back, whereby a smaller proportion of the assessment is taken in a bad year and the balance is made up in a

[Mr. L. J. Mountford]

good year. As matters now stand, a very considerable amount of money is lost through these rules, money to which the State is entitled. For our generosity in making matters easier for the ryot, we are told that this is a proof that we cannot collect our land revenue because the land revenue is heavy. This is an entirely false deduction when the land revenue was paid easily enough before these remission and suspension rules were introduced. It is of no use to attempt to squeeze the ryot too rigidly and Government fully recognises this. In the Central Division the estimates of collections which were calculated on the situation in September last, when there was great hope that good harvests would supervene, were cut down many lakhs when it was found later by December that these hopes were not destined to be fulfilled. I merely mention this to disabuse the House of the idea, which is so often pushed forward, that Government is squeezing the ryot to the utmost. What is fair and reasonable is taken and I must again remind the House of what I said three years ago in this connection, that this money is your money : it is required for your needs, for your nationbuilding departments and is money to which you are fully entitled when collected under these safeguards.

There have been many criticisms levelled against the revision settlements which were criticised in a recent resolution. The principle of a revision settlement is to base the assessment upon the profits of the land when they have increased in the last 30 years. There is no reason why a settlement made 30 years ago under perfectly different conditions should be allowed to exist at present. It would be an absurdity to continue an assessment which was imposed under very different conditions, when during the period of the settlement communications have vastly improved, the price of grain has risen and rentals and sales show far higher figures. Any one who will wade as I have to do through the complex and numerous forms that are the basis of a revision settlement report will find that the revision is based upon clear and demonstrable reasons. When it is found, as is often the case, that the landlord leases land out at five to six times the assessment that he pays, surely there is absolute reason for increasing the assessment. Leases are going up rapidly and any one will show you what he who runs may read, and that we are fully justified in increasing our assessment.

I would like, Sir, to make a few remarks now on our forest policy. We were told, I think, by the honourable member for Thana that "The forest sells every blessed thing in the forest" and it gives the cultivator nothing. The statement is not correct. I do not think he can have studied the Forest Code very carefully, because the forest cannot give everything to the cultivator of a village in the vicinity of the forest, but I can enumerate off-hand a few of the advantages that it does give him: He gets *soppu* and *dharku* or dry and green leaf manure free; he gets freematerial for cattle stalls, farm buildings, for hedges; he gets bamboos for fencing free; he gets palm trunks for water channels free; he gets grazing at a fairly cheap or nominal rate; and he can purchase reserved trees for a few rupees, a nominal price. In Lettas he can buy a reserved

[Mr. L. J. Mountford]

tree for one rupee. Moreover, what would you gentlemen who live in Poona and Bombay think if you could get your fuel at four annas and under a maund as these cultivators can? Apart from this they have privileges also.

Now as regards the forests we have in this presidency, we have to consider their physical conditions. They are situated in hilly and inaccessible country with few roads and many impassable rivers. Unless we develop our communications and penetrate inside this country we shall never be able to get at our forest produce which is capable of providing us with vast resources of wealth. We are told that the Dandeli-Alnawar railway does not pay, but assuming it does not, assuming that the expenditure on the Bomanhalli crossing is heavy, which is very necessary to open up communications with the north-eastern side, you cannot expect communications to pay as soon as they are laid down, to yield you an immediate return of rupees the moment they are built. Now, some years ago the Bombay mills were not paying—they do not always pay—but I am not aware that the mills were shut down for ever on that account. In the matter of these communications you cannot expect to get a good return within a few years; it isn't business, it isn't commonsense. There will always be bad seasons and good seasons. Those good seasons are bound to come. These are all schemes of development. They may not be bringing in any revenue to-day or to-morrow; we must take a long view. There is another view to be taken, and that is that transport by buffaloes is so expensive now that we are fully justified in having constructed the Dandeli-Alnawar Railway. Every year the difficulty becomes more acute to get our buffalo transport, and every year we shall find ourselves less able to bring our timber out without further penetration into forests. You cannot possibly get out your timber unless you construct proper roads, bridges and causeways. Once you do that, we can bring along our logging machines as in Canada and the United States of America, and then we can bring the band saws into the forests themselves. At present, any one who goes into Kanara forests, covering an area of 3,300 square miles, will be struck by the fact that it is impossible to enter our forests except by a few selected roads, and if we are to get the large revenue that lies there, we must spend more money to penetrate into our vast resources. Forest matters are not to be discussed from year to year at the time of the budget discussion. You have got to make provision for all the years to come. When you lose your excise revenue, you will have to look to your forests for bringing in more revenue, and any money on forests which you do not spend now will entail a loss in the future. I have had a survey made of the forests in the Southern Division, and I have shown in one case that if Government could give me Rs. 20,000 to be laid out on those forests, I would give them a profit of Rs. 10,000 a year on it; but there is no money for it. That is the sort of loss that you are incurring. But I can go further and say that we must wait for more prosperous times. Just now there is a slump in the timber

[Mr. L. J. Mountford]

trade, but when timber rises again, you will not be able to meet the demand for timber, unless you sink money now in every way possible in your forests.

As regards the police, we have cut down the police very considerably in all divisions, and I was told that in one division there was more than one town where the Bunyas have had to employ their own private police to afford them security. We have been told by the honourable member who just sat down that while we are spending more money on the higher officers of the force we have cut down the expenditure on police constables, and that we have cut down too many police stations. But it should be remembered that you cannot have a police station without higher officers. You cannot put a constable in charge of a police station; you have to put your inspector in charge of it. I should also like to point out that the honourable member was wrong when he contends that we give everything for superintendence and nothing for the men. In the Blue Book the figure shown for superintendence is 305, while for the district executive force it is 1,18,86; it is less than 3 per cent. for superintendence. Probably, he has confused the head "Village Police". Possibly he does not quite understand what village police means. The village police are not really police at all, but are the inferior village servants under the patil of the village. What we really want is a very large increase in our police budget. Honourable members will have recollection of the recent Pathan menace in Bombay, and how the people were scared by the dacoities and raids of Mir Khan Baluch and the Miana gangs in Sind and in the north of the presidency. It is only right that we should have such a police force so that these dacoits would never come, rather than have to add to the force when they do come.

(After Recess.)

Mr. N. E. NAVLE (Ahmednagar District): Mr. President, as a member of the non-Brahmin party and as a representative of the Deccan agriculturists, I rise to offer a few remarks on this year's budget that is presented to us for discussion. Sir, it is but natural that members like myself, representing as we do the agriculturists of the Deccan, it is but natural, I say, that members like myself should seek to find in the budget some relieving feature from the point of view of the agriculturists; and I may be permitted to say at once that members representing the agriculturists are utterly disappointed to find no such relieving feature in the budget. Not only does the budget not contain any such feature, but, on the contrary, it is a disappointing budget. It may be called a Government servants' budget, but not the people's budget.

The Honourable the Finance Member says that there is a deficit and that we must vote for the new taxation bills. Let us, Sir, for a moment consider the deficiency point in the budget. Is there a real deficiency, I ask? Are there no ways and means to curtail the extravagant expenses provided for in the budget? Have Government tried their best to curtail various items of expenses? I think they have not, and as long as they have not done this duty, it is

[Mr. N. E. Navle]

not proper for them to ask us to vote for these new taxation bills. And what class of people have they chosen for bearing the burden of this new taxation? The poorer people, the agriculturists. Take, for instance, the Court-fees Bill. Whom is it going to burden? The Honourable the Finance Member says that it is going to burden the man who goes to the law courts. I think he is reading the situation in a wrong way. It is not the man who goes to the court that is going to be burdened by this additional taxation of court-fees, but it will ultimately fall on the defendant agriculturist because the plaintiff will have all his costs awarded by the courts, and the cost of all suits will ultimately fall on the defendant agriculturist. So, ultimately the agriculturist will be burdened by this new taxation. We are therefore not going to vote for the Court-fees Act Amending Bill. The Honourable the Finance Member says that no complaint has been received against the enhanced court-fees. But I may tell him that though the agriculturists of the Deccan might not be knowing the civilised ways of holding meetings and sending in petitions to Government, yet there is that discontent raging in their minds, and if Government do not take note of that discontent, it might find some other way of ventilation, and that might prove more harmful to the agriculturists themselves as well as to the Government. So, it is better that Government should take early note of this latent discontent that is already in the minds of the agriculturists of the Deccan. Sir, I find that Deccan agriculturists have been completely harassed in more than one way. I do not know what would be the result if this oppression goes on still further. I am afraid that the results will be horrible. There is an agrarian discontent throughout the Deccan; and Government are fully aware of the reasons for this discontent. Take for instance the annewari of crops. There is a great discontent on this matter. When the crop is worth 4 as. the annewari is put at 8 as. or 12 as. It might be stated that remissions and suspensions are being given. But these remissions and suspensions ought to be given as a matter of right; but Government have not done that and are collecting the land revenue by their oppressive means. Sir, it is a fact which Government already knows that the crops in the Deccan, except in a few parts, are a thorough failure—I mean the rabi crops. Whatever crops there were, they have been subjected to the ravages of the extreme cold. Still Government are putting their annewari at 8 or 10 annas. If the circle inspector puts down the annewari at the proper figure there is the mamlatdar and higher officials above him. But what is the use of blaming either the talati, circle inspector or mamlatdar? These officers are threatened by the collectors and assistant collectors and they stand the risk of losing their services if they do not put the annewari at an inflated level. That is being done in my own district and all over the Deccan, and Government have been saying that they have been very kind to the agriculturists and give them liberal remissions and suspensions. Be just to the agriculturists before you pretend to show any mercy to them. The way in which remissions and suspensions are granted is not fair, because they are granted in such cases only where you cannot get a pie by

[Mr. N. E. Navle]

oppressive methods. Wherever you have been able to get money from the agriculturists there is neither suspension nor remission.

Take the forests. There are one thousand and one grievances in this department. Grazing fee is a prominent feature of the agrarian discontent. The Government has been pleased to appoint a committee. But it seems to me from the ways in which the work is going on that this committee is going to be a farce. One does not know when it is going to commence work, and what parts of the country it is going to visit. In the Ahmednagar district people are crying for a reduction in the grazing fee, especially in the Akola taluka, and that cry is not heeded in spite of the fact that the district is famine-stricken and the people are poverty-stricken.

Sir, I cannot refrain from referring to the evidence of Sir Gangaram of the Punjab before the Taxation Enquiry Committee. In relation to the policy of revision settlements he put forward a view before the committee that the Government may take in a lump sum the assessment for 30 years and free the lands from assessment. This suggestion has set representatives of agriculturists like myself a-thinking. I would suggest for the consideration of this Government that 20 years' assessment may be taken in a lump sum, and free sanads may be granted to agriculturists that their lands are free from assessment for ever. If that is done Government will be relieved of this bother of remissions and suspensions, and it will also be a beneficial thing from the agriculturists' point of view.

One more thing. We come to this House with the hope to do something for the people. We are asking for the redress of various grievances. If we give notices of resolutions, we must be fortunate in coming up in the ballot, and then we will have an opportunity of moving our resolutions and bringing to the notice of Government our grievances. If any one is fortunate enough to obtain a high place in the ballot, and brings forward his resolution before the House, the resolution is at times accepted by Government. But Government do not take any steps to translate that resolution into action. I may quote the instance of my resolution regarding the Akola mamlatdar murder case. It is on the assurance given by the Honourable the Home Member that the resolution was withdrawn and still nothing has been done in the matter.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I may explain, Sir. I am informed that that is not so. Something has been done.

Mr. N. E. NAVLE: I leave that point. In conclusion I wish to thank the Government for issuing new orders for recruitment of non-Brahmin members for the lower clerical service. I may say that the manner in which that order has been worded is not satisfactory. The order ought to have run thus: Wherever properly qualified candidates of backward communities are available they should be given preference over candidates of the advanced classes till 50 per cent. of all the posts are filled up by these communities. Government have not done that. I request Government therefore to henceforward consider this

[Mr. N. E. Navle]

suggestion of mine, and also take care to see that their orders are strictly carried out by the lower officials. If any complaints are received in the matter, Government should take proper steps. One suggestion I wish to make. Why such orders should not be issued with regard to higher services also?

I wish to say a few words with regard to the excise resolution of Government. Government is going to make the country dry. They say that they will have to face financial difficulty and that we will have to vote for fresh taxation. We are ready to pass the new taxation, but the time has not yet come, because the excise income is on the increase. There is no such fear as the falling off of the excise revenue. When the excise revenue really falls, there will be a real difficulty and then we can consider the matter of voting for the new taxation.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): Mr. President, the budget that has been placed before this House is undoubtedly a formidable document, but in spite of the addition of some explanations and graphs, it is in its conception and outline as disappointing and as out of date as its predecessors, and one fails to find any relieving feature in it. And all this huge mass of details is hurled at us only two or three days before we leave our places for Bombay. I got this budget on the 14th, and I had to leave Karachi on the 17th, and that gave me only two days to study this mass of detail and we are expected to be able, after such a short time of study, to review the annual financial operations of a big Government, of the most advanced presidency in India, in the course of twenty minutes. As this task is well nigh impossible, I propose, Sir, with your permission, to confine myself to two or three main characteristics of the budget.

The first point which I wish to raise is that the structure of Governmental finance in this presidency requires to be overhauled. Let us take for example the sources of revenue. We find that the most important sources are Land Revenue and Excise. Now, I do not agree that we are charging the cultivator in this country less than they are charging in other civilised countries of the world. I do not know if in the opinion of the Honourable the Finance Member, India is a civilised country, but at any rate I expect that this Government is civilised. Now, I wish to ask if this civilised Government is taking from the cultivators less than other civilised Governments? I say, No. On the contrary, I hold that every cultivator, rich and poor alike, has to pay in this country in the same proportion. Then, again, take Excise. This duty also falls on the rich and poor in the same proportion. We are told in the Honourable the Finance Member's speech that the United Kingdom—correctly speaking Great Britain—raises 50 times the sum levied in Bombay, although its population is only double that of Bombay. There is a fallacy in this statement which I wish to bring to the notice of this House. The consumption of alcohol in Great Britain is more than thirty times that of Bombay. I read in one of the returns that the total annual consumption in Great Britain in 1923 was nearly 51 gallons of absolute alcohol, and that is equivalent roughly speaking to 102 proof gallons, which means

[Mr. D. B. Adwani]

according to my computation more than thirty times the consumption in this presidency so far as it has been possible to find out from the annual administration report. Not only that, but the income of the average man in Great Britain is many times that of the average man in this presidency. If these two facts are taken into account, namely, that Great Britain consumes far more liquor than the Bombay presidency,—nearly thirty times more—and that the average income in Great Britain is far greater, we will see that the incidence of taxation which falls on this presidency is many times more than that in Great Britain. Now, Sir, these two sources of revenue, namely, Land revenue and Excise, are responsible for close upon two-thirds of the whole revenue of this presidency. Then comes, Stamps, Forests, Registration and other minor sources. What I wish to point out is that the basis of taxation is not equitable, and that in raising our revenue we have not fully kept in view the maxim that those who are well able to bear should bear a greater burden than the others who are less able to pay, or rather that the law of equality of sacrifice, so far as the different sections of the community are concerned, should be adopted as has been done in various other countries. And this brings me to the resolution which the Government of Bombay has recently issued regarding their excise policy. I must say in this connection that it is rather creditable for the Excise Minister that he should have been able to get a Government like the Bombay Government which has always fought shy of prohibition, to accept, on paper at any rate, the policy of prohibition. But what is most surprising is that the Government has not considered the most important part of the report, namely, the measures of taxation which will be necessary in order to give effect to prohibition. In that respect, Sir, they have simply evaded the question. The committee had proposed certain duties, like death duties, which will fall more equitably on the richer communities, upon those who are well able to bear taxation. I might be told that the Taxation Committee is now sitting and will soon give us the result of their labours. But I may be permitted to point out that the Taxation Committee will not be in a position to know the total income of the nation, the total value of the national assets and such other kindred matters, the capacity of the individual in India to bear taxation, and therefore such a committee cannot possibly conclude its labours satisfactorily. In any case, we have every reason to expect the Honourable the Finance Member to make practical proposals for overhauling our sources of revenue in consonance with the needs of this presidency and independently of the Taxation Committee.

The other point to which I would like to draw attention is the extravagant, and in many cases unnecessary provisions which have been made in the budget. I will give some examples. In the first instance, we are told by the Honourable the Finance Member that he proposes to withdraw many lakhs of rupees from the reserve fund. Now, I do not know exactly if this procedure would be in accordance with the loan account rules. That, however, is a matter between the Government of Bombay

[Mr. D. B. Adwani]

and the Government of India. But what I really cannot understand, and what I think to be most objectionable, is the inclusion of a new head in the budget, namely, reduction and avoidance of debt. I think this is objectionable from an accounts point of view. I cannot quite understand what it is, but so far as I have been able to gather it means that revenue is being charged to a very great extent for expenditure which really ought to be debited to capital account. I do not know if this can be called a jugglery or deftness in the manipulation of figures, but it is certainly objectionable. There are two such items charged to ordinary revenue. One is Rs. 8,47,000 in the current year 1924-25. I do not know if the approval of the Council has been obtained for that; and the other is 16 lakhs and odd in this year. Now, if as I believe this provision is unwarrantable and unjustified, then we get a saving of 24½ lakhs from these items alone.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: What is the page?

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: I will quote the page later.

Next, Sir, I come to Civil Works. I find that the provision for Civil Works is also extravagant. For example, in 1923-24, 1,16 lakhs were provided for Civil Works. But actually not more than 98 lakhs were spent. This shows extravagance in providing for the works. For the current year 1,02 lakhs were provided; but for the ensuing year we find a provision of 1,17 lakhs which is 15 lakhs more than the last year. This amount cannot be spent during the next year and a cut of 15 lakhs can easily be made. There are also many items which are unnecessary. Many buildings have been provided for and in many cases of proposed renewal these buildings are described as being in a dilapidated condition and it is stated that unless renewed they will come down. This would give one the impression that all Government buildings are probably in a dilapidated condition. But that is obviously an exaggeration. In any case I hope we can make a great saving under Civil Works. This would mean a saving of 15 lakhs. Together with the 24½ lakhs above referred to, it would make nearly 40 lakhs which would practically wipe out the deficit. Similar savings can be made in several other departments and these have been pointed out by some of my honourable friends and I do not wish to take the time of the House in going over them once again.

Then similar cuts can be made under the heads 60, Civil Works, and 55, Embankments and other construction. But I will not take the time of the House in going into them.

The next point to which I wish to refer is that the loan commitments of this Presidency are being made recklessly, and something should be done to restrict these loan commitments, otherwise we shall be mortgaging all our credit on enterprises which are so bad and of so speculative a character that even the hardest speculator would shudder at them. We have had enough experience to be able to say that the development schemes are not going to become remunerative for years to come and really we ought to suspend these schemes in whatever manner

[Mr. D. B. Adwani]

it may be possible. As a matter of fact we should not have taken up the three schemes: the Reclamation, Industrial Housing and Suburban together. It has been the experience in England that the housing schemes have been a great loss to the exchequer and I think that that should have been a sufficient warning to Government; and in any case as soon as the economic crisis set in the work should have been stopped. But still we are proceeding apace; and I do not know where we shall end. As the honourable member the Finance Secretary said, the interest may not be 3 crores, it may be $1\frac{1}{2}$ or $1\frac{1}{4}$ crores of rupees, but even then that is serious enough. In this connection I would like to say a word with regard to the tables showing debt commitments which have been printed in the Blue Book. I think they are lacking in a great deal of information. For example it is not clear from them to what extent we are receiving interest and what net interest is chargeable to this Government on account of these loans. That is not clear from these statements.

Then, Sir, I come to the Lloyd Barrage Scheme. In the first place I would like to mention again to this House that eminent engineers are really not at one with regard to some important aspects of the project, and the remunerative or productive character of the scheme. If eminent experts, some of whom have got recent experience, like Mr. Wright and some others, are right, I do not assert that they are, but some of them are more competent to give their opinions regarding the schemes than of the engineers who are responsible for making this project. I have given some attention to this matter and I find that there is a very clear case for the appointment of a committee of enquiry, an independent committee of experts, by the Secretary of State to set this controversy at rest once for all.

Then coming to the execution of the project, it is impossible to believe from a study of the figures, that money is not being very lavishly spent on this project. For example as regards the establishment, it is very heavy compared to the work that it has to turn out. Not only that, but we find that the Chief Engineer and the Superintending Engineers have been given duty allowances: the Chief Engineer gets Rs. 600 and the Superintending Engineer Rs. 200. Apart from those allowances they get compensatory and other allowances and in addition they are also given barrage allowance of 10 per cent. I do not see any necessity for these allowances. These officers are working under the same conditions as the other officers of the Public Works Department and I do not think it is necessary to give them duty allowances, the compensatory allowances, the barrage allowance, and in addition the Lee Commission allowance whatever that may be. I think, Sir, there is a clear case for full consideration with regard to the expenditure. If we do not look closely into the matter, I am sure that the actual expenditure would far exceed the estimates. In this connection I may refer to the remarks of my honourable friend Rao Saheb Desai who wanted that the actual cost should be less than that provided in the estimate. But I would like to inform him that according to the expectation of engineers

[Mr. D. B. Adwani]

and looking to the present extravagance, it would far exceed the estimated cost of 18 crores odd.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City North): Mr. President, this is the time when we are to consider how we are to exercise the power over the purse which we have acquired under the reforms. Sir, the consideration of this question involves what was the attitude of the Government benches to the opposition benches during the last year. On the whole I think that Government have tried to meet the wishes of this House, especially this part of the House in many respects. Sir, may I point out that this House had brought to the notice of Government that the land revenue question required close examination. We have passed that resolution and Government have come forward and have appointed a committee to examine that question. Then the next point that was referred to was the excise policy. Government knowing that the majority in this House wants the Bombay presidency to go dry have come forward and accepted the dry condition as the goal of their excise policy. Take the anna valuation question; take the forest grievances. In all these respects we will find that we cannot accuse Government of inattention to the points which we have placed before them. Government have also conceded in part the demand made by the non-Brahmin party as regards the public service and it was only last week that they have issued a press note on their future policy. I shall not comment on what is actually conceded. I know that the demand is not fully met, but I concede that Government have at least attempted to show that they are alive to the justice of the grievance under which we are suffering. Sir, take, for instance, the registration question. Here, I am sorry that Government is not quite so open-minded as the House wishes it to be. Take the photo-copying system. Government knows very well that the system, though it is tried to be foisted upon the presidency on grounds of economy, is really not economy if it is to continue in its present form. The photos that are given at 5 annas a page are not quite readable and Government have come forward and now say "Give us one rupee and we will give a better photo". Well, in that case I say that the economy will vanish. Sir, may I request Government to take into account the large number of hands that will be thrown out of employment? The question of unemployment is a very serious one and it requires close and sympathetic tackling. Sir, India, you know, is overpopulated and if you are going to employ the scientific methods of lessening labour, I think for this presidency in its present condition the improvement is not desirable. Sir, if we look to the resume of the past year, I think Government have met our wishes and it is on our part now to be as willing to meet their reasonable difficulties. The second point that deserves mention is the solicitude of Government to tax those people who escape taxation at present. In this respect I assure Government that every help that this House can give to them in their endeavour to tax those people will be very readily given.

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

Coming, Sir, to the budget speech itself,—I am sorry to say that I see the Honourable the Finance Member is not in his seat—but I request him to excuse me if I use these terms that his speech is fallacious and misleading. Sir, he has been drawing upon analogies which cannot be examined at all. Take, for instance, the analogy which he has given about the duty on spirits and wine which is given by the United Kingdom as compared with Bombay. He says that the population of the United Kingdom is only twice as large as that of Bombay and still it pays fifty times as much as this presidency does. Sir, is it necessary to expose the hollowness of that analogy? Are we on all fours with the people of Great Britain? Have we their wealth? What is our condition? But apart from that, if it is the intention of Government to respect the wishes of this House as regards prohibition, why should he (the Finance Member) be looking to that source of revenue? Does he want the population of Bombay presidency to become drunkards only to yield revenue to the treasury? Sir, that kind of analogy will not do. Take another point which he has mentioned. He has referred to the taxing of bets. Well, I for one shall not be sorry if the bets are taxed, but I must tell him that there is a large section of the Hindu community which looks upon betting as immoral and any money which is coming out of a tainted source will not be welcome to us. Sir, he has given us the example of other provinces where betting is taxed. But if a thing is venial, it does not become virtuous if it is accepted by many others; a thing is venial in itself. What have we done in this presidency? In England it is said that it leads to the improvement of the breed of horses. Does it do that in Bombay presidency? Sir, it has not done that. Secondly, what are the demoralising effects of the race-going upon the people of Bombay? It was only about two or three weeks ago that we were horror-stricken to read of a double murder in one of the streets of Bombay. A man having lost some money at the race-course and not finding the wherewithal to return the money which he had borrowed, in cold blood murdered his wife and child! Are you going to allow that kind of cold-blooded crime to be perpetrated in this city simply because some money is to be obtained from that source in the future? Sir, we Indians look upon betting as immoral, and even if an attempt ever is made, I for one at least will not consent to the perpetuation of the betting evil in this city.

Then, Sir, coming to the revision settlement, that is a burning question and there also I find the Honourable the Finance Member has led us into wrong directions. He has told us that the cultivator has improved his hoardings because there is no fear of extra taxation. Sir, is that true? What does the history of our revision settlements teach us? We know that in the presidency after every 30 years the settlement undergoes a revision. Why, Sir; was it not only last year that, on the complaint of honourable members from Sind, where the revision settlement came in for revision after ten years, we extended that period to twenty years? And still, we are told that there is no fear of extra taxation by revision settlements. Another reason given for introducing the revision settlements is that it makes the pressure of taxation even. Sir, I would humbly request

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

the Honourable the Finance Member to show me the percentage of cases in which there has been an actual reduction of the existing taxation, and the percentage of the cases in which a revision settlement has resulted in increased taxation. If he can show me instances where in 95 cases out of a hundred there has been an increase and 5 cases in which there has been a decrease, I think I shall concede to what he says. But my study has shown me that there is hardly even 1 per cent. of cases where the taxation is actually reduced on a revision settlement. A revision settlement, when it comes, comes only to increase the taxation and not to decrease it.

Then, about the improvement of communications and roads and the construction of bridges: the Honourable the Finance Member expects us to consent to extra taxation, because bridges are being built and the farmers are getting the benefit out of it. Sir, let me, with all my earnestness, assure him that the benefit of these improved roads and communications is not received by the agriculturists. It is received by the exporters, the middlemen and the *sowcars*. The agriculturists remain as poor as they were before.

Then the Honourable the Finance Member has held out to us a very tempting bait, and we are told that remissions and suspensions have been introduced. But I am so very sorry that when he has given us the figures of remissions and suspensions he should not also have given us the figures of coercive measures which we find in the Land Revenue Report. Sir, those coercive processes which Government employ really are at times very heartless. Take for instance the Borsad affair. What has the Government been doing there? It has been employing its coercive measures there at a time when the people had not the power to give even a pie. Sir, at the same time, we are told that there are remissions and suspensions. I do not deny that remissions and suspensions are given but they are given very sparingly—let me assure the Government of that. This naturally brings me to the deficit.

We are told that there is going to be a deficit. May I just enquire how this deficit has come about? The Honourable the Finance Member has very candidly told us that this deficit is due not on account of the fact that any extra amenities are going to be given to the public, but because Government are going to meet certain Public Works Department undertakings out of capital revenue. What I mean to say is that, in the ordinary course, for certain of the works which are to be undertaken by the Public Works Department, we would have employed loan funds. But this year we find that Government will spend that money by drawing upon our surpluses. If Government are undertaking such gigantic schemes as the Sukkur Barrage or the Development Scheme, are they going to finance works of that character out of provincial revenues? I must shudder at the consequences. If you do that, you would make the people be without the amenities which they obtain at present. Was it not only three or four years ago when it was declared with a flourish of trumpets that if we are undertaking some great works for future generations, it is not our duty to pay for them? That was only about three

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

years ago, but Government are going to change that policy to-day. Why? Simply because, at that time Government thought that those projects were projects which would bring in a large return, but to-day I think they have come to think better of those projects, and they are afraid that perhaps, in the long run, they will not pay as much as was expected of them, and therefore they are afraid of pledging the credit of this presidency, and are trying to finance those works out of provincial revenues. Sir, the loan rules empower Government, if the works are paying, to raise loans and to finance those works. Why should not Government do that? If Government are sure that those projects are going to be a blessing, it is but their duty that they should apply to the Government of India and raise loans and do that work. But here Government are trying to starve the poorer people.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member has got only two more minutes for concluding his remarks. I merely put my hand on the bell to give him warning that his time will be up.

Mr. A. N. SURVE: It is a pity that a time limit is introduced. I can only say that as regards additional taxation, my attitude at any rate is that at present there is no reason why fresh taxation should be introduced. I am saying this not because we are cursed fellows who would not like to meet the Government demands, but simply because the presidency is very poor, and it has not the power to pay. I shall read just one extract which will show the actual condition of the villagers. It is from "India," 1923-24, page 191, where it is said:

"In certain parts of the Bombay Presidency such as the Deccan the income falls very far below the general level, where rainfall is precarious and uncertain, and soil shallow and poor, the income from all sources per head in a typical village has been calculated at Rs. 33-12 per annum."

It is from such men that Government is expecting an additional revenue by extra taxation. I shall also read another short extract as regards the wage-earners. It is said:

"But it must also be remembered that the Bombay estimates indicate that the poorest classes of the population were in 1921 compelled to spend 68 per cent. of their income on food and 15 per cent. on clothing. Another 11 per cent. went on compulsory expenditure of various kinds, leaving only 6 per cent. [*mark the words*] voluntary expenditure, including amusements, luxuries, and even education."

This is the small margin which the poorer people have at their command and from them Government expect money by fresh taxation. For these reasons, I think that this is an inopportune time for bringing forward any measures of extra taxation. The time will come. (Bell rung.)

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Mr. President, before I proceed to meet some of the criticism that has been hurled at my departments, I should like to make an announcement in connection with the resolution which Government have brought out regarding their excise policy; and because the resolution, which consists of 8 or 9 printed pages, is so full, and the details in the exposition of our policy are so largely dealt with in it, I do not think I need take much of the time of the House. But I feel that there are certain remarks which I wish to make in support

[Mr. A. M. K. Dehlavi]

of it by way of explanation. Before that I trust that the resolution, as has been declared by one or two members, has met with their approval. I regret the delay that has taken place, but I assure honourable members that it was not possible to make an announcement earlier than Government have been able to do, because of the many issues involved and the great importance of the decision that Government had to make. I do hope that the manner in which Government have dealt with the question and tried to meet every point of the Excise Committee will certainly meet with the approval of this honourable House.

There is one other important point which I wish to bring to the notice of this honourable House. The Excise Committee has made it perfectly clear in their report that drink has existed as long back as we could trace; and although the question has received prominence and become more complex with the growth of time—it is as old as the hills. We are now trying to grapple with the question and uproot the evil within the space of less than a generation. The difficulties are of course evident. Let us, however, hope that we shall surmount them with the support and confidence of the public and of their representatives in this honourable House. The declaration placed in the hands of honourable members contains almost all I can say on the subject; nevertheless the few points I wish to emphasise are these; and I invite the attention of honourable members to those points.

The first and foremost is that for the past three years, we have in practice actually been moving towards prohibition through our rationing policy. As compared with the consumption of 1921-22, our ration for the next year represents a drop of 20 per cent. in the mofussil, and 40 per cent. in the city of Bombay. Here is an answer to many an honourable member who has raised the question in the course of discussion that the revenue would fall is a mere threat. Sir, we have been able to achieve this rate of reduction so far, because the revenue has remained intact on account of certain extraneous reasons—for example the unduly high bids at auction sales, and the high duty that we have levied on liquor, which is again a step towards prohibition, and which has been taken only with that view by Government. But I fear this process cannot continue indefinitely. I fear we have reached a stage where the reduction of consumption cannot be continued further without a heavy fall in our revenue. I do not suppose that the House would wish Government to relax that duty, because that would have a wrong effect on the country so far as temperance is concerned. The rationing policy, if it is followed, as it has been followed hitherto, will take us to a point when it would at once be felt that our revenue will suffer. The revenue has already suffered to the extent of 12 lakhs in the matter of still-head duty; and had it not been for the high bids the loss would have been greater. It is also maintained that we ought to pursue our policy without any regard to revenue. As practical men we cannot shut our eyes to the many considerations which the question involves. The revenue of 4 crores which we will have to abandon must be made up somehow, and there is no way out of it; and to the extent we fail to supply the revenue, to that extent

[Mr. A. M. K. Dehlavi]

must the success of the movement we have launched upon suffer and be delayed. If we fail to keep that in mind, we shall be failing in carrying out our policy to its uttermost limit. The Excise Committee have realised the fact and pointed out very clearly and recommended that legislation for new taxation should be passed before we embark on the new policy. Now Government have gone much further in the interest of the country than the Excise Committee, that is, Government have not thought it necessary to do so, relying on the co-operation of this House and, particularly on the assurance given to me in July last, and repeated by the honourable member Mr. Navle, and other honourable members in this House to-day, that the country would not fail to supply the fund when the need arises for it. Government are confident that this assurance will be respected. And I should like to repeat it, and make it perfectly clear that the continuance of this policy would only be possible if this assurance is really respected, and necessary assistance is given to Government when Government stands in need of it.

There is another point which the House will have to bear in mind. From the figures I have given to the House, it will be seen that if we go on reducing our consumption at the present rate, the Bombay city will have no liquor.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI: I rise to a point of order. The Honourable Minister is exclusively dealing with the Excise policy. I think he can do that when he comes to the House for the grant under that head. When discussing in a general manner the budget, he brings in the subject relating to a particular department.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: It is for the Honourable Minister to choose as to when he should enunciate to the House the Excise policy of Government. A suggestion has been thrown out and it is for the consideration of the Honourable Minister. While discussing the general budget, the practice has prevailed that they can deal with every aspect of the administration of the presidency. It is not a point of order at all, because on this occasion any point of order can hardly arise. It is for the Honourable Minister himself to consider which is the most suitable time to explain the policy which he has enunciated on behalf of Government.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Sir, as many of the questions raised during the discussion are really answered in a way by the announcement I am making, and also because the resolution has also been placed before the Council, I think the sooner I explain the important points underlying that resolution the better.

Well, Sir, to continue. As I have pointed out, the city of Bombay would have no liquor to sell at that rate after six years from to-day, and the mofussil a few years more after that. Now, if that is so, I am sure the most ardent prohibitionist in this honourable House and amongst us, does not expect that the lifelong consumers of liquor in this city of Bombay can be turned into total abstainers within six years, or that with the best of our efforts we would be able to raise a revenue to the extent

[Mr. A. M. K. Dehlavi]

of our loss from the city of Bombay, which is no less than 1,25 lakhs. It is, therefore, perfectly clear that we cannot continue our present rate of rationing for long. The Excise Committee, with all their zeal, were of opinion that in rural areas further rationing could not be safely continued. But we have gone further than that, and continued rationing in rural areas as elsewhere. That will, in the first place, show to the House the *bona fides* of Government, in the matter of this new policy. But, Sir, the danger pointed out by the committee is a real one, and we should be very careful to see that we do not proceed with our measures only on paper, as was pointed out by the honourable member for Karachi. Government do not want that the policy should be a paper policy, but they really intend to enforce that in practice also. While, therefore, we intend to continue rationing, we must not be tied down to our present, or any particular rate of rationing, or to continue it in areas where the Excise Committee thought it unsafe to continue.

That brings me to the next important point which I wish to urge before the House. We cannot introduce a vast change of that nature without bringing ourselves in conflict with established habits and interests. And I am sure that this House and the enlightened public opinion would not be content if Government were merely ready to close their distilleries and express a pious resolution in favour of prohibition. What the House and the country really want is that this scourge of drink and other intoxicants should be completely eradicated from amongst us. Now, we cannot do this without employing an adequate staff for the purpose. It has been stated that the staff that is there, is more than enough, but I am sure that when it comes to the turn of my honourable friend the Excise Commissioner, he will be able to show by facts and figures that the staff is really undermanned. The reports from the districts are unanimous, and that is an important point to bear in mind that excise crime, particularly illicit distillation, is increasing everywhere and that the existing staff is unable to cope with it. I earnestly hope that there would be no disposition to make light of these reports, and I am sure that the House, with its sense of responsibility, will not countenance any contradiction of this great circumstance in the history of restriction, so far as we have gone towards it. In fact, it is evident that we cannot increase our restrictive measures without having a proper number of men to see that the restrictions are being enforced and that the policy is not a mere paper policy. This question is now being carefully considered by Government, and I hope that when we place the case before the House we shall receive its fullest support and can rely on its confidence.

I would like to add a few words here about foreign liquor. It is quite clear that all our efforts to enforce prohibition in this presidency will come to nought if we confine our measures to country liquor and drugs only, and do not extend them to foreign liquor also. Honourable members are, however, aware that the control over foreign liquor is mainly under the jurisdiction not of this Government, but of the Government of India. We, therefore, propose to approach that Government with a

[Mr. A. M. K. Dehlavi]

view to obtain better control of consumption of this liquor in the presidency. In the meantime, Government do not propose to sit silent, but action is being taken in the direction the committee have proposed, namely, that immediate action should be taken against the cheaper brands which are being drunk in substitution of country liquor, and that the license fees for the sale of such liquor should be increased so as to increase its price. Sir, we have gone much further and honourable members will soon notice that orders will be issued greatly increasing the license fees payable for the sale of not only cheap liquors, but all foreign liquors, and our fees will perhaps be the highest in India. Government further propose to bring the consumption of these liquors in clubs under their control, and have actually under consideration the question as to how far the restrictions which are applied in the case of country liquor can be applied to foreign liquors also. I am, therefore, glad to be able to announce that no efforts will be spared to stop people who are prevented from drinking country liquor from turning to foreign liquor, particularly to the cheaper brands. So that that will make our policy quite efficacious in the case of both.

Sir, before I conclude I must tell the House that we are embarking on a momentous experiment which is fraught with immense possibilities, moral, physical and economic. Our pace must be determined by the extent to which we are able to find new revenue to replace the old, and, indeed no less, to the extent to which we can enforce compliance with our policy. Both these are matters exclusively within the discretion of the Council. The future of the policy, I significantly repeat, Sir, is therefore in the hands of the Council. Sir, if I have any more time left

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: You have got a couple of minutes more

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: I would leave it to my other honourable colleagues and to the Excise Commissioner to meet the other points. I think the announcement I have made has met many of the important points that were raised by the honourable members.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA (Bombay City, North): Mr. President, I observe that our Chancellor of the Exchequer has intimated to us with becoming modesty that he prefers silent votes to vocal compliments. Therefore, I will not congratulate him for the excellent exposition of the financial predicament of this presidency, nor will I complain that he has utilised the occasion to indulge in one of those flights of fancy in which the Civil Services love to indulge in order to console their own consciences.

But, Sir, the speech has certainly facilitated the study of this budget. But the study of the budget makes me feel that "it is folly to be wise where ignorance is bliss". I used to labour under the impression that the province of Bombay could compare favourably with any sovereign State in the world both in power and in attributes. But I find that it is not half the attributes of the Federal States of America nor half the powers of the Government of the Philippines. The Government of Bombay with all its imposing paraphernalia is no better than a glorified municipality with limited powers of taxation and administration. If comparisons be

[Mr. J. Baptista]

odorous I would say that the Corporation of Bombay without any remuneration whatever discharges functions quite as onerous as those devolving upon the Government of Bombay. And I go still further and I say that those who are acquainted with the civic affairs of Bombay and of the many opportunities for maladministration, realize and recognise that a large measure of honesty and prudence and real mastery of principles and details and a true sense of responsibility are required for the successful administration of the *urbs prima in Indis*. For this reason I deplore the mentality and attitude of those statesmen who profess to believe that they cannot repose that degree of confidence in the capacity of the people of this province or on their sense of responsibility as to do away with this new-fangled form of Government—known as the diarchy. Its only merit is that diarchy rhymes well with anarchy. But, Sir, although the form be diarchy, let the spirit underlying be that of constitutional monarchy. But this can never happen unless the ministers and executive members accept cordially, and act heartily upon, the principle of responsibility to the representatives of the people in this Council. Then they will inaugurate an era of mutual confidence and responsive co-operation conducive alike to the strength of Government and the contentment of the people. Then, Sir, we shall be spared the unedifying spectacle of ministers canvassing on the floor of this House. Then the Government would be relieved of the anxiety of searching for so-called safe men to fill the high offices. I would like this Government to stand on the merits of the questions. Government stand here and face the issue upon the merits without fearing the result and without stooping to conquer by canvassing. Things will come right ultimately. Let us not forget that the triumphs of tactics are evanescent. The triumphs of reason endure. And after all, "all's well that ends well".

Now, I turn from the constitution to the problems of the province. I am confronted with the peculiar position of this province. No principle of evolution nor enlightened self-interest could ever have brought Sind, Gujarat and Maharashtra in one province under one Government. The problems of ethnography are aggravated by the problems of geography. This presidency, and particularly Sind, seems to be situated within environs not far from the seat of Beelzebub. The temper of the people has become worse than the temperature of the province under the rule of diarchy. Diarchy cannot give us our daily bread. Our daily bread depends upon the Indus and the monsoons. But the Indus does not always rise with the temperature and inundate the corn fields and the monsoons do not always favour the ship of the State. We often see clouds roll by without discharging their contents on the sweet auburns below. The result is that this province is subjected to periodical famines. And yet in this province of periodical famines food and drink constitute the mainstay of the revenue of the province. Land and excise contribute to the exchequer not less than 80 per cent. of the revenue under the principal heads of revenue. What does it signify? It signifies this that the heaviest burden falls upon the weakest shoulder. This is

[Mr. J. Baptista]

a painful revelation and makes me lament "Where ignorance is bliss it is folly to be wise". The folly of wisdom does not end here. In an agricultural province where agricultural pursuits are so very precarious we should have expected a most energetic policy of industrial development. But development of industries is a central subject together with trade and commerce and the control of production and distribution. Forward Bombay must depend upon backward Delhi, the seat of the great Mogul, where might is right. In that seat of the mighty there is no Bombay man to fight for our right and to undo the mess of the Meston Settlement. (Laughter.) Bombay industrialists are more agitated about the countervailing excise duty, than their patriotic duty to this province, and to add injury to neglect, they contribute next to nothing to the coffers of Bombay. And yet there are seven seats reserved for trade, commerce and piece-goods in this House. It is a topsyturvey case of representation without taxation. One should have expected that these representatives of trade, commerce and piece-goods, would abstain from occupying reserved seats here till they had undone the iniquity of the Meston Settlement. Perhaps they are here to cheer the champions of Labour by promising liberal bonuses to their workmen. May the Lord have mercy on their purses! This representation without taxation brings me to the important question, what are the powers of taxation of this Council and what is its capacity to regulate revenue and control expenditure? I find that the powers of taxation are very circumscribed. It affords no scope for the talents of a financier. We may impose any tax we please by legislation, but once the bill becomes law and the rate is fixed we can do nothing. There is no margin between the maximum or minimum within which we may raise or reduce taxation as the corporation of Bombay does. The result is nobody cares for this Bombay budget, because nobody expects any boon and nobody fears any burden unless of course there is a money bill. The real truth is that the income side of the budget has no attraction for us and calls for no capacity from us. No vote is taken on the income side. The income is more or less automatic. All we can do is to estimate the income more or less approximately, sometimes 5 per cent., sometimes 10 per cent., but that is all we can do. What the income will be is beyond our control. There is absolutely nothing that we can do. We are really not the oracles of revenue. We are said to be the watch-dogs of expenditure. The Honourable the Finance Member is not quite sure whether we are watch-dogs or lap-dogs, and I am not sure whether we are not going to the dogs. But, Sir, are we really even watch-dogs? Can we really control the expenditure? Personally I am satisfied that it is all "Love's Labour Lost" to attempt to control the expenditure without the consent of the executive. The most powerful weapon of control is the power to regulate revenue. The efficacy of this method was demonstrated when the House threw out the Entertainments Bill three years ago. Without the power of regulating revenue it is not possible to effect any retrenchment. Therefore money bills should be carefully considered.

[Mr. J. Baptista]

The Government executive must cut their coat according to the cloth we give them. They cannot spend more money than we give them. But if we give them more money, fill the coffers and then ask them to be careful about expenditure, it is not wise. It seems to go against the grain of human nature, except perhaps in the case of the Scotsmen, specially Scotsmen of the clan of Montgomeries—present company always excepted. I am told that on the occasion of the funeral of Gladstone, an Irish Home ruler put 10 guineas in gold into the coffin in token of his gratitude. An Englishman and a Welshman followed suit. Then came the turn of the Scotsman. He put a cheque for 40 guineas into the coffin and took the 30 guineas in gold and quietly put them into his pocket. (Laughter.) These Scotsmen are wonderful financiers and beat all the wandering Jews in creation. I do not know whether we should call them geniuses or genii, but some of them have angelic faces with elastic soul like Mumtaz Begum. (Laughter.) But I am digressing.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: You are.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA: The point is, are we in truth able to control this expenditure with the powers we have? I find, Sir, that the subjects are divided into reserved and transferred. The treasury benches are being occupied by nation-builders and nation-breakers. The demands are votable and non-votable, like drinks that are potable and non-potable. And even in the transferred subjects some of the items are non-votable. It is a case of half and half with a dash of bitters. This is the Bombay budget! This is the budget that is brought before the Inquest of the nation in this House! I wish I could say, Sir, "blessed are the budget makers; well done ye good and faithful stewards." But perhaps I better leave these vocal compliments to the aristocratic zamindars of Sind, to the democratic kunbis of the Deccan and to the Boles and Godboles in the Province. (Laughter.)

Now, Sir, I shall examine a few of the financial features of this budget. In the first place, I find there is a deficit of 41 lakhs. That seems to be contrary to the cardinal canon of equilibrium beloved of financiers. This budget does not promise any sunshine of prosperity. On the contrary there is already the shadow of adversity. This is clearly evinced by the bitter pills of the money bills on the anvil of this Council. That the shadow of adversity is already upon us, is corroborated by the graphs that have been furnished us in this budget. These graphs tell us that the revenue has increased by one crore in six years ending 1916-17. Then it increased by Rs. 5 crores 72 lakhs in the five years ending 1921-22. Since 1921-22 the revenues have ceased to grow. They are practically stationary. On the other hand, the expenditure is increasing. These graphs tell us that the expenditure grew by 18 lakhs per annum in the seven years ending 1917-18 and then it went up by leaps and bounds and grew by nearly Rs. 200 lakhs per annum in the four years ending 1921-22. This period corresponds with the resolute agitation for Home rule. It appears that the bureaucracy cooked the goose of reforms while the movement for

[Mr. J. Baptista]

home rule was making headway. Of the growth 787 lakhs, the lion's share went to the services, the police, and general administration. About Rs. 195 lakhs went to industry, agriculture, education and sanitation. In this there is one particularly enviable and satisfactory feature, and that is that of this Rs. 195 lakhs about 92 lakhs were absorbed by education. And that, Sir, is entirely due to your own enthusiasm for education, when in office. Prior to your advent into office, the expenditure on education grew only by Rs. 4½ lakhs per annum. You sent it up by Rs. 23 lakhs. The gentleman here (pointing to the Honourable Minister for Education) may well copy your example. (Interruption—But he is here at present in his seat.) (Looking towards the seat) No. He has become deaf and dumb. I do not believe in drawing this distinction between "nation-building activities" and "non-nation-building activities". I believe even less in the phantastic classification of the Honourable the Finance Member. In order to make out a case at all, he has mixed up capital and revenue expenditure. As my honourable friend Mr. Hoosenally Rahimtoola pointed out, the Finance Member has included expenditure on Back Bay Reclamation, and that sort of thing in the other expenditure and mixed up capital and expenditure. Even in his Development Departments there are some departments which cannot be called development. For instance, the irrigation works for protecting the people from famine. Can that be regarded as development? Can it be said that to save a man from dying from starvation is to build up his physique? It is a comical conception of nation-building. I find even in the department that may be rightly included as the development departments there are items of expenditure of more or less destructive tendency. For example if you look at page 251, you will find, under the heading of Public Health, no less than 10 lakhs are devoted to building new arsenals in Karachi. Now, I venture to say that no wise man in the East would regard arsenals as nation builders. But they (Government) do. Now the position is that our revenues are not increasing and the expenditure is increasing. What is the remedy? The remedies proposed are the money bills. I do not wish to discuss these money bills now, but I have no hesitation in declaring that the money bills are no remedies at all. These money bills will break the back of the yeomanry. The yeomanry are the pride of the people, the bulwarks of the nation. No one wishes to break the back of the yeomanry. This is not the right remedy. On the contrary, I am fully convinced that this remedy is worse than the disease and any one that is prescribing that remedy is doing a great disservice to the cause of this country.

I cannot imagine any patriotic citizen supporting these bills, before the right remedy is applied.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order. It is an extremely unpleasant duty for me to fix a time limit and to enforce it but I have to discharge this very unpleasant duty on account of the fact that, excluding the time allowed for questions, 720 minutes are available for this discussion. We have about 90 to 100 members present, and the average which each member would be entitled to would be something between 7 and

[The President]

8 minutes, if every member took part in the debate. It is due to the self-denial of a large number of honourable members that I am able to give 20 minutes, but I have got to be strict in pulling a member up when the 20 minutes are up, in order not to be charged with showing favouritism. If the House desires to allow the honourable member Mr. Baptista to continue for a few minutes longer, I have not the least objection. [Honourable Members: He may go on.] That will mean that one member will lose his right of speaking at the end. I take it that it is the wish of the House that Mr. Baptista should continue for about 5 to 10 minutes more; is that so? [Honourable Members: Yes.] Very well, he may continue.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA: I am much obliged to you, Sir, and to the House for the indulgence shown to me, but I will not take any advantage of it. I was at the point when I said that these money bills are no remedy. What is the right remedy? In my opinion, the right remedy is the restoration of our share in the income tax of this presidency. [Honourable Members: Hear, hear]. But restoration will be impeded by showing overflowing balances and professing that the people's capacity for taxation is not yet reached. The Government are doing the greatest harm to us. No Government will consent to give us that share so long as they see that we are overflowing with money. I therefore say that no patriotic citizen ought to support these money bills until we have obtained our full share of the income tax. Full provision ought to be made for our requirements even if they result in deficits. I do not wish to say anything more on the subject. I would like to conclude, but there are one or two remarks I should like to make so far as the heads of the administration are concerned. I must of course exclude His Excellency the Governor, his staff and the band. I should like to point out that Madras recommended Indian music as an aid to good government, but they drew the line at the *nautch* girl. Lead us not to temptation! I find so far as the heads of the administration are concerned, they are more than doubled. I do not know if it is based on the principle of proportionate efficiency. I do not see any signs of it. There is some kind of progress so far as Excise and Education are concerned. The Minister for Education has progressed in the direction of the tail and the Minister for Excise in the direction of the cocktail.

I will say no more, but before I conclude I feel it is my bounden duty to press the claims of the Indian Christian community upon the attention of Government. I do not base that claim upon any principle of proportionate representation in the executive offices. I do not believe in that. I believe with Burke that though every man has a right to franchise no man has a right to office. Our rights and liberties, our property and lives, the honour of men and even the chastity of women are placed in the hands of Government, and therefore it is absolutely imperative that the offices, and especially the higher offices, should be filled by merit and merit alone. I base my claim for my community upon merit and merit

[Mr. J. Baptista]

alone. A community that has passed through the sway of the Hindus, then of the Portuguese, then of the Peshwas, and which is now under British rule, without incurring the displeasure of those rulers, must have qualifications and qualities that can be well utilised in the service of the State. There is many a man in the community that will do justice to the highest offices, not only in this province but also in the Imperial services. I therefore ask and request and hope and trust that His Excellency the Governor in Council and His Excellency the Governor General in Council will pay due heed to this matter and give my community a fair field upon merits. Recognition of merit stimulates progress in the community, non-recognition of merit depresses them to the status of pariahs. It is for that reason that I hope and trust the merits of my community will be examined with the sympathy it deserves. And now nothing remains for me but to thank you, Sir, and the House for the attention with which they have listened to me.

Mr. G. I. PATEL (Ahmedabad Millowners' Association) : Sir, after the very entertaining speech which the honourable member Mr. Baptista has made, it falls to my shoulders to analyse some of the most serious issues which have been raised by the Honourable the Finance Member in his budget speech. From its outward appearance the whole of the budget speech of the Honourable the Finance Member is a simple one, but if we analyse it to its depths, we shall find that in some places he has given expression to opinions in which most dangerous issues on the non-official side are involved. In order to prove one or two points I will try to place before the House one or two sentences which he has put down with the object of ensnaring this House into a new kind of policy, not only for the next year, but for future years also. He says at first that from the agricultural standpoint, the year has, on the whole, been favourable in the greater part of the presidency. That is the first issue which he has placed before the House in order to induce honourable members to accept proposals which are most dangerous and which he gradually puts forward at a later stage. May I ask him, if the agricultural prospects were good and favourable, why was it necessary for him to rush to this House with proposals for new taxation, without analysing the situation for one more year? Then, at another place, he puts down another issue in the form of putting a link in a heap of grass. I may say that if these links are put together and made into a chain, they will reveal a story which would be most sad and dangerous to this side of the House. He says that the abnormal spell of cold in January and this month has done considerable injury to the crops. In one place he says that the agricultural prospects were better, and in another place he makes, as it were in the same breath, a contradictory statement, and says that there was something else on the other side. This is a clear contradiction of facts, and from this it appears that the camouflage which is placed before the non-official side of the House is most dangerous, so far as the acceptance of the principles which he lays down in this budget go. Then, ultimately, he comes to the conclusion that if the bill for enhanced court-fees had not been rejected by this Council last budget session, we should have received

[Mr. G. I. Patel]

about Rs. 18 lakhs more as revenue. This is an instance of his tall talk. He wants to evolve the theory that because the House refused to pass the bill in the last budget session, the non-official side should now understand the position, and they are bound to vote for additional taxation. This is a sorry attempt, as it were to scold this side of the House for an action taken by the House last year in refusing the enhancement of the court-fees. The Honourable the Finance Member has harped on this very subject at several other places in his budget speech, in order to make out a case for additional taxation. He says that as a result of the refusal of the House to pass additional taxation less revenue has been received, and therefore the House is now compulsorily placed in a position to vote for additional taxation. This is the underground theory which is regularly being evolved out of the whole of his speech.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I do not wish to interrupt the honourable member. He is aware that every time an honourable member sits down after concluding his speech, there are half a dozen other members anxious to address the House. Now, in regard to the taxation bills, I said to the honourable member Mr. Lalji Naranji at the very commencement that the House would have more than ample opportunity of going into that aspect of the question when the bills are before the House. If honourable members will devote the time which is now available to the discussion of the taxation bills, and the policy underlying them, many honourable members will be left without an opportunity of addressing the House on the budget. I would therefore ask honourable members, that during the present discussion they should confine themselves to other parts of the budget about which a great deal can be said, as has been evidenced by the speeches of honourable members who have already spoken. I do not want to stop honourable members and prevent them from dealing with the taxation bills. I merely ask them to consider whether in the interest of those honourable members who are yet to follow them, it would not be desirable to save the time of the Council by not making any reference in detail to this subject.

Mr. G. I. PATEL: I do not want to go into any special or detailed points on the bills, but I want to bring to the notice of the Council certain broad points affecting taxation bills in future also. I will simply touch certain points and then pass on.

The third conclusion which was arrived at by Government was that they anticipate a great shortage. At another place, the Honourable the Finance Member says :

"But I may point out that we have arrived at a stage that we cannot progress further in supplying the needs of the public unless we have more revenues."

This idea is a most dangerous idea so far as this House is concerned. If we do not vote certain taxation bills, a threat is made that we will not get money for those departments for which we are anxious to get money. The Honourable Member has throughout his speech made an attempt to bring the non-officials to agree to his taxation proposals. He admits that already the reserved departments are getting a two-third share of the revenue and still maintains that the transferred

[Mr. G. I. Patel]

departments will not get more money if his proposals are not accepted. He points out that the expenditure on Lee Commission proposals is included in the budget and makes a speech in defence practically of the whole service. He calculates the expenses on a basis which is only a jugglery of figures. All such kinds of arguments cannot at all be convincing. He calculates the total expenses and strikes out an average per head. But if you take a certain head of expenditure and divide it by the head of population, you will get an insignificant ratio, as the honourable member Mr. Lalji pointed out the other day. There is nothing here to prove the exactness of the calculation either in relation to total cost or in relation to population.

Now the chief point for consideration is that we stand to lose the excise revenue in a fixed period. Every year the excise revenue will be falling and every year honourable members will be asked to approve fresh proposals for taxation to meet that shortage. I believe the honourable the Finance Member knows that India is mainly an agricultural country. If more money is spent on the improvement of agriculture on a scientific basis, and in developing water power more land which has been lying fallow and idle will come under cultivation and Government will derive more revenue which will go to meet the deficit caused by the loss of excise revenue. If Honourable Ministers apply their mind to improve agriculture on a scientific basis and to spend money on developing water power from the Government exchequer, that will bring in additional money to meet the loss on account of excise revenue.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE (Bombay City): Sir, I have carefully listened to the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member. I have also studied the figures given in the Blue Book. First of all I am very glad that the Honourable the Finance Member has declared:

“And in so vast a field of work as falls to the responsibilities of a Government we are deeply conscious that there are failings and errors and we welcome the advice and guidance that may be offered to us and look hopefully to receive such advice and guidance in ample measure.”

I hope officers of Government high and low will follow this fine example. We have found, and it has been clearly stated, that any improvement in the land revenue should not be depended upon in the present condition nor could we depend upon it as a source of steady revenue. We have been told by the Honourable the Finance Member that irrigation schemes have been introduced and I find that we received a revenue of 54 lakhs while the interest we paid on the outlay is 64 lakhs. That is probably the beginning, but I do think that the irrigation schemes before they are undertaken ought to be brought to the notice of this House as well as of the general public and specially of the people of the district concerned and this House should have an opportunity of expressing its opinion before Government undertakes them in the light of the public criticism thereon. It is also essential, and it is businesslike, that the estimates and plans of such schemes and also its return should be placed before this House, and the public before they are undertaken.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: That is done.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE : Up to now irrigation schemes have not been shown in such a way as to elicit the opinion of this House and the public. In certain districts irrigation is badly needed and Government are not taking steps to launch irrigation schemes in those areas. For instance, the Karnatak wants irrigation very badly and frequent requests have been made to Government to undertake irrigation schemes there, but they have remained without heed from Government. Government took up the irrigation scheme in Sind, and are also going on spending money on roads and bridges. So far as I am aware these bridges and roads, many of them, are not roads made suitable only for the purpose of carrying agricultural produce, but they are made also for the military purposes. When the Government of India are taking away 8 crores of our revenues, it is but just and fair and it is the duty of the Honourable the Finance Member to ask the Government of India to provide the requisite funds, so far as or as much as are spent for military purpose thereon. It has been said, and I believe it, Sir, that during the regime of Lord Sydenham many roads were built for military purposes, and I want to be assured, and I hope the honourable members of this House will want to be assured by the Honourable the Finance Member, that the road-making and bridge strengthening are not done for military purposes. If they are done for military purposes we should ask for a due contribution from the Government of India for the same. It is also a fact that many of the roads are made wider and stronger for military purposes and their maintenance charges are therefore naturally exorbitant. I ask the Honourable the Minister in charge of Public Works Department whether he has made enquiries whether it is not the case that many such roads are really maintained mainly for military purposes. And if they are so maintained, why is it that so far he has not asked the Government of India to contribute their share ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Will the honourable member point out any such bridge or road ?

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE : I hope the Honourable the Minister will take down what I say carefully. I will give one instance, the Kasheli bridge. I say that that bridge ought not to have been made so strong : it was not necessary to spend 13 lakhs on that. May I ask the Honourable the Minister what traffic passes through it ? I have gone there and made enquiries, and that bridge is made extraordinarily strong in order that heavy lorries may pass over it. Why should it be so strong ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Is it a provincial bridge or a municipal bridge ?

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE : It is a municipal bridge as well as provincial and the provincial Government have asked us to make it a strong bridge for their purposes. Let the engineers and the honourable members of this House go and enquire whether it is not made so strong because of the military purposes. I hope the Honourable Minister will make due enquiries before he says "No" and tells the House that I am in the wrong or mistaken.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN :
Is it a provincial bridge?

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE : Yes. In a way it is.

Sir, with regard to the railways, the Honourable the Finance Member has said that they have done great good to the cultivators. That may be so. But may I ask whether, after all, the railways are not the shareholders' concern? The directors of these companies did not undertake the schemes without getting a guarantee from Government. I say, Sir, that before Government gave guarantees to railway companies for railway development, in the belief that that would help to bring the produce of the villages to the seaports, first of all they ought to have spent that money on irrigation works. If they had spent that money on irrigation works they would have received more revenue and they would not have given money away at low rate of interest to the railway companies. Government should at least have asked the companies when giving away the moneys to help the movement of goods from one part of India to another and thus promote indigenous industries and internal movement of produce. Many a time it has happened that the railways have helped the foreign rich people to take away our foodgrains at cheap rates to their countries by keeping low rates for ports. Only during the war Government laid down that as long as the produce of the country is not enough for the people, it ought not to be exported. I think it is high time that our Government adopted such a policy permanently. I fear that these railway facilities are provided for the rich nations to buy our produce at a cheaper rate. The result has been starvation for the people in India.

Then, Sir, coming to the excise policy. I have had the honour of being a member of the Excise Committee. From what Government have stated in their resolution it is quite clear to everybody that the whole policy of Government is based on revenue and revenue alone, and all this reference to the interests of the people is mere tall talk. They have stated in the resolution that their goal is total prohibition, but say :

"Government however realise that it would be impossible for them to pursue this policy to its goal unless the gap which it would create in the provincial finances is gradually filled by revenue from other sources."

And again, in the concluding paragraph of the resolution we find :

"The policy which they advocate and which they believe, reading the report of the Excise Committee, is one which commends itself to the great majority of the public of the Presidency, necessitates the finding of large sums to replace the excise revenue lost, and further sums on increased expenditure on preventive establishments."

Therefore, it is no use telling us that the excise policy is being conducted for the welfare of the people or to remove drunkenness. The whole policy is conducted for the sake of revenue, and until we can give new revenues, I believe, Sir, it is the policy of Government not to move at all in the matter of prohibition in the interests of the people. Sir, the members of the committee realised this position and in order to meet the requirements of Government they have suggested various sources of income. I am glad that the Honourable the Finance Member has given us credit for that. I think we must provide the revenue in some shape or other in order to get rid of this scourge of liquor and other

[Mr. Hoosainbhoy A. Lalljee]

intoxicants. I really feel somewhat satisfied with the assurance that the Honourable Minister has given us, that Government are going to write to the Government of India for the purpose of getting control over foreign liquor. But I may say, Sir, that although this report has been so long with the Government, and although they have been considering it for the last six months, still they say that they propose to write to the Government of India. I hope they will now write and not say in the next budget year also that they still propose to write.

Now, Sir, I am very sorry to say that the Honourable the Finance Member has introduced a policy of divide and rule. He has tried to show that the revenue this presidency is getting is all from the cultivator and that the people in the cities are not contributing to the expenses of law and order. Well, Sir, I ask the Honourable the Finance Member whether an income tax of eight crores of rupees, paid by twelve lakhs of people, which means Rs. 66 per head, is not a sufficient contribution towards law and order? Are we to be blamed if the Government of India do not give them this revenue? Then, Sir, what about the cotton excise revenue? About two crores are paid by the city of Bombay. And what return do we get? We cannot even stop the sale of this liquor, which is killing the millhands. If this Government insists on this cotton excise revenue not being taken away from us and would adopt a policy of prohibition, who can object to it? This Government is responsible for the excise administration of this province. Why does not our Government inform the Government of India to this effect?

Now, with regard to the transfer duties, I may point out to the Honourable the Finance Member that that is not the right time and not the right way of taxation. Almost 70 per cent. of the properties in Bombay are mortgaged. Is he not aware of the fact that nearly 50 per cent. of the house-owners are widows and persons who depend upon their properties? Is a duty of 12 per cent. on transfer going to contribute to the prosperity of the city? Has Government done anything to relieve the indebtedness of these owners by means of loans? Is it not a fact that these property owners in Bombay have contributed to Government large sums of money during the war? Is it not a fact that this Government have said all over the world that this presidency has stood the test and helped the Empire? I ask the Honourable the Finance Member, is there any justification in asking for a property tax when the condition of the house-owners and general trade are pitiable? We have got in view very shortly the Rent Act and we also know that these landlords are at present paying exorbitant interest, and they must be given some relief by giving them loans at a low interest, but here you ask for a special tax on the transfer of lands. Then I will also ask whether it is a right policy for Government towards the people in Bombay and also in the principal towns of the districts. The raw products of the districts are purchased by merchants in principal towns and therefore unless and until there is prosperity in the principal towns there can never be any prosperity in the mofussil. It is no use saying that the citizens of principal towns are not contributing towards the tax which

[Mr. Hooseimbhoy A. Lalljee]

the district people have to pay. We in Bombay are paying the land revenue tax and municipal tax which includes all the police and medical charges as well. We want compulsory education to be provided for in the city of Bombay but the Honourable Minister has not as yet given us the money that was promised. If compulsory education is introduced in this city children of 80 per cent. of the population of mill-hands would get advantage of that compulsory education. The population of Bombay is always coming from the districts and changing and especially the mill-hands who come from the various districts would get the full advantage of compulsory education which is being introduced in the city of Bombay. I hope Government will come forward and see that they contribute more towards that end. I am one of those who hold that the more you spend on education the more you save in expenses on law and order. If the people are educated they will know what are their rights and duties towards their neighbours and even if they are given arms they will make right use of those arms if they are educated in their self-defence.

I am sorry that so far as education is concerned there has been no improvement at all in that direction. Last year, some of my honourable friends from Sind complained that the needs of their province ought to be looked into, but I find that no attention has been paid to their complaint, and as far as I know many leaders of my community have felt that there ought to be greater spread of education among the backward classes and especially Mahomedans and that, although promises have always been made by officials that help would be given, nothing tangible has been done. May I ask Government and the Honourable Minister what has been done for the education of Mahomedans. Has the Honourable Minister done any improvement in that direction? Is it not a fact that during the period of about a year and a half when you Mr. President were in charge of Education about 800 schools were opened while there has not been the addition of a few more schools for Mahomedans during the regime of the Honourable Minister. I ask my Sind brothers to come forward and say whether it is not a fact that no improvement has been made in that direction so far as Sind is concerned. They have told me that their position has been very bad because they are in the hands of Indian Ministers. Is it a fair way of dealing with the people? Is it the way in which the Minister elected by the people should act? In conclusion, I will only say that I am thankful to Government for one thing and that is that an assurance was given by the Honourable the Leader of the House that he will bring in amendment bill with regard to children's protection on the lines suggested by us and I find that he has carried out the promise. With these remarks I resume my seat.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Mr. President, it is my very proud privilege to render an account of my stewardship to this House through whose good opinion I stand here. I have to offer my grateful thanks to all the parties in this House who have given me their unstinted support and have always sanctioned any proposed increase in expenditure

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

for the expansion of what are popularly described as nation-building departments. In this connection I am very happy to express my thanks to all my colleagues on the official benches who were always ready to favour me with their advice and co-operation.

Ministers have a very delicate task to perform in these days of stringent finance. They have the advantage of knowing, or, perhaps the disadvantage of knowing, what are the urgent needs of other departments than their own as well as the needs of those that are under them. Much as they wish to improve the working of their own departments, they cannot be blind to the urgent necessities of other departments which are necessary for the stability and peace of the society. The needs of the departments of education and medical relief are such as can hardly be said to be satisfied even in the most opulent and civilized countries. Education is a subject which widens one's vision the further we go, discovers new wants and forces on our attention new avenues of progress. Research work is also very important and is ever claiming for larger expenditure. The same is true of medical science also. The aim of medicine is to banish disease and to increase intellectual and physical powers, and for this purpose research and more research is called for and practically there is no end to it.

The expenditure on education in 1919-20 was one crore 29 lakhs 51 thousands which had in 1923-24 risen to 1 crore 91 lakhs and 75 thousands, a rise of about 48 per cent. This amount of 1 crore 91 lakhs includes the windfall of five lakhs of rupees which the Finance Department was kind enough to place at my disposal last year and which was utilised in redeeming promises of building grants. This year the budget grant for education is 2 crores 15 lakhs 34 thousands. At pages 32 and 33 of the Blue Book you will see a comparative table showing the growth of expenditure on education. You will see also that while during the period of the last 15 years the total expenditure of the province increased by 216 per cent. the expenditure on education during the same period has increased by 453 per cent. The rise in the Medical Department is 331 per cent. during the same period. The rise in expenditure on public health has been almost equal to that on education.

Remarks have been made in this House about the administration of the Education Department, and now with your permission, Sir, I shall devote a few minutes to place before this House what the actual facts are. The Primary and Compulsory Education Act was passed in 1922, I think, and the rules were being framed under it. The rules were ready and the Act was to be put into operation by the beginning of 1924, when a representation was made to Government that until the elections under the new Local Boards Act took place the Compulsory Education Act should not be put into operation. This province, as the House is aware, is passing through a change. The vote has been lowered and the elections have been made direct. The passing of the Government of India Act and the passing of the Local Boards Act and the consequent elections have caused a ferment in the country and have

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

awakened the masses which were dormant up to this time to the importance of the vote and to the importance of the seats on legislative bodies and on local bodies. It was represented to Government that in the constitution of the old local bodies popular element was not properly represented and if the Compulsory Education Act was brought into force earlier or before the elections of the district local boards took place, perhaps there would be a great harm done to the interests of the dumb millions. Government had to postpone the transference of these departments and now the elections are taking place, and I am quite sure that the department will be transferred before long. After this transference of the vernacular education to the control of the district local boards, it is expected that there will be a vast change. The boards will be elected by the people for the advancement of the people. There has been a great deal of awakening in the provinces and during the last five years the numbers of school going children have nearly doubled automatically without any compulsion at all. I have been touring in a number of districts and wherever I went I found that the cry of the people was the demand for opening more schools and more teachers in existing schools. The district local boards, therefore, Sir, will have to meet this demand in the first place. It will be, I think, two or three or four years more before the compulsion clauses can be brought into operation because the awakening is such that the resources of the local boards, although they have to bring forth only one-third of the additional expenditure, will be taxed to the utmost limit to make provision for the demand that is voluntarily made. The district local boards therefore have to expand education on the voluntary basis before compulsion will have to be taken in hand and, Sir, Government is prepared to assist the district local boards with the two-thirds of the additional expenditure that will be demanded, and a demand will be placed before this House for this additional sum and I am quite sure that with the usual kindness and sympathy of the House the grant will be allowed. A charge is laid at the doors of Government for not opening new schools at the present time. An offer was made to the district local boards to take in hand the opening of new schools and they were distinctly given to understand that Government was prepared to give a grant-in-aid to the extent of two-thirds of the expenditure on the expansion of education. I am very sorry to say, Sir, that very few of the district local boards came forward to volunteer to open schools and those few districts that came forward were encouraged and I think schools have been opened there. Government is also alive to the needs of secondary education and the grants hitherto given to private enterprise in this direction have been continued and will be continued. Government do recognise that the secondary education is as important as primary education and it will not be neglected. So also Government is not neglecting higher education and the grants to colleges, both arts and professional, have been continued. Especially with regard to professional colleges Government recognise their obligation to develop and you will perceive that the engineering college at Karachi has had

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

liberal grants made to it, as well as provision has been made in the budget for the expansion of the engineering college at Poona. The Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, too, is receiving due consideration and Government do recognise the necessity of an expansion in technical education. Government, however, think that first the institutions that have been started and working ought to be properly developed, so that they will be able to admit a larger number of students, and with that object in view the Engineering College at Poona is receiving substantial grants for buildings and recurring and non-recurring expenditure. In the same way Government have an art pottery works and Reay Workshops at the School of Art, Bombay, and there students are taught in arts and crafts, and Government desire to develop the activities of these schools. Before starting new schools it is thought desirable to develop the schools that are already existing. As a teaching centre I am very sorry to admit that the art pottery works have not been a distinct success. The private venture at Talegaon—I allude to the Paise Fund glass works there—has been, I am very glad to announce, more successful in turning out qualified men to start glass works outside and Government will have to take stock and to see that the institutions they are conducting are doing some good in turning out efficient apprentices. The Reay Art Workshops are doing a lot of good. The artisans turned out are soon absorbed by the industries in which they are trained, and there is ample room for more candidates. But I am sorry to say that the right sort of candidates generally come from the poorer ranks who are at the same time very poor in education, and these youngsters, too, do not join the classes unless scholarships are offered to them. [An Honourable Member: Why don't you give the scholarships?] Scholarships are, as a matter of fact, given. There is a cry all around about technical education and industrial schools. The various schools I visited during the course of the last twelve months, especially the one at Dhulia and the one at Ratnagiri, and those at other places are generally filled with boys who join those industrial schools simply because they are getting a stipend. If the stipends were taken away, there will be no boys to take advantage of the schools.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN: May I know how the Honourable Minister knows it?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I visited those places and made enquiries personally. I am speaking here from personal experience and I think the honourable members Mr. Dev and Mr. Nanal will bear me out.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Let the Honourable Minister be allowed to continue; his time is being taken up by these interruptions.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: But, Sir, before industrial education on a wider scale is undertaken by Government, it must be seen that the students turned out by these institutions will readily get into business or industrial undertakings. The majority of the students are not in a position to start on their own account. They will have to be provided

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

with employment, and unless big industries or small industries rise all around, the students turned out of these industrial schools will almost be failures, and will add to the ranks of the unemployed. It is, therefore, necessary to give encouragement to industries, and in this way, Sir, the Department of Industries is very useful. In these days of stringent finance, it is, I think, absolutely necessary to help monetarily small industries, and, with that end in view, I am now making enquiries. The Legislative Councils of Madras and Behar and Orissa have passed legislation for giving financial aid to industries. Something on those lines is going to be attempted, and I think, during one of the Poona sessions I hope to be able to place before the House for sanction a bill.

I am very sorry, Sir, to hear the charges brought against me by the Mahomedan members, who think that Mahomedan education has been neglected. On the question of education, one ought never to be satisfied. I for myself am never satisfied, and I am very glad to see that my Mahomedan brethren are not satisfied. There cannot be

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order. The Honourable Minister has already had his 20 minutes. I should like to know whether he is likely to conclude within the next few minutes. I cannot allow him to make a long speech which will extend to considerably later than 7 o'clock, which is the time for adjournment, but I will give him a few minutes more if he will conclude his speech within that time.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I will just conclude. If you look to the number of scholarships allowed in the high schools, you will find that the Mahomedan students have been favourably treated. Provision has been made for two central schools, where Mahomedan boys will be fed and taught the vernacular fifth, sixth and seventh standards. This sort of help is denied to other communities, or is not offered to other communities, which are equally backward or even in a worse condition. Then, you will find that certain other provisions have been made in the next budget for Mahomedan education. I do not think the charge laid at the door of Government that they are neglecting Mahomedan education will be born out.

I have one more thing to add, Sir. An offer has been made by a millionaire in Bombay to give Rs. 16 lakhs for the erection of a maternity hospital. One hundred and twenty beds are to be provided, of which 60 will be reserved for the women of the millhands, and the hospital is to be built in the Parel area. The condition is that one-fourth of that amount should be advanced by Government, and Government will require Rs. 4 lakhs for that purpose. The municipality of Bombay is making demands—and legitimate demands—for grants-in-aid for primary education, and that will entail an expenditure of lakhs and lakhs of rupees.

So, more money is urgently needed which will benefit the agricultural classes who come to Bombay to swell the ranks of the labourers, and therefore I place before you how necessary it is to strengthen the finances of Government, in order to give relief to these poor people. It is said that the householders are poor, and that the *Shetias* of Bombay are poor, but I

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

need not say anything on that point. Honourable members here are well able to judge for themselves. But one point which I want to place before the House is that the Stamp Act is likely not to press upon any of the poorer people. The additional taxation will be entirely borne and paid by the rich classes and the well-to-do classes, who have, up to this time, not been paying enough. My time is up, and I need not take much of the time of the House, but I place this question before the House, namely, the urgent necessity of extension of medical relief and education, and the absolute necessity of increasing the financial resources of Government. I place that before the House for their consideration, and I hope that the House will sanction some of the legislation and help Government in securing an advance in medical relief and in education.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Before I adjourn, I should like to inform honourable members that I have received a note signed by four honourable members, none of whom has yet taken any part in this discussion, suggesting that I should reduce the time limit from 20 to 10 minutes. I do not know whether it is within the recollection of those honourable members who have been re-elected to this House that during the first term of the Reforms Council such a procedure was once adopted. No time limit was fixed to start with, and then a ten minute time limit was fixed, and it was subsequently reduced to five minutes. That procedure proved to be so unsatisfactory that it was not repeated. On the present occasion, honourable members will have observed that there has been a general dissatisfaction at my enforcing the time limit of 20 minutes. [Honourable Members: No, no.] There has clearly been. I wish to draw the attention of honourable members to the fact that it is hardly possible to do justice on the present basis to the general discussion of a whole budget within the three days which are allotted for the purpose. I hold that even 20 minutes time for the general discussion of the whole budget by an honourable member to be wholly insufficient and that, when even that much time is not available to honourable members, they have a legitimate cause for grievance.

There are one or two ways by which this difficulty could be met. It may interest honourable members to know that this general discussion on the budget was the result of a representation made by the members of the Imperial Legislative Council. The procedure there was that the Finance Member read out his speech dealing with the whole aspect of the budget. The non-official members were then required to send in notices of reduction or omission in the budget grants; and they were restricted in their speeches to those items which they wanted to deal with, while they had no opportunity of discussing the budget as a whole and the policy underlying it. It was then considered but fair that the non-official members should be allowed an opportunity of a general discussion. The rules were then amended and this general discussion is the result of that amendment. The procedure followed was that the Finance Member, after making his first speech, took notes in regard to all criticisms directed against all departments and he was

[The President]

given ample time to reply in full, no other member from the official side taking part in the discussion. What they did was a much better procedure. The Honourable Members and Ministers, other than the Finance Member, took notes of the criticisms applied to their respective departments, and replied in full when they moved for budget grants for the following year. This is advantageous from their point of view also, because as it must have been observed that the Honourable Education Minister could not put his whole case before the House within the allotted time of 20 minutes. Instead of replying on the present occasion, he could have reserved his reply when he moved for budget grants and then he would have had ample opportunity of meeting all the points. If the present procedure is to be followed then the best remedy appears to be to represent to the Governor-General in Council to increase the number of days allotted for general discussion from 3 to 4. The alternative to it is to leave the reply at the end to the Finance Member alone, the other members of Government reserving their reply to criticisms against their departments till demands for grants for those departments are made. It is for honourable members both official and non-official to consider these alternative courses.

With regard to the representation sent to me, I feel I must adhere to the time-limit of 20 minutes. I would say this. Those honourable members who have written to me asking me to restrict the time limit to 10 minutes will, I hope, exercise self-denial and voluntarily restrict themselves to 10 minutes. That will go a great way to the solution of this question.

The House will now adjourn till 2 o'clock on Wednesday, the 25th February 1925.

Wednesday, the 25th February 1925.

The Council re-assembled at the Town Hall, Bombay, at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, the 25th February 1925, the Honourable the President Sir IBRAHIM RAHIMOOLA, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
ANGADI, Mr. S. N.
BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
BHURGRI, Mr. J. M.
BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
BUNTER, Mr. J. P.
CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
GHOSAL, Mr. J.
GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH
GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
HUDSON, Mr. L. S.
JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
JATOI, Khan Saheb HAJI SERAI IMAMBAKSH
JATOI, Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
JOG, Mr. V. N.
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
KALBHOR, Mr. G. M.
KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.
KARKI, Mr. M. D.
KAY, Mr. J. A.
KAZI INAITULLAKHAN
KOKANI, Mr. G. J.
KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.

LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 LINFORD, Mr. J. W.
 MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO, Mr.
 MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
 MAVALANKAR, Mr. G. K.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
 MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
 NANAL, Mr. B. R.
 NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
 NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
 NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
 OWEN, Mr. A. C.
 PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
 PATEL, Mr. D. N.
 PATEL, Mr. G. I.
 PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED KHAN
 PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
 PATIL, Mr. D. R.
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 PIR RASULBAKSH SHAH
 POWAR, Mr. M. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 PRATT, Mr. F. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSENALLY M.
 SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
 SAPTARSHI, Mr. C. M.
 SARDESAI, Mr. S. A.
 SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH
 SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 SHIVDASANI, Mr. H. B.
 SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
 SURVE, Mr. A. N.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.
 SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
 THAKOR OF AMOD, the
 THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
 TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
 VELKAR, Dr. M. B.
 WILES, Mr. G.
 WOODS, Mr. E. E.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Order, order.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : Mr. President, may I say one or two words with reference to Government business to-morrow ? We propose to take the taxation bills in front of the Rent Bill. Items Nos. (ii) and (iii) in the agenda will be taken before No. (i).

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I hope honourable members have followed the decision of Government. To-morrow they will take, out of the three Government bills, item No. (ii) (A Bill further to amend the Indian Stamp Act, 1899) first ; then item No. (iii) (A Bill further to amend the Court-fees Act, 1870) ; and after that they will take item No. (i), that is the Rent Acts Bill.

Now, further discussion of the budget.

Mr. D. R. PATIL (East Khandesh District) : Mr. President, I offer my heartiest congratulations to the Honourable the Finance Member on his recovery from illness. He is short of stature, but to my mind very broad of intellect. He can in his intellectual flights reach grandiose heights of finance with great tact and skill. He is really a great asset to Government. But, Mr. President, you will allow me to say that a budget is a leather bag and the bag of a conjurer or a juggler.

Sir, I am going to deal with some of the points that have been touched by the Honourable the Finance Member in his budget speech. His first point I will deal with first. He says :—

“ In the speeches which I have had the honour of delivering in this House during the last three years, I have set forth in considerable detail the general principles of the policy of Government and these principles have received the approbation of a great majority of the members of this House : an approbation which long experience has taught Government to look for not in vocal compliments but in the more practical form of a silent vote.”

The Honourable the Finance Member seems to be a votary or rather an admirer of a silent vote. Sir, votes differ as tastes differ. Tastes also differ on various considerations. My own view is, let the vote be sensible and in accordance with the real dictates of one's own conscience.

Now, Sir, I refer to his second point. The second point is : that he invites acute criticism from the non-official members and wants to examine the failings and deficiencies, the errors of commission and omission on the part of Government. I thank the Honourable the Finance Member for this invitation. I entirely agree with him when he says that life would be monotonous if we all were in complete agreement on all points. My own view is, that all of us are here for promoting the interests of the country, and therefore all our deliberations should be regulated on feelings of mutual goodwill and toleration, responsive co-operation and compromising tendency. Let us understand each other and do what is best for the welfare of the country.

Now, Sir, I take his third point. He says that we have reason to be grateful to the administrative departments for their enforcement of stringent economy. I am really glad of this, and I thank the various departments for the economy which they have effected. But I should like to suggest in this respect that the pruning knife of economy ought to be applied rather more liberally. Sir, when we come to the question of expenditure I have to state that huge amounts are spent over buildings. If we look at these buildings we find that they are palatial. Look at the

[Mr. D. R. Patil]

court-houses ; look at the bungalows of officers : I do not mean to say that there should be no court-houses or bungalows for officers, but now that we are in this state of financial stringency, the only way is to spend as little as possible on these buildings. Let us build court-houses and bungalows for officers : but let us cut our coat according to our cloth ; let not our expenditure exceed our income. Again as regards salaries of officers, I should like to submit that the salaries of officers drawing more than Rs. 500 per mensem should be reduced in the interest of our administration.

Now, Sir, I come to another point. The Honourable the Finance Member says that money has become more plentiful in the country ; thereby, suggesting that the country is prospering. I must tell him frankly that the country is not prospering. And my reasons are these. What is the prosperity of a country ? The agriculturists form 80 per cent. of the whole population of our presidency ; they are the real backbone of the country ; and unless they are prosperous we can never say that the country is prosperous. What is the condition of the agriculturists ? They work like machines, and contribute a large revenue to Government ; but they find it very difficult even to make both ends meet. They are drowned in the ocean of indebtedness, and unless Government take some measures to remove their indebtedness, I am afraid that their lands will be acquired by capitalists, and they will be reduced to a state of beggary or slavery. In these circumstances the view of the Honourable the Finance Member about the prosperity of the country is erroneous. What is the best wealth of a Government ? The best wealth of a Government is to be found in the growing wealth of its people ; and a policy that leads all that wealth into the hands of the tax-collector is a short-sighted one.

Now, Sir, I come to our present land revenue policy, which is destructive to the people. I say it is destructive to the people, because the people are crushed down under heavy assessment, and famines have become frequent and constant. Famine is no doubt the work of Providence but the lack of staying power is the work of heavy assessment. There is no reason why a single failure of the crops should cause famine in India, whereas England can be and can remain wealthy and prosperous without producing any crop or foodgrain. I should like to contrast the policy of Lord Canning and the policy of Lord Curzon in connection with land revenue. The policy of Lord Canning was : give the cultivator as much as possible and take from him as little as possible. The policy of Lord Curzon was : allow the cultivator as little as possible and take from him as much as possible ; talk of his welfare as much as possible and do for him as little as possible. I would request the Honourable the Finance Member that in his reply he will kindly let us know which of these policies is approved by the Government of Bombay—the policy of Lord Curzon or the policy of Lord Canning.

Now, Sir, I will deal with the Forest Department. We all know that forests, jungles, and wilds constitute one of the necessities of life. From birth to death and even after that, we require all kinds of things that are derived from forests and wilds. During our lifetime, we want fuel, food,

[Mr. D. R. Patil]

grass, stones, earth, leaves, bark, roots and everything else, which, once ours, have been made to belong to others, not by Divine agency but by the avaricious desire on the part of men like ourselves. Nature has, in India, provided us bountifully with all these, without any request on our part, and for hundreds of generations we have been enjoying it unchallenged, but sad to say, suddenly we have been deprived of it by man—by the forest administration—acting against Nature.

Sir, if we look back and see what forests were in the times of Hindu and Mahomedan rulers we will find that they were blessings. But now it is not so to all living in their neighbourhood. In those days they existed solely for the real good of the ryots as all necessary rights of user were freely enjoyed by these—the inhabitants of the neighbourhood—for whom nature had manifestly designed them. There are various grievances as regards the Forest Department and Government has appointed a committee to inquire into them. I feel sure that the committee will do its best to redress those grievances and reduce the complaints against the department.

Now, Sir, I am told by my friend Mr. Navle that in Satara taluka some agriculturists have made applications to Government in respect of land revenue revision and they complain very much about revised assessment but their applications have not yet received the attention of Government. I therefore make a request to Government that the grievances of the Satara people should be properly dealt with.

Then, Sir, the last request that I want to make is about Bodvad, a place in Bhusawal taluka. There is a great scarcity of drinking water at that place. I had asked a question on this matter last year and the reply was that the Collector of East Khandesh should be approached and the grievance would be redressed. In this case I have seen with my own eyes that the people of Bodvad have to go from place to place for drinking water, and thus they are put to great hardships and I therefore request Government to kindly inquire into this grievance and try to remedy the same very early as far as possible. With these remarks I conclude my speech.

Mr. A. MONTGOMERIE: Sir, I rise to draw attention to some of the adverse comments which have been made during the course of this debate. It has been tacitly assumed by a number of speakers on the other side that the question of financing the various departments can be solved in such a way as to avoid the necessity for future taxation, and it has been suggested that the remedy is a simple one. They say the Honourable the Finance Member has uttered a threat, and that they dealt with a similar threat some years ago; that they insisted on Government cutting down all its departments and that they can do the same again. Sir, I rise to suggest that in some of the most important spending departments of Government we have certainly reached the limit to which we can cut down our requirements. These are the departments which are under the charge of the Home Department. We had a cheerful suggestion from one honourable member that one of these departments at least, the department of the administration of justice, might well

[Mr. A. Montgomerie]

be worked on an honorary basis by magistrates and judges who having served their full time in the service of Government on full pay might be called on to spend their declining years in doing precisely the same work for nothing as they have been doing for pay all their life. The honourable member did not suggest that we should apply that system to the police.

In his opening remarks to this Council His Excellency described these departments of Government which deal with law and order as nation-building departments. I have no doubt in his researches into the theory of politics, the honourable member for Nasik has come across a remark of Aristotle to the effect that peoples come together as states in the first instance in order to enable themselves to live and secondly in order to live well. I suggest that without the ministrations of these departments of Government which are under the Home Department, the chances of the people living at all are very remote. We usually look on Bombay as one of the most orderly provinces in India and in many ways it is so. Bombay in the list of the Provinces of India stands seventh, as regards the incidence of serious crime in proportion to population.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN : Sir, on a point of explanation, I should like to know from the honourable member the Home Secretary what the honourable member for Nasik has to do with the remarks that he has made ?

Mr. A. MONTGOMERIE : I was merely suggesting that the honourable member for Nasik who has studied politics thoroughly is more likely to be cognizant of this particular remark of Aristotle than most members of the House. I am not accusing him of anything.

When we have said that Bombay stands above six of the other provinces of India in the matter of crime, we have said there all that we can say. I suggest, Sir, that in a great part of the territories of this Presidency, life and property are unsafe, and that the economies which we have already been compelled to effect in the Home Department have made it even more unsafe. I would like to put before this House some facts for its serious consideration. In the year 1922 there were tried in England and Wales which have the population of something like over 40 millions, for murder 60 persons of whom 35 were convicted and condemned to death. In the Bombay Presidency in a similar period there were tried for murder 827 persons of whom 360 were found guilty of murder, and I need not say that probably it is the experience of this House that the number of murders actually coming into court is not necessarily an index of the number of murders which actually occur. There are many murders which are never brought to the notice of the police, many are hidden away in the villages. When there is a village faction and somebody is murdered, the first instinct of the villagers is to say that there is one good man killed and why should they trouble themselves and go to the police in order that somebody else should be killed. I have seen the thing happening over and over again down in the Dharwar district.

[Mr. A. Montgomerie]

With regard to robberies and dacoities there were in England 199, in the Bombay Presidency including the city of Bombay, 1,400. I suggest, Sir, that these facts indicate that we have by any means managed to establish law, the rule of law and order, in the Presidency, and any endeavour to cut down our police forces will meet with disaster.

In England there is one policeman to 1·5 square miles of the country. In Bombay we can only afford to have one policeman for 5·7 square miles of the country. In Bombay we have to administer our police on the most economical basis. Our average cost per policeman in the Bombay Presidency is 517 rupees per annum. In all other provinces except Madras and Behar and Orissa the cost is very much greater, which indicates that although we pay our policemen a higher rate than the other provinces, the standard of living in Bombay being very much higher, although we are paying our individual policemen in Bombay better than they do in other provinces in India, we are managing by the reduction of the overhead costs and the general costs and contingencies to run our police more economically than those provinces. The comparative figures that I have given, Sir, for England and India, of course, only give a very general idea of the relation between crime and the number of population. It must be remembered that Bombay includes comparatively non-criminal districts like Ratnagiri, Ahmednagar and Kanara—places where crime is very uncommon. There are large districts in the Presidency where crime is very much worse. The average number of murders per million of population in England is 3; in the United States it is, I believe, 6·5. In the last administration report on the administration of criminal and civil justice in this Presidency which is now available, the figure for Ratnagiri, the least criminal district of the presidency, is 6. But in Kaira it is 47. I do not know if the honourable member for Kaira wishes any reduction in the police; at least I did not hear him say anything in that direction. The general taxpayer is at present paying for a considerable number of extra police in the honourable member's district, for the extra police establishment in his district; but the highest figure of all is in the Upper Sind Frontier which runs to 128 murders per million of population. The result is obvious that we cannot afford to reduce anything on the police. A further result is that we cannot afford to reduce anything on jails. The number of admissions into the jails of this Presidency, according to the report for 1923, which is the latest available, was 86,868. The number of admissions in England and Wales for more than double the population is 47,000. So we cannot afford to reduce anything on jails, unless we are going to run the jails as mere internment camps where we can put the prisoners in and not spend any money in looking after them. The honourable member for Ahmedabad pointed out that by cutting the food of the prisoners we have reduced the dietary charges by a lakh. That is perfectly true, but it won't cut the food which goes into the stomachs of the prisoners. The people who will be badly hit are the contractors who for years have been charging us retail rates for wholesale supplies. They will be hit. And we cannot certainly cut down our expenditure

[Mr. A. Montgomerie]

on our courts so long as we are called on to try the very large number of criminal cases. So long as we are called on to try the very large number of civil cases, too, you cannot cut down the court establishment so long as people are going to law. In the city of Bombay, in the Small Causes Court, there are 33,000 cases—suits—filed. In a very similar city—Liverpool—with a very similar population, with the same characteristic shipping ports and manufactures, there are in the County Court, which corresponds to our Small Causes Court, 5,486 suits. It is obvious then, Sir, that if this Council is looking forward to make a cut in the present budget, the cut cannot be made in the security services. It has been suggested: Cut down the grant to Government, and then Government will have to find the money. It cannot be found, with due regard to the security of life and security of property, by cutting grants out of the three large spending departments, the police, jails and justice. Therefore, it will be for the House, if it is going to cut it at all, to cut it out of other departments.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO (Larkana District): Sir, I want to say a few words in connection with the budget discussion, in connection with the Sukkur Barrage in particular and the whole irrigation in general. Everybody thinks that this is a very big scheme which will cost very great amount of money, but little has been said on it by the honourable members who have preceded me. There are two points to be noted: One is that the scheme is being managed by inefficient hands and the other is that the expense is extravagant. The reasons for inefficiency of the staff are that many assistant executive engineers or even assistant engineers who were in permanent service have been made executive engineers and have been taken up for barrage work, and the executive engineers have been made superintending engineers and chief engineers on the barrage. They have not the technical experience that is necessary for barrage work. These assistant engineers and others, in spite of the fact that they did get extraordinary promotion by this rise, claim duty allowance and other allowance in spite of the fact that they have not to work throughout the year. They draw duty allowances and they claim palatial houses to live in. They have to work only for the winter season say from November to March, only about five months a year, and yet they are constructing a good many bungalows at Sukkur headquarters and on each canal at the distance of four or five miles from each other, on the banks of canals.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Where are these bungalows? Within four or five miles from the canals?

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO: Yes, they are not constructed so far but they are to be constructed according to the prepared scheme. Each bungalow costs from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 50,000. May I ask the Honourable Member where is the necessity of wasting huge amounts of money on bungalows when he himself admits that they require these bungalows only for ten years? Why should they have any

[Mr. Mahomed Ayub Shah Mahomed Khuhro]

bungalows at all, when revenue and other officers have been touring about in tents? They admit that after ten years they will not require the bungalows and they will have to dispose of them. Are they sure that they will get a proper return on those bungalows? This shows that these inexperienced men who are appointed get the extra conveniences, extra allowances and all these comforts. May I ask the Honourable Member for General Department what efficiency do they show for running this scheme? When so much attention is shown to the Bombay development by engaging experts for advice, is this not an equally important scheme? In the 1925-26 budget, that is this budget, a provision of 35 lakhs is being made for the construction of more bungalows and I must say that it is all practically waste. For the barrage staff, 28 lakhs are provided and out of that two-thirds is a waste. I am going to prove how so much staff is unnecessary, on the right-bank there are three canals to be constructed, namely, the South-Eastern canal, the Central Rice canal and North-Western canal. These canals pass through a great part of the Larkana district and end a little further. They more or less benefit Larkana district and a portion of Sukkur district and Shahdadkot taluka. It is the opinion of almost all the agriculturists of that part that both South-Eastern canal and Central Rice canal these canals are of no use. The fact is that Larkana division and Mehar division are already under cultivation to the extent of 80 per cent. Therefore, I think it could very conveniently be arranged for these canals to be transferred to the Irrigation Department, and that department should be made to do the work with a little additional staff, and they can do it. I have discussed this matter personally with the executive engineers concerned, and they themselves say that they can easily take up this work with simply one assistant in addition and a few assistant engineers as and when required. I belong to the Larkana district. These canals run through Ghar and Western Nara and Shikarpur Canals Irrigation districts. One suggestion with regard to these canals is that, in the first place, it was not at all necessary to have these two canals. What they should have done was to end these canals in the Ghar, the Western Nara and Sukkur canals, and further they should only have improved, and widened the tails of the old canals and branches and excavated some new branches, which could have been done by the Irrigation Department, in order to irrigate the remaining 20 per cent. waste land. In that way, a lot of saving could have been effected. But if they insist on having these two canals anyhow, just to show that so much land has come under cultivation by this scheme, they could have got this work done easily by amalgamating it with irrigation districts of Ghar, Western Nara and Shikarpur canals. The other suggestion that I wish to offer is that separate Superintending Engineers for the Left and the Right Banks and the separate Chief Engineer for Barrage, these officers are not at all needed. There should be only one Superintending Engineer for the Barrage itself, and only a few engineers for the Right or the Left Banks, wherever they are needed; the rest of the work should be done by the Irrigation Department; that would be the most economical way of doing it.

[Mr. Mahomed Ayub Shah Mahomed Khuhro]

Similarly, there is the example of the Begari canal which Government propose to remodel. There again, is too much waste, and I think the same arrangements that I have suggested before should be adopted in the case of the Begari canals also. The officers of the Sukkur Barrage propose spending Rs. 18 lakhs on remodelling the Begari canal, while the Executive Engineer, Begari, could do it at half the amount, in half the time, and in as good a way, without having any extra staff. I again repeat that these bungalows are not at all necessary, and out of the Rs. 35 lakhs that have been provided for this purpose, not a pie is necessary. Also the amount of Rs. 55,000 for the survey of the remodelling of the Begari canal which has been provided in this year's budget is a waste.

I come from the district in which the barrage canals pass. I myself see that the four executive engineers appointed for the barrage go on touring along with their staff, supervising the survey work, while the same ground is covered by the executive engineers for Ghar and Western Nara Irrigation districts. The House can imagine how much money is wasted by this extra staff for the barrage.

I must say that the intention of Government appears to be to increase the work unnecessarily and to create posts for more men, and thus to bring about the ruin of Sind as soon as possible. The Sukkur Barrage was estimated to cost Rs. 18 crores, but looking to the way in which the work goes on every year, the ultimate expenses will not be less than Rs. 30 crores. In the current year over Rs. 2 crores were spent on the project, and rupees 3 crores are provided in next year's budget and at that rate, taking ten years as the period required for the completion of the scheme, Rs. 30 crores will be required for the purpose. Government have estimated that the assessment for rice cultivation will be Rs. 8 during the first ten years, Rs. 10 during the next twenty years and Rs. 12 to be the final pitch. According to the estimate of Rs. 18 crores expenditure, they estimate to sell the land at Rs. 150 to Rs. 200 per acre. In this connection it should be remembered that the expenses of the barrage scheme are to be borne by the agriculturists themselves. If, as I have shown, the cost of the scheme is increased to Rs. 30 crores, the assessment must also increase in the same proportion, and the cost of the land which is to be sold will also rise to Rs. 300 to Rs. 400 per acre and the assessment from Rs. 14 to Rs. 20 per acre. At present the gross income of a zamindar per acre is Rs. 15 and he pays to Government Rs. 5. After the barrage is completed I wonder how the zamindar will be able to pay more assessment, because his income per acre will remain the same, and Government will be compelled to charge Rs. 14 to Rs. 20 and according to the proportion of rise of expenditure—that means zamindars will have to pay minus something. Therefore, Sir, I think the scheme is only protective and not productive, and on a protective scheme it is no use spending so much money. It should be run on the most economical lines. I do not think it is a scheme on which so much money from loan funds should be spent, for, if Government's expectations do not prove to be correct, ultimately the whole burden will fall on the Presidency.

[Mr. Mahomed Ayub Shah Mahomed Khuhro]

I shall have more to say on the subject, when the question of the barrage grants comes to be discussed.

I find that for the ensuing year Rs. 31 lakhs have been provided for irrigation from ordinary revenues and Rs. 42 lakhs from capital accounts, and Rs. 84 lakhs for Civil Works. That means an additional debt of Rs. 128 lakhs.

Then, I find that Rs. 40,000 are provided in the budget for reduction of the sluices of zamindari *karias*. This is really a very important question. There has been a strong protest against it, but in spite of the protests, the Public Works Department insist on continuing this atrocious policy. They want to spend more money and to give less water to irrigate the land. Some of the canals that are 20 feet wide at the head are only 6 feet wide at the tail, and if they reduce the sluices, how is the water going to flow to the tail when there is no sufficient room to accommodate it. All the zamindars are strongly opposed to this policy of reduction of sluices. This also hinders the proper clearing of the sluices. This is a grievance in regard to which we must assert our rights.

We had made representations to the Honourable Mr. Cowasji Jehangir in this connection in October last. He promised to go into the question himself. He came to Sind in November last and held two conferences, one at Hyderabad and the other at Sukkur. About three hundred zamindars of different talukas and districts attended the conference. They all in a body condemned this policy of the irrigation officers. The highest officials of the Irrigation Department could persuade only two or three zamindars to support their policy. Some out of those zamindars were relatives of the subordinate officers of the Public Works Department. The result was that the Honourable Member said that it was a controversial point and no definite decision was arrived at. This is how things are going on in Sind. I also find that Rs. 2,80,000 have been provided for improvements of bunds in Sind. I think half of this amount is unnecessary.

There is also a provision of Rs. 90,000 for the buildings of the Irrigation Department, which is wholly unnecessary. Why should they build new buildings, while there are already so many buildings? May I ask the Honourable the General Member how the sub-divisional officers and executive engineers were managing without these buildings in the past? Why should they not do the same now, and wait still further? I hope that the Honourable the General Member will carefully look into the matter.

I shall have more to say on the various items when the motions for the reduction or omission of items are discussed one by one.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District): Sir, my honourable friend from Thana has already dealt with the question as to how certain allowances have been turned into non-votable items. But there is another matter to which I wish to refer, that is, there are certain officers in certain departments, such as the medical research officer, for whom provision has been made in the budget without even adding a note as to the duties of such an officer. I submit that in the Blue Book at least some note

[Mr. R. G. Soman]

should have been given as to why this post has been created, and why a new medical research officer has been thrust on this presidency and what his duties are, so that the House might have realised the necessity for the appointment of this officer.

With regard to the Lee Commission charges it has been stated by the Honourable the Finance Member that in the current year 9 lakhs and in the next year 10 lakhs this presidency will have to bear for enforcing Lee Commission recommendations, but what about the other recommendation made by the Lee Commission for the delegation of powers to the provincial governments for the provincialisation of the services ? This side of the House would very much like to be enlightened as to when that is likely to be done.

With regard to the budget it has been stated by so many honourable members that the budget is an adversity budget ; and therefore the only means to avoid deficit is to curtail expenditure on the several departments. But the Honourable the Finance Member has suggested two taxation bills, namely, the Stamp Bill and Court-fees Bill. They are being put forward for the purpose of obtaining 36 lakhs of rupees and a further 6 lakhs of rupees will be obtained by taxation on betting at the races. There is even another bill which is being brought forward as stated by the Honourable the Finance Member at page 17 of his speech, under which the irrigated lands are to be taxed to a certain extent. Thus, the epidemic of taxation is coming over us one after another and it lies with the members of this House to see whether these taxation proposals should be consented to.

One other subject to which I wish to refer is the Medical Department. Last year a provision was made for a scheme of medical relief to village areas, and a provision of Rs. 10,000 was made. This year provision of Rs. 3,000 more has been made for the same purpose. These are for the *prathamaopacharakus*. We have to spend Rs. 13,000 for this project and a press note was recently issued by Government stating that there is a bigger scheme under contemplation of Government, but we have yet to see as to when that scheme is going to be put into operation. The village population requires medical relief badly. The Madras Government have already started a school for teaching indigenous systems of medicine at a cost of Rs. 30,000, which example ought to be followed by the Bombay Government as soon as possible. I am told that the Bombay Government is in correspondence with the Madras Government in this matter. The sooner the teaching of indigenous system is introduced the better it will be for the village population, who will then be able to get medical relief at a much cheaper cost.

Now as to water supply ; the Honourable the Finance Member has put forward the excuse for taxing the municipal areas that the Bombay Government afford water supply to those municipal areas. But what about the village population ? This year, I am thankful to the Honourable Minister, a sum of 2 lakhs has been sanctioned for the water supply to the village population. But, Sir, that is too meagre a sum to satisfy the needs of the village population.

[Mr. R. G. Soman]

With regard to irrigation, I wish to submit that many members of this House might have read a leader in one of the Bombay dailies in which it was stated that larger projects were not as beneficial and paying as smaller projects. It has been considered necessary that smaller projects should be spread over the presidency and in order to avoid famine it is necessary that these smaller projects should be taken in hand at once instead of bigger ones like the Sukkur Barrage which eat up a large amount out of the finances of this presidency and loan funds from the Central Government. I have to thank the Honourable the Revenue Member for sanctioning at least a small amount in the matter of boring new wells, but that is a small crumb thrown at the village population which will not satisfy their hunger. The Honourable the Revenue Member paid a visit to my district and he might have seen the hopeless condition of the eastern talukas. Unless some relief is given to the eastern talukas by way of more irrigational facilities and famine is averted thereby, the condition will grow worse. The House will be surprised to hear that a village which yields a revenue of Rs. 11,000 has kept in arrears Rs. 2,000 every year on an average as the arrears during the last revision period amount to Rs. 60,000 in this one village. This will give an idea as to how the eastern talukas are situated in this respect. Unless small irrigation projects are taken in hand and executed, distress will be very greatly felt by the village population.

With regard to the Agricultural Department, it may be stated that if one looks through the budget, the White Book, one finds a phalanx of superior officers on page 202. This House ought to know why this phalanx of superior officers, excepting the Director of Agriculture and the officers of the Co-operative Department, should be saddled on us. The House ought to know the detailed work done by these officers. We find actually that this Agricultural Department is the most top heavy department. The Public Health Department stands in the same predicament. If we look into the wants of these departments, we will find that expenses in the other departments ought to be curtailed and the savings be transferred to these and other nation-building departments. Curtailment of expenditure can be effected in the Excise Department. I am sorry that the Honourable Minister in charge of Excise has stated that more preventive staff is necessary. It will be found that though the Salt and Excise Departments were separated, the superior staff remained practically the same, except a change here and there. Commissioners' charges are wholly saddled on this department. That will go to show that there is still room for curtailment in the superior services of that department.

So also whenever retrenchment has been thought of, that retrenchment is only effected by telling some subordinates to go out of service, by reducing a number of clerks, peons, menials and servants. That is what has happened in the Judicial Department, as also in the Police Department. If we look to the White Book we shall find that the number of armed police has been curtailed by 200. So also more than a hundred clerks have been told to walk out. On the other hand, we

[Mr. R. G. Soman]

find that the number at the top, that is to say, the number of subordinate judges, first class sub-judges, sessions judges, assistant judges, etc., has been increasing from day to day. It is the poor people that have been asked to walk out, and the question of unemployment is sure one day to be the most serious problem to be considered by the Government of Bombay. This sort of retrenchment has also been resorted to in the Registration Department, by the introduction of the system of photo-copying from the year 1921. This House has expressed its disapproval in regard to that system by not allowing a supplementary grant last time, but still in this year's budget we find that there are provisions made for the import of stores for this photoinco office. In the district of Satara alone, 11 registration clerks had been discharged only last year, and I do not know how many more are to follow suit. I submit that if the poor clerks are in this way driven out from Government service, the question of unemployment is sure to become a serious problem.

Now, with regard to one want which has been felt by the Satara district, and that is a railway from Satara to Koregaon. We have read the discussions in the Legislative Assembly and the Council of State regarding feeder railways. A railway between Satara and Koregaon has been thought of for a long time, and the Bombay Government should try its best to have that line constructed, so that the fallen city of Satara, which was once the seat of the Mahratta Empire, may once again be restored to its former grandeur and importance at least in commercial matters, if not in the affairs of Government.

Now, with regard to the Honourable the Finance Member's speech, I have to submit that his reference to certain other provinces in the matter of the administration of those provinces having come to a standstill is utterly uncalled for, and in the same way his threat as regards this province, namely that the nation-building departments will be starved if these taxation bills are not consented to by the House, is most unwarranted and uncalled for. With these remarks, I beg to submit that the taxation bills should not at all be consented to by any member of this House.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South): Sir, the Honourable the Finance Member has in the beginning of his speech paid a doubtful compliment to the opposition. He has said, Sir :

"Life would be monotonous if we were all in complete agreement on all points. I do not suppose that anybody could bear the tedium of sitting in this assembly if we were not stimulated and enlivened by the acute criticisms of some of our friends on the opposite benches."

I say, Sir, that this is a doubtful compliment, because I find that a new function has been assigned to the opposition, namely to stimulate and enliven the honourable gentlemen on the opposite benches. In other words, it is the function of a jester. I am prepared to accept the position if the Honourable the Finance Member will also extend the privilege that is always extended to a jester, namely absolute freedom of speech and action. That is the sole privilege of a jester, and if he extends

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

that privilege, I am prepared to accept the position, however humiliating it may seem.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : You are forgetting the President.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : I am sorry. Now, Sir, taking my point from that, I do not propose to waste any more time or breath in offering any criticism, constructive or destructive. I tried in the last sessions to offer very constructive criticism and made a very constructive proposal in the course of my speech, reduced it in the form of a proposition and persuaded honourable members on this side of the House to accept it. Instead of appreciation from Government I found that that very constructive and very reasonable and very sensible proposal was consigned to the very large waste paper basket of Government. I mean the very reasonable proposal about the Development Directorate. After that, Sir, you cannot expect me, or any honourable gentleman with any self-respect, to come forward any more with constructive proposals or sensible propositions. I say it is mere waste of public time and private breath. But I stand here to prove and prove conclusively from the records which are placed before me by Government, that by producing this miserable product, what is called the financial budget, this most miserable product, the Government has proved and proved to the satisfaction of the country their unfitness to govern the country so far as its financial affairs are concerned. We are often charged, when we claim Home Rule, that for various reasons we are not yet fit for it, that we have got to learn many things, and that after a century or two when we have learned them, our claims for Home Rule will be considered. But that charge is levelled against us without giving us an opportunity to prove our fitness. The country has given an opportunity to Government to prove their fitness, an opportunity for 150 years, and I say if this is the result of the experience and the learning of the Civil Services, the expert knowledge within the ranks of Finance Secretaries and Deputy Secretaries in the various departments, if this is the miserable production of all their efforts and energy, then so far as the financial affairs of the country are concerned this Government is absolutely unfit to manage it. I challenge it and I make an open offer. I say to them "Transfer that department to us only for three years. Put the Finance portfolio in the charge of a man like Professor K. T. Shah, and allow him a staff and see the result after three years." There will be no more necessity for extra taxation ; there will be no more necessity for fresh bills. There will be more happiness to the people, and less taxation of the people with the same amount of monetary burden. I make this offer : I know it will not be accepted. I say to Government, if you do not accept my offer, for God's sake do not place that charge again that we are unfit. Give us the charge of that department for three years, and if we fail, certainly we will submit to the charge and will not claim Home Rule for a long time to come. If you do not accept the offer, you ought to be silent so far as our qualifications and fitness are concerned. It is not in a flight of imagination or exaggeration that I say that so far as

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

the financial affairs are concerned, the present rulers have failed. After all, the real fitness of a Government is tested by the manner in which they manage the financial affairs of the country. I know of several other affairs in which I am prepared to state that they are very competent, particularly in law and order. I am prepared to concede that they are more competent than any member on this side of the House, to manage class divisions. I am prepared to concede their capacity in various other matters. But so far as the real qualification for government, namely, the management of the financial affairs of the country is concerned, I shall certainly maintain that we are more competent than the Government of the country, not only of this province but of the whole country.

Now, Sir, looking at this speech, from the very start I happen to come in when the Honourable the Finance Member was painting a very glowing picture about the financial affairs of this Presidency. He began with a speech which showed that there was going to be increase all round, prosperity all round, more land revenue from agricultural point of view, very favourable monsoon, wealth from the income of excise. Everywhere it appears, Sir, that it would appear a prosperity budget. I say so, particularly, so far as the Honourable the Finance Member is concerned, and I want the House to very seriously consider the financial position of this Presidency. It is maintained and proved by facts not disputed that this Presidency of all the provinces in the country is the most highly taxed Presidency in India. That is not disputed and it is proved by Professor K. T. Shah in the well known book in which he has given the incidence of taxation per head in our province and proved so far as the ordinary affairs are concerned and so far as the development department is concerned that it is the heaviest taxed Presidency in the whole of India. This is not only the most heavily taxed presidency, but that this is a Presidency which is most heavily indebted and that is a statement which we have got from the authentic source of no less a person than the Honourable the Finance Member in reply to a question put by Sir Purshottamdas Thakurdas. He has given a table which is astounding. Here, Sir, is a table of the relative indebtedness of the several provinces in India as estimated to be on the 31st March 1912 and as having grown since that date to the end of March 1924. In March 1914 the total indebtedness accepted in Madras was 11 crores 2 lakhs and to-day it is 11 crores 6 lakhs. In Bombay the total indebtedness in March 1914 was 10 crores 2 lakhs and to-day it is 42 crores 50 lakhs which is an astounding figure. Adding to this the loans for the Sukkar Barrage, it would come to the astounding figure again of 59 crores. This will show that the debt has risen from 10 crores to 59 crores at the end of the year. In Bengal the total indebtedness at the end of March 1914 was 3 crores 6 lakhs and at the end of March 1924 it has come down to 2 crores. United Provinces had the total indebtedness of 15 crores in 1914 and 19 crores in 1924; Punjab, 20 in 1914 and 25 in 1924; Burma 2 crores, Bihar and Orissa 6, Central Provinces 2 to 5. It will appear from these figures that Bombay is the most heavily taxed province and is also the most heavily indebted

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

presidency. That is the position financially looking at it generally for the last 10 years. Considering that position we should have expected any man with reason and caution to proceed cautiously and safely so as not to launch the presidency to a point of further financial disaster. Instead of that what do we find? We find criminal extravagance, waste of public money, proceeding unabated. I cannot understand the Honourable the Finance Member's speech when he congratulates the administration by saying that if we regard the result as a whole there is reasonable stringent economy in the administrative departments. Stringent economy! I tried in the Blue Book and the White Book and the Yellow Book that are presented to us to look for the stringent economy. I have found everywhere instead of that, extravagance, criminal waste, and I am going to prove that not only by my speech but by referring to the records. The expenditure has risen from 1914 as was shown by the honourable member for Bombay City, North, my friend Mr. Baptista yesterday, a great deal risen in 10 years. Coming to the total expenditure it has risen to 16. How is that position justifiable? If you compare our presidency with another which is equally important or I should say more important considering the total population and area and other matters, namely, the Presidency of Bengal, comparing the Bengal Budget with the Bombay Budget with a population larger than Bombay, with an area larger than Bombay, with responsibility as great, with miseries and hardships as the people of this presidency, and in that presidency perhaps they can manage their affairs with an annual revenue of 10 to 11 crores without any extra charge, without any heavy indebtedness of 10 or 11 crores for development and special and extraordinary works. We require 16 crores for ordinary charges and we are not able to manage within that but want additional taxation.

The honourable member, the Finance Secretary, Mr. Wiles, stated that he has heard numerous criticisms but that no honourable member has offered any constructive suggestions. Sir, I also refute that charge. It was only 2 years ago that in this House a suggestion was made—I believe that there were no obstructive members in this House then, they were all reasonable and constructive gentlemen before the Swaraj party came in—it was a suggestion that was accepted by Government and a retrenchment committee was formed which was called the Bombay Retrenchment Committee. They laboured for months, they examined all the records of Government, they examined all the witnesses on the Government side and heard arguments on both sides and they formulated their recommendations in the form of a book which I dare say is before Government. What has become of those recommendations when the the honourable member the Finance Secretary says that there is no constructive criticism offered.

Mr. G. WILES: I was referring to the speech of one honourable member shortly before I got up and not to the general criticisms of all the honourable members.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : Even that I can refute and say that it was not fair. When Government has not accepted the constructive criticism not made in an off-hand speech here and there, not in a resolution but by a committee of their own appointment consisting of such reasonable men as the late Rao Bahadur Sathe and my friend Mr. Cowasji Jehangir, not obstructive gentlemen but all honourable and reasonable gentlemen with moderate and temperate views, not obstructive gentlemen as we have some of them in this House now—those gentlemen laboured and laboured and came to a conclusion and made reasonable suggestions—I ask Government what has become of those recommendations? Has the report of that committee been consigned to the big waste-paper basket of Government? If that was so, why did you ask these gentlemen to waste their valuable time and why did you waste your money for witnesses if you are not going to accept the recommendations of that committee? If the recommendations had been otherwise, if that committee had recommended that the services are not well paid you would have accepted their recommendations at once. Like the Lee Commission's report if that committee had recommended increase of salary of the services you would have accepted them at once. I referred to page after page of the present administration report to find whether any of the recommendations of that retrenchment committee have been accepted and I found that it is stated there that there is no room for economy. Notwithstanding this we hear it stated here that there is no proper criticism offered and that therefore Government is at a loss to know what to do.

I will only refer to one particular instance. I wish to show what kind of jobbery is going on in this Government. I will show how appointments are created in order to accommodate certain officers regardless of financial stringency and financial relations of the presidency. I will quote only one instance from that retrenchment committee's report. There is an officer called "the Mechanical Engineer to Government," his appointment is created because they want to set their machinery right. They want a mechanical engineer to oil and repair their machinery. They want a mechanical engineer to set the machinery of the Public Works Department right. Now, Sir, this officer, according to the report we find in the Blue Book, was actually done away with for the last three or four years. They could run the Government machinery without that mechanical engineer for the last three or four years, but in order to create a post for himself, his post has been restored.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The honourable member cannot get more than 20 minutes ; he has got 4 minutes more.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : I was saying, Sir, that they could run the Government machinery for five years without that post, but that post has been revived in this year of plenty and prosperity ! Government have got plenty of money. I would refer to page 202 of the White Book, for a number of new posts created for this year. After that they say there is stringency in the money market and no machinery in the market for running Government machinery at the Dapuri Workshop. It was formerly a pure workshop ; they wanted to dispose of it. They could

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

not find a purchaser for several years ; they wanted a ready purchaser. Refer to the Public Works budget and you will find that year by year that they are running these workshops at a loss which comes to about Rs. 50,000 a year. Only from workshops of the Public Works Department, there is a loss of Rs. 50,000 a year, and yet they have not thought it fit to close them ! I put it to the Honourable the Finance Member whether he would act similarly if it was his private money. If he had, say, purchased a hundred or two hundred shares in a private concern and was conducting that concern and he found that the concern was losing at the rate of Rs. 50,000 a year, would he not close it at once ? Therefore, as the trustees of the public funds, do we not expect the same action from him and other members of Government as they would adopt if it were their own private money ? Where is the Audit Report for 1923-24—a report full of ugly facts ? If it were a case of a private company and its accounts disclosed such ugly facts, then the directors would have been made liable to refund the money. Such irregularities as have been reported by the Accountant General himself in the Audit Report would have made the directors, if it were a private company, refund all that money to the shareholders. I only want to give some more instances, Sir. I won't take much longer time. I only want a few more minutes as the subject is important.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I know, but honourable members must realise that when one member concludes his speech, about ten members get up to catch the eye of the Chair and, in these circumstances, every minute is valuable. I cannot, therefore, allow the honourable member more than the prescribed time.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : I will only finish by referring to some of the prominent figures which show retrenchment so far as the Government finances are concerned ! I find that a sum of Rs. 31 lakhs was wasted out of the public funds for " Government Houses " ; on three Government Houses during three years a sum of Rs. 31 lakhs has been wasted without any sanction of this House, without any estimates having been provided for. That matter was brought before the Finance Committee, but so far nothing has been done. Certain figures were promised, but nothing has been done so far. Is it not a scandalous state of affairs ? When we ask the Government to come to the rescue of the flood-stricken people in various parts of the presidency, when we ask for the lessening of the other burdens on the poor people, Government come forward to say they have got no money, no funds ; but they have got Rs. 31 lakhs to spend not for new Government Houses, but to renovate the palatial buildings which already exist ! I wonder what has become of these 31 lakhs of rupees spent without sanction. Before you ring the bell, Sir, I will resume my seat.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Sir, I should first like to reply to the criticism that has been levelled against my department by the honourable member for Bombay city who has attacked the increased activities of the P. W. D. also. He

[Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain]

says the last word of wisdom is to be found in the Retrenchment Committee's report, and after that the mechanical engineer's post was created. It was created, Sir, with the sanction of this House. I issued a leaflet showing the activities of the various specialist officers in the P. W. D. but I am sorry my honourable friend has not read that leaflet. I have very little time at my disposal but I will try briefly to explain the whole position with regard to the Mechanical Engineer. He overhauls the Government's machinery, which is worth one crore of rupees. No doubt, this post was abolished a few years ago, but the whole machinery was ruined as a result. We actually corresponded with private firms in regard to the inspection of our machinery as well as that of local bodies, and I can place the terms and conditions which they gave us before the House. They were exorbitant, and Government found it much cheaper to revive the post of Mechanical Engineer, and this House approved of the appointment. Not only does he overhaul the Government's valuable machinery, but he trains up Indian boys in mechanics. Further, he is in charge of the Dapuri workshops, where 40 young men are being trained on the mechanical side, and last year at Poona I had taken some honourable members to show them the work there. Some of the apprentices from the Engineering College at Poona are being trained on the technical side, and with the consent of the members of this House one apprentice engineer is taken up as temporary engineer. Then, with regard to the Dapuri workshops, I could produce accounts to show that they are not being run as a losing concern. (Mr. K. F. Nariman : You have not supplied us with any such accounts.)

Now, Sir, coming to other points, there was a complaint about village water-supply. But honourable members should realise that under Acts of the legislature which have been passed by the predecessors of this House, it is the primary duty of the local bodies to make reasonable provision for water-supply in a village. Government has always been very liberal in giving grants for village water-supply as well as for drainage schemes. Lakhs of rupees are given as grants-in-aid. For village water-supply we contribute a portion. Though this is an adversity budget, 2 lakhs of rupees have been provided for grants-in-aid in this connection. This year one lakh was provided, but there was not much demand. Has any honourable member quoted any instance where a grant was asked by a local board for this purpose and was refused by Government? I think it is the duty of honourable members to inform their constituencies that there are such provisions made in the budget and to ask the local boards to apply for such grants. But, if the honourable members desire that the local bodies should not themselves levy any local rates for their own purposes and that everything should be paid out of the provincial revenues, then I would request honourable members to help me to find the funds. They cannot have it both ways. They cannot expect that the provincial revenues should pay for the provincial works as well as meet the local needs of the cities and the rural areas.

[Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain]

Then, there was a complaint about communications, roads and bridges from an honourable member from the Karnatak districts. If the honourable member will take the trouble to refer to the budget of the last four years and for the ensuing year, he will see that Government have spent on new communications alone over a crore of rupees, out of which nearly 16 lakhs have been spent in the Southern Division comprising most of the parts of the Karnatak districts. If the honourable member were to take the trouble to refer to the budget, he will see that even for next year over Rs. 8 lakhs have been budgetted for the Southern Division for the maintenance of roads, though usually only Rs. 4 lakhs are provided for that division, and the Karnatak districts are within the Southern Division.

The honourable member from Bombay says that we have been strengthening the Kasheli bridge, because it is to be used by the military. I can assure the honourable member that there has been no such requisition from the military authorities or from the Central Government. We have been strengthening all our bridges, so that they may be able to bear the heaviest possible traffic. It is not a provincial work, and yet we are contributing towards the expenditure, in the interests of the people of Thana and the surrounding places. The military have nothing to do with it. However, I welcome his suggestion, and I am going to examine all the roads that are used by the military, and we will try to get some money from them, if we can make out a case. But as regards the Kasheli bridge, I can assure the House that there was absolutely no requisition from the military, and we have strengthened it just like the Lloyd and other bridges.

Then the honourable member from Karachi complained of excessive expenditure under 41, Civil Works. The budget provision for the next year is Rs. 1,17,00,000, and a paltry sum of Rs. 4 lakhs is provided for new works.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : The provision is Rs. 13,25,000.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : That is the provision for new works and works in progress. There is a difference between new works and works in progress. For new works, a provision of only Rs. 4 lakhs has been made. Works in progress are those which have already been started, and have to be completed. For new works, the provision is only Rs. 4 lakhs. Then the honourable member says that Government have been spending lakhs and lakhs on old Government buildings. If he were to look at the budget, he would find that under 41, Civil Works, only Rs. 1 lakh has been provided for that purpose.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : What was the revenue from buildings in the year 1923-24 and 1924-25 ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : I will let you know. Now, I would like to offer a few general remarks in regard to the budget.

[Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain]

I have been observing that the tendency of this honourable House has been towards decreasing the revenue and increasing the expenditure. Now, I will first take communications. There is an incessant demand for more roads and bridges. The minimum demand that we have got from our officers for the mere maintenance of the existing communications is Rs. 30 lakhs. Then, in response to incessant demands, provision for new roads and works in progress in regard to communications has been made in the next year's budget to the extent of Rs. 25 lakhs. Honourable members of this House are not satisfied merely with expenditure on provincial roads. They want larger grants for local board roads, and honourable members will see that though the usual grant to the local boards in this respect is Rs. 11 lakhs, next year Rs. 19 lakhs have been provided for the purpose. If we total all these items, and add to them the establishment charges, our communications alone would cost us a crore of rupees in this presidency. And yet, the people are not satisfied with that; they want larger sums of money for the purpose. Now, we had a source of income from provincial roads in the shape of tolls. But in response to the wishes of this Council Government undertook to abolish the tolls gradually. But the House is even impatient of their gradual abolition. It wants Government immediately to abandon their income from this source, which is nearly Rs. 12 lakhs.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : The Honourable Minister is misrepresenting facts, and prejudicing the House for nothing. He has been increasing the revenues from tolls and decreasing those from buildings. That is what his budget says.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : That is the amount actually realised, and which the House wishes Government to give up. That is my point. Now, I would like to point out to the House that if it is their desire that we should give up this revenue of Rs. 12 lakhs, some other provision ought to be made to replace it. They do not take into consideration the reductions that have already been made. We have reduced the tolls during the past two years. But as regards communications, the wish of the House as well as of the public is that we should spend larger sums of money on them, and give up the little revenue that we derive from that source.

Now, I come to land revenue. This honourable House has insisted that further revision of settlements should be postponed, and that the twenty years' settlement in Sind should be given retrospective effect to. That involves a loss of nearly Rs. 8 lakhs of revenue. But the House, I find, is not satisfied with this. In spite of the liberal remissions and suspensions, it wants more; it wants a provision of Rs. 50 lakhs to be made every year—whether it is a good year or a bad year does not matter—for remissions of land revenue. There were some honourable members who even went a step further and wanted a permanent settlement. But none of them suggested how the Rs. 8 lakhs or the Rs. 50 lakhs were to be provided.

[Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain]

I next come to excise. There too, the wishes of the House are that this income—some of them call it tainted money, and some say that the budget is disfigured by this income—should altogether disappear. The Honourable Minister announced his policy of prohibition, and we will soon reach a point when our income will be reduced almost to nothing. But, as the presidency is situated, honourable members should realise, that by following the present policy of rationing, there will be only a limited quantity of liquor available for the consumption of the people. But those who are in the habit of drinking will continue to drink, and when they find that they cannot get it, they will try to resort to illicit distillation, which can very easily be done from *mhowra* flowers. Therefore, if the House wishes to carry out that policy, they will have to budget a larger provision for the preventive staff. That again means money.

I then come to education. There is an incessant demand for more funds for education. We are on the threshold of free and compulsory education, and when it is completely enforced, it will cost Rs. 1 crore more. But, at the same time, I find that the wishes of the House are that the salaries of the teachers should be revised and for that purpose a committee has been appointed.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI : Is the Honourable Minister in order in replying to all the points relating to all the departments ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I have already stated that there is no limitation in regard to general discussion on the budget. The Honourable Minister is replying to the criticisms against all the departments both reserved and transferred, which he is at full liberty to do.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : His colleague is absent, Sir.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : That committee is sitting. The suggestion of the House is that the salaries of the teachers should be revised according to the Sathé-Paranjpye scheme, which will cost 18 lakhs of rupees. Has any provision been made for that, or has any suggestion been made by the House for meeting that expenditure ? Then again the local boards want more grants. I have had two conferences of the local boards. They want that the present system of grants-in-aid should be revised. Where is the money to come from ? Municipalities want larger grants for water works and drainage schemes. Where are the funds for this ?

These are the considerations I have placed before this honourable House. In regard to the budget as a whole, I know the reply will be that the establishments should be reduced. But the establishments have already been cut to the bone and if any further reduction is made it will impair the efficiency of the administration. Even by doing so, we will realise only a few lakhs. We will be losing a revenue of 12 lakhs on tolls, 8 lakhs under Land Revenue, and 18 lakhs in Education if the Paranjpye-Sathé scheme is accepted. I have placed all these considerations before the House and it is now for the House to decide what is proper.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI (Ahmednagar District) : Mr. President, I do not intend to take up much of the time of the House, because most

[Mr. C. M. Saptarshi]

of the points have already been dealt with by previous speakers. I wish to place before the House one point with regard to the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member. To my mind he has presented a disappointing budget in a disappointing manner. My own idea of a Finance Member is that when he presents the budget, he ought to take the whole House into his confidence and explain to us the various sources of revenue and the way in which he proposes to dispose of that revenue. We expected the Honourable Mr. Lawrence to take us into confidence and to explain to us all his difficulties financial and otherwise in the matter of the budget. On the other hand I find that the whole speech is the speech of an advocate, delivered for the purpose of defending his case of enhancing taxation. It was a very bad case and in spite of his able advocacy the case has miserably failed. Now, what does the Honourable the Finance Member do? I may draw the attention of the House to the fact that the current year's budget does not show any real deficit. Seventy-nine lakhs out of the revenue have gone to the avoidance of debt. If we exclude this amount where is the deficit? It is very curious to find that deficits are made to order. Last year the deficit was shown as 18 lakhs and taxation proposals for 18 lakhs were placed before the Council. This year he proposes to tax to the extent of 42 lakhs and the deficit shown is 41 lakhs. I am prepared to show that there is no real deficit. If the Honourable the Finance Member had wanted to present a good budget he could have certainly done so by refusing to draw 98 lakhs out of his balances. He utilises his whole balance and shows a deficit. Instead of spending from the loans he spends from the balances. I know why that is being done. Unless the Honourable the Finance Member shows a deficit it is not possible for him to get this House to agree to his proposals for taxation. What I expected of the Honourable the Finance Member was that he would take this House into his confidence and with its help put up a strong fight with the Government of India to get back our income-tax revenue. That he has not done. I put it to the Honourable the Finance Member whether he would be able to succeed by this method in getting the Meston settlement reversed. The Government of India will say, after having pocketed 8 crores: "Your resources are still capable of yielding to you large amounts of money and it is not possible for us to relax our hold on the income-tax revenue." In fact the Honourable the Finance Member is making his case for the revision of Meston settlement much weaker by the presentation of taxation proposals.

He complains that the sources of revenue at the disposal of this province are not yielding to him. He first mentioned the land revenue. In this department he first takes to the Government the compliment for tenderness towards the agriculturists and refers to the rules of remissions and suspensions. I am glad that he has not complimented the Government for having introduced postage and telegraph. I think that these rules relating to remission and suspension were introduced 20 years ago. The present Government cannot take any credit for those rules. They were introduced during the time of Lord Curzon. What has the present reformed Government done to improve the land revenue policy?

[Mr. C. M. Saptarshi]

The policy of this Government with regard to land revenue is mainly responsible for the fall in the land revenue. What have they done to improve agriculture? Our total income is 16 crores, and we spend on agriculture 16 lakhs and even much of that amount is spent on services imperial and provincial and their allowances. If they want to increase the income from lands, they should introduce western scientific methods in agricultural operations and teach people to adopt those methods. The Agricultural Department has not been spending in proportion to the importance of land revenue. The main industry of this province is agriculture and unless you improve agriculture it is not possible to expect more income from land revenue. Then again what is the policy of Government with regard to irrigation. I know in my own district small irrigation works have been surveyed since 1905. Government still have not introduced any small protective irrigation schemes in my district. I know the present Revenue Member is very sympathetic or at least he wants to be sympathetic to the agriculturists in the matter of introducing small protective irrigation projects, but somehow, it has not been found possible for him to do anything by way of relieving the ryots in the matter of these small irrigation works. I hope that he will announce a very good policy in the matter of spending the Famine Insurance Fund. Under the Government of India Act we reserve 63 lakhs every year for the famine fund, and if we adopt a successful policy to prevent famine, and if we provide for the introduction of small irrigation works, I may say that our land revenue will be a better and permanent source of income, and will yield greater income. But up to this time Government have not done anything and no substantial steps have been taken to ameliorate the lot of the ryots, and the result is that land revenue has come to a standstill.

I do not propose to deal with other departments. What I mean to say is this. The Honourable the Finance Minister has told us that unless we submit to the proposals of taxation it is not possible for us to improve the position of this province. Well, Sir, next year and this year we have proposed to spend 10 lakhs to give effect to the recommendations of the Lee Commission. But so far as I know, this House was never consulted in the matter of the enhancement of salaries and allowances in accordance with their recommendations. Even if those recommendations were accepted by the Government of India it was only proper and in the fitness of things, that the Government of Bombay should have submitted those proposals for the consideration of this House. That has never been done: on the contrary, the Honourable the Finance Member proceeds to present the case of the increase of pay of the Imperial services in as presentable a form as possible and he says that for a population of two crores Government are only spending 97 lakhs on these all-India services, and the increase of ten lakhs represents only about an anna per head. Sir, it has been truly said that the art of manipulating figures is like the art of magic. I may say that when I heard the Honourable the Finance Minister presenting the case, I was tempted to say that the pay should be doubled. If that is doubled,

[Mr. C. M. Saptarshi]

what would be the result ? We would have to pay only two annas more per head, and surely that would be a negligible thing, and all these people would get good improvement in their salaries. But see, what a fallacy underlies that reasoning. Out of these two crores of people, how many persons are fit to bear this extra anna ? What is the incidence of taxation ? Are the people really able to pay that extra anna which goes into the pockets of the members of these costly services ? Government cannot deceive us by placing these false figures and false logic before us. It is impossible. We know we are paying for a very costly service, and as soon as we are enabled in the future to deal with it, I am quite sure that this House will see its way to have a cheaper service. At the present moment it is not possible for us. But we cannot be deceived by such false and deceptive presentation of figures.

My honourable friend Mr. Nariman has already dwelt upon the fact that the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee have been absolutely ignored. From the figures presented in the Blue Book, we find that the expenditure as it stood at the end of the year 1921-22 has been restored, and all the labours of the Retrenchment Committee, on which experienced men like the Honourable the Deputy President were working, have been absolutely lost, and we are now restored to the position as it existed in the year 1921-22.

In concluding, I would say, Sir, that the budget presents one clear issue. Unless and until the Meston award is revised, unless and until the Bombay Government has better sources of revenue, this House will always refuse to increase taxation. I think it must once for all be made known to the Government benches that they should never repeat these proposals of fresh taxation. They did it last year, and they have done it this year. But I warn them on behalf of the non-official benches that we will refuse to increase taxation even by a pie. We believe that the limit of taxation has been reached in this presidency. In however tempting a manner Government may present their proposals, we shall not submit to them. It is known to us that it is absolutely harmful to tax the ryots higher than what we have done.

Mr. S. A. SARDESAI (Bijapur District): Mr. President, the budget so ably prepared by the Honourable Mr. H. S. Lawrence and presented to this House in such lucid terms would have called forth little criticism but for some radical differences in the points of view of the Government and the people. To touch merely one point out of many, the Government lay stress upon the departments of law and order and glorify them with encomiums very short of divine. The people on the other hand have their eye more upon the constructive and educative machinery of the administration than upon the machinery of the rod and the whip. I for one can never be unmindful of the importance of the latter, and, woe be the day when every court of justice is closed and every police officer called off his duty. But the fact remains that in the name of law and order certain departments of Government have been monopolising the lion's share of the public revenues, greatly to the detriment

[Mr. S. A. Sardesai]

of education, health and well-being of the ryot. This is a condition of affairs which cannot be said to be creditable to any rulers, much less to the English bureaucracy which boasts of an unparalleled efficiency and for whose benefit the ministry in England thought fit to appoint the Lee Commission, much to the chagrin of the people and the publicists. Money for instance is lavishly spent on departments which can be called constructive only by courtesy, and expenditure is actually growing every year. This will be made evident if we take at a glance the figures for only three years as shown on page 32 of the Blue Book. I have taken figures for the last three years, in order to show how expenditure is lavishly increasing.

Expenditure on Different Departments.

| | 1923-24 | 1924-25 | 1925-26 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| 1. Land Revenue | 1,64,07,000 | 1,67,56,000 | 1,72,72,000 |
| 2. Excise | 35,41,000 | 41,44,000 | 52,49,000 |
| 3. Stamps | 5,02,000 | 6,12,000 | 3,81,000 |
| 4. Forest | 44,01,000 | 47,82,000 | 48,16,000 |
| 5. Registration | 6,76,000 | 7,06,000 | 7,44,000 |
| 6. Irrigation | 49,22,000 | 58,22,000 | 64,57,000 |
| 7. General administration .. | 1,21,97,000 | 1,25,34,000 | 1,28,36,000 |
| 8. Administration of Justice .. | 69,93,000 | 74,32,000 | 78,42,000 |
| 9. Jails and Convicts settlements .. | 25,04,000 | 26,51,000 | 28,14,000 |
| 10. Police | 1,68,31,000 | 1,81,80,000 | 1,77,05,000 |
| 11. Civil works | 1,00,42,000 | 1,06,49,000 | 1,21,22,000 |
| 12. Stationery and Printing .. | 18,64,000 | 14,94,000 | 21,36,000 |
| 13. Miscellaneous | 22,92,000 | 33,73,000 | 42,53,000 |

By judicious management of all these departments at least 41 lakhs can be easily saved.

Now if all these departments are but judiciously managed the amount of the deficit, viz. Rs. 41,00,000 can be easily covered and if any difficulty is experienced as regards the retrenchment, a reversion to the figures for 1923-24 will solve the riddle. A complete Indianisation of all the services with a grant of complete provincial fiscal autonomy at an as early a date as possible is needed to set the administration on a footing of permanent economy. At least the necessity of a reform on the lines of a fundamental cure cannot be denied. A budget prepared on the time-worn scale is not sufficient to inspire confidence or hold forth promises of an improvement in the lot of the citizen and the

[Mr. S. A. Sardesai]

peasant. Much of what the Finance Member has said is lost on ears accustomed to hear the same arguments repeated times without number. The main question is this:—Is the Government prepared to initiate a new era—the era of progress—the era of advancement? Now-a-days there is a good deal of talk about compulsory and free education and perhaps the Finance Member will succeed in pushing forth his taxation proposals in the delicious atmosphere of sweet promises on this score. But as Dr. Besant says, no education will be of benefit to the young generation unless it takes stock of national sentiment and national aspirations. The system of education either primary, secondary or higher is unsuited to the needs of the country. It is purely literary. It is divorced from the actual every day life and its needs. It requires a thorough overhauling. The curricula must be entirely changed. It should be made more attractive and more beneficial to the people.

Vocational and Industrial education must be given prominence in the curricula. It is sad to note that though the country is insistently crying for technical education, the Government does not see its way to satisfy the demand of the public of this presidency. The Technical Education Committee's report has been lying on the shelves of the Secretariat dusty and rusty without being given effect to.

Referring to pages 146 and 147 of the White Book we find 1,57,000 is reserved for technical education (1924-25, Rs. 1,29,742, 1925-26, Rs. 1,25,000) showing a reduction of nearly Rs. 5,000. This is most amazing. Instead of increasing the grant, Government have actually reduced it. I ask, is this fair and will it be conducive to the attainment of the high educational aims which Government is supposed to have before its mind's eye?

The Honourable the Finance Member has waxed very eloquent on the Sukkur Barrage. I do not pause to discuss its merits or demerits. I do not for a moment doubt that the Government has been actuated with the best of motives. But as long as irrigation for every district and every available tenement is not properly looked after, ambitious and dazzling schemes like the Sukkur Barrage will be like a dead weight. Like the Taj-Mahal they may strike the imagination of the American tourist but it will not bring to the peasant his daily bread with more ease. Talking about my own district, *viz.*, the district of Bijapur it is well known to exist in a belt which is not reached either by western or eastern monsoons. It is invariably subjected to the horrors of famine every year. Emigration from Bijapur district is going on unchecked. The valuable arable land is being reduced to a fallow land. Rain and weather have proved to be no friendly elements to the district of Bijapur. The only remedy to redress the grievances of the people and to have the best output for the valuable lands of Bijapur district, is to project and carry out extensive schemes of irrigation in that district. Such schemes will not only remove the poverty of the people but will end in increasing the fertility of the soil, adding to the output of wealth and eventually adding to the coffers of the State. I have, therefore, to request the

[Mr. S. A. Sardesai]

Government to come down once a while from the airy realms of the barrages and development to the matter-of-fact question of every day life. This requires courage. This requires determination. And I am quite sure that if a determined effort is made for reducing the expenditure, there is not the slightest necessity for new taxation.

| Income. | Expenditure. | Deficit. |
|--------------|--------------|-----------|
| Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| 14,78,00,000 | 15,10,00,000 | 41,00,000 |

As proposed by the Financial Member, *viz.*

| | | |
|------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| Court-fee stamps .. | .. 18,00,000 | |
| Stamps .. | .. 18,00,000 | |
| Taxation on betting .. | .. 6,00,000 | |
| Total .. | 15,20,00,000 | Saving effected 1,00,000. |

The ryot in this presidency is already heavily burdened and any additional burden, however slight, is sure to lead to a final break-down. With these few words, Mr. President, I take the leave of this House.

After Recess.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City) : Mr. President, I do not propose to cover the ground that has already been trodden upon by the previous speakers, nor do I propose to reply in detail to the various statements made by the Honourable the Finance Member in his speech. To my mind, the budget itself is far more important than the speech with which the Honourable the Finance Member presented it to the House. After reading the budget it struck me that it was characterised by five distinct features. The first feature is that it is framed in the spirit of irresponsibility on the part of both the members and ministers to the popular side of the House. To make my position very clear, I will take a very simple illustration. I will take for instance the delay that was committed by the officers of Government in supplying the members with copies of the budget. As you know, Sir, this was exactly the complaint that was made last year by this side of the house regarding the supply of copies of the budget ; and so far at least as I am concerned, I received the copy of the budget only on the eleventh of this month. The second feature is that the thing which should have really struck a responsible Finance Member before everything else has not been provided for in the budget, I mean that it is patent to all that the honourable members on the back benches can hardly hear the speeches that are delivered in the House. This hall has got acoustic defects ; and even though provision has been made to the extent of lakhs of rupees for certain buildings which in my opinion are not required and could have been well postponed by the Honourable the Finance Member, no provision has been made for the erection of a suitable Council Hall (hear, hear) for the deliberations of this House. But leaving aside these minor points,

[Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar]

we find that the budget exhibits a lack of imagination on the part of its framers. The budget may have been the product of the labours of the Finance Member alone or may have been the product of the joint deliberations of the Members and the Ministers composing the Government. I do not propose to say anything regarding the irresponsibility of the Members of the Executive Council, because under the Government of India Act itself they are permitted to be irresponsible to the popular side of the House. But so far as the Ministers are concerned, one can clearly see that the budget has not been framed in conformity with the spirit of the Government of India Act. To illustrate my point, let us take the excise policy, about which the Honourable the Minister in charge of the Excise Department gave an explanation yesterday. If really he had carried with him a sense of responsibility to this part of the House, I am sure that instead of pitchforking his excise policy upon us all of a sudden by a Government resolution, he would have taken this part of the House into his confidence and by mutual deliberations he would have declared his policy regarding excise. Let us take another illustration, which concerns the Honourable the Minister for Education. I mean the provision that he has made regarding the nation-building departments. Sir, he has been in charge of very important departments of the Government, probably the departments upon which the whole future of the presidency hangs. Take for instance, the Education Department. It is true that he has made some provision for the expansion of the educational programme of the Government, but it is really deplorable that he should not have framed the policy in conference with the representatives or leaders of the various parties on this side of the House. I take also another case and it is about the match-factory which has been erected at Ambernath. I particularly refer to this factory because therein I clearly discern the beginning of a policy which is bound to be very dangerous to the industrial progress of this presidency. I am told that some foreign adventurers have built a match factory at Ambernath, and if really the Minister who has been in charge of the department of industries had realised his responsibility to the House and to the presidency at large, he would have seriously considered and laid down his policy in this behalf. I mean to say that if really he had had the industrial interests of the presidency at heart, he would have at once reported the matter to the House and would have taken immediate steps in order to see that no factory started by foreign industrialists on a small or large scale was erected or conducted at Ambernath, or at any other place in the presidency.

The second distinctive feature of the budget is the top-heaviness of the administration and the callous disregard of the subordinate services. I do not propose to say anything about the top-heaviness as that has been sufficiently dwelt upon by the previous speakers. I will give only one illustration, and it is about the allowances. I counted the number of the various kinds of allowances mentioned in the budget to the figure 30, and then I gave up the task in sheer hopelessness. Over thirty different

[Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar]

kinds of allowances are given to the topmost officers. The grant of the allowances may be right or wrong, may be justifiable or otherwise; but I would like to ask the Government whether they do not owe a corresponding duty to the subordinate services by making provision for them either by way of an additional allowance or of a compensatory allowance. You will find, Sir, that the District Judges, for example, are given different kinds of allowances. Do not the Members of the Government owe a duty to the subordinate officers and clerks of these District Judges to give them an additional allowance or compensatory allowance? I presided over a meeting of the subordinate services at Poona some little time back, and I know the bitter tone in which some of the subordinate servants talked about the neglect that is shown towards them. They have sent petitions after petitions to the officers concerned, but unfortunately, no provision has been made for the grant of compensatory allowance to them.

The third distinctive feature of the budget is the disproportionate distribution of the revenues of the Government. I will illustrate my point by taking only one example and I particularly refer the honourable House to page 254 of the White Book in which the four and odd crores of rupees have been most unevenly and unfairly distributed among the city of Bombay on the one side and the mofussil parts of the presidency on the other. Upon calculation I find that out of the sum of 4 crores and odd, more than Rs. 3 crores and 50 lakhs are proposed to be given to the Bombay Improvement Trust, the Bombay Port Trust and the Bombay Municipality.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : They are loans.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : It may be in the form of loans. As against that, what is the loan that is proposed to be granted to the mofussil parts of the presidency? I find that only 15 lakhs have been put down there as advances to be made to cultivators and co-operative societies; then 11 lakhs by way of loans to mofussil municipalities and 13 lakhs by way of miscellaneous loans and advances....

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : What about the crore for irrigation?

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : The crore for irrigation is only for certain specified parts of the presidency. The point that I am making out is that the mofussil parts have not been fairly and evenly treated by the officers of the Government.

The fourth distinctive feature is that the whole budget is based upon a feeling of mistrust of the popular side. To illustrate, the budget exhibits a growing tendency on the part of the Government to make the voted items non-voted. Not only have the allowances been increased, but also the allowances which, up till now had been considered to be voted items, are now made non-voted items. Furthermore, there is a deliberate flouting of the opinion of the House on the part of Government, and in this connection I may refer to the provision for the purchase of stores for the Registration Department, that has been made on page

[Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar]

256 of the White Book. The House in the last session, after deliberate consideration, came to the conclusion that the photo-copying system was not agreeable to the instincts and the feelings of the agriculturist class. Yet, despite that deliberate opinion, provision has been made for the purchase of stores for that department.

Sir, in passing I may refer to one circumstance about the Mulshi petha lands. Last time, I referred to the Mulsha petha affair, and this time also I again refer to it. Government showed the utmost despatch in acquiring lands for the purposes of the Tata Company, in spite of the *Satyagraha* that was practised by the land owners. Now that the lands have been acquired and handed over to the Tata Company, it is no use entering into the question of the merits or otherwise of the said acquisition. But my point is that the Government has failed to show the same readiness and willingness to call upon the Tata Company to acquire the lands which are above the contour line, and to which there is not the least approach. I would ask the Honourable Member concerned to kindly once visit the Mulshi petha, and see for himself whether there is any approach to the lands lying above the contour line of the lake. Vast tracts of lands of the poor agriculturists are lying there, to which there is not the least access; and yet the Government are not asking the Tata Company to acquire and pay for them. Does it not show callous disregard on the part of the Government about the interests of the poor agriculturists?

The fifth and the last feature of the budget is that it is made as it were the sport of the gods at Simla and Whitehall. Even though the money-earning sections of the population contribute a comparatively large sum roughly about 10 crores towards the finances of the presidency, the whole sum is taken away by the Government of India. Moreover the presidency is heavily burdened by the Meston settlement. Then we come across one very interesting item, namely, the item of interest to the extent of Rs. 4,78,000. The House will find a note to the effect that this sum represents the interest by the Imperial Bank on the deposits made by the presidency therein. Up to the present year, not a pie was credited to the finances of the presidency by way of interest on these deposits. I do not know whether the interest used to be taken away by the Government of India, or whether the Bombay Government did not use to charge any interest to the Imperial Bank. Whatever it may be, we find, for the first time, this item of interest coming in the budget.

We also find that very large contracts for coal for the use of the Sukkur Barrage scheme have been placed with the foreign merchants in South Africa regardless of the fact that coal of every variety and quality is available here in India.

Plainly enough, this year's budget is a deficit budget and the question before the House is whether it is to sanction fresh taxation or to press for a re-adjustment of the finances between the Central Government and this Government? As regards this, I am definitely of opinion that till the time the whole of the governmental machinery is made responsible

[Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar]

to the popular vote, it would be inadvisable, nay dangerous, to put a single additional penny into the hands of the Government.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University) : Sir, I was rather unwilling to interpose in this debate as I find that so many honourable members desire to speak. For the last three days, as we have been listening to the orations, one after another, I have been weighted down by the same feeling of depression which overtook me last year, when I realised that all that we say here can have effective operation only over Rs. 5,15,00,000 out of Rs. 16,67,00,000 our total expenditure. All that we say here, on this occasion,—and we prepare very long speeches, as the House has found from time to time—is sport before the Government benches. And, as I listened, I was reminded of a little experience of the great African traveller. I think it is Dr. Livingstone who refers to the practice of an old Negro chief in Africa, who allowed one day during the year, when his favoured and the unfavoured wives were trotted out before him, and were asked to disclose their grievances during the year. To accept or reject their prayers was entirely dependent on his sweet will. One wife after another went on disclosing her grievances. The pet wives of course said that the husband was honest and just. And, as I listened to the remarks which the Honourable Minister for Local Self-government made a few minutes ago in justifying the conduct of the several departments of Government, I was reminded of the pet wife of the Negro chief. I realise, and I want honourable members to realise, that all our talk is empty criticism, so far as two-thirds of the expenditure is concerned. I am sure that the Honourable the Finance Member will agree, from the figures which I have taken from page 17 of the White Book, that all our criticism is pertinent only with regard to about one-third of the total expenditure. Whether and when this system of irresponsible government is going to be remedied, lies on the knees of the gods. Coming nearer home, I must say that my expectations of the Honourable the Finance Member were considerably realised. When his *locum tenens* last year read out his speech, I was told that Mr. Lawrence was ill, that he would come next year, and give us his speech in an entirely different spirit. I was told that we missed his suave manners, his self possession, his ease of expression and his facility with figures. I was therefore expecting this year a display of all these features and I must say, if the Honourable the Finance Member will allow me to say so, that all my expectations about him have come true. I only wish that he had not spoiled a beautiful speech by making it too much a kind of special pleading for extra taxation. Perhaps he might have wisely avoided his cheap sneers at those “esteemed gentlemen” who do not pay taxes on land or Excise. He might likewise have avoided his threat that the unearned increment on non-agricultural holdings is to be increasingly taxed in the future. If he had avoided these petty blemishes, the speech would have been unexceptionable.

He has given us this year certain graphs, a courtesy which I am sure the House appreciates. I can however assure him that these graphs reveal a somewhat telltale affair. Look at graph No. 1. One finds

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

there that from 1916 to 1922 the State demand has gone up from Rs. 7,50,00,000 to Rs. 14,25,00,000—nearly double in the course of six years. I may as well point out to him a little discrepancy in the graphs. I am sure there is some explanation for it, but we the uninitiated do not understand where it lies, or where to find it. For instance, on page 11 of the Blue Book, the total revenue is shown to be Rs. 15,68,00,000 ; in graph No. 2, the tracings indicate about Rs. 14 crores ; while on page 35 of the Blue Book, the revenue is shown as Rs. 14,77,00,000. I am sure there is an explanation, for I do not imagine that a person like the Honourable the Finance Member who has spent nearly three decades in preparing these figures can have made a mistake. Further, the admission that in the accounts of 1923-24 the actual balances improved by 109 lakhs, *i.e.*, a variation of 109 lakhs in a total budget of 16 crores over the revised estimates based on the actuals of 8 months, does appear to me, I shall take the liberty of saying, as a piece of bad budgeting.

I wish to utter a word of caution which I hope he would not mind. During the last budget as well as this budget, Government have gone on over-estimating land revenue. Some of us cautioned government last year and I can recall to my mind my own remarks on that occasion. My honourable friend, the Member for Land Revenue, estimated a revenue of 5 crores and 75 lakhs. Of that only 5 crores and 9 lakhs were realised. My honourable friend at that time took exception to my comments when I pointed out that 5 crores and 75 lakhs was an over-estimate. The results have shown that my comments were not without foundation. This year too Government are repeating the same mistake. They have put the figure at 5 crores and 60 lakhs. I feel certain that even this year Government are bound to be disappointed.

Proceeding to further details, I do say with some confidence, though I do not pretend to be an economic expert, that such large balances as the Government hold every year in their hands are not justifiable. For the year 1924-25 we opened with a balance of 5 crores and 45 lakhs and closed with 4 crores and 67 lakhs, with which we open this year and propose to close with 3 crores and 69 lakhs. I do submit that these large balances are treacherous and give an appearance of an all round prosperity to the Government of India. I listened with great care to the lucid explanation of the honourable the Finance Secretary, who stated his case in a quite modest way. But I am not convinced that these balances are justified. In Bengal they have a budget of about 10 crores and they keep a balance of 1 crore and 60 lakhs. Such large balances in our presidency can be justified on one of two grounds : either because greater credit is necessary on account of our indebtedness or because there will be unexpected demands for money. As regards the first ground, I do not think that it is any justification, for after their wasteful experiment of direct borrowing in the market which the Government of Bombay indulged in, when it issued the 6½ per cent. Bombay Development loan. I do not think the Government of Bombay have ventured or will again venture to go into the market as a direct borrower. Government cannot place themselves

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

on a level with a private individual who borrows face to face with the lender on easy terms, because he has large balances in the bank. As regards the second ground, I do not think the Finance Department will justly claim that there are likely to be so many unexpected demands as to justify a reserve of $4\frac{1}{2}$ crores. On both these grounds therefore I am positively of opinion these large balances are not justifiable. Therefore my submission to the House is that we must protest against the accumulation of large balances in the hands of Government. It creates false impression of prosperity and affluence and is a very bad temptation to Government to spend money wrongly. The House, *e.g.*, will be interested to be told that Government during the last year and this year have assumed the role of a spendthrift chiefly owing to the existence of these large balances. In the year 1924-25, we began with a balance of 5 crores and 45 lakhs. Out of this 79 lakhs were withdrawn and applied to the avoidance of debt for irrigation. That is the explanation so pointedly given by the Honourable the Finance Member in his speech. We are consoled with the remark that four and a half lakhs have thus been saved by way of interest. All this is perfectly true. May I however utter a word of caution that to pay from current balances expenditure of a capital character is a dangerous experiment. I warn Government against this experiment, although it may lead to the saving of interest. This year too, I cannot help saying that Government have handled these balances in an unjustifiable manner. 98 lakhs are proposed to be withdrawn, out of which 49 lakhs are to be spent on capital head of expenditure on 60, Civil Works, P. W. D. Out of these 49 lakhs, the Honourable the Home Member gets for police quarters such a large sum as Rs. 5,90,000. The police have always been the special favourites of Government but this year the favouritism is unendurable. I was a professor of the Government Law School in Bombay which clamoured for a hostel for students year after year. The authorities pressed on the attention of Government that the law students should be better housed at least for the consideration that they pay to Government more than half a lakh.

But the Government have not considered the desirability of building a hostel and yet out of the balances the Honourable the Home Member gets Rs. 5,90,000 for police buildings. On page 10 of the White Book, it will be found that out of 26 lakhs estimated, 19 lakhs have already been wasted on the marble edifice "The Gateway of India." I do not know how many honourable members have gone there and seen the building. For 26 lakhs how many students' hostels could have been built. In order that it may strike the imagination of the American tourist, when he visits this wretched country and sees the work of Great Britain here, money has been criminally wasted on this project and all this wastefulness is in the face of the growing indebtedness of the country! As to the indebtedness of this presidency, my honourable friend for Bombay South has already given certain figures and I do not wish to repeat them except in one particular. From 1914 to 1925 our indebtedness has grown from 10 crores to 42 crores. I have got

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

the figures for the other provinces like Bengal, and they show that our debt has piled up beyond endurance. Such has been our growing indebtedness. I am therefore surprised that in spite of it, the Honourable the Finance Member talks of stringency and retrenchment. On hearing him I was reminded of a little verse of Kipling—

“ Indeed, Indeed, Retrenchment oft before,
I swore, but did I mean it when I swore ?
And then and then we wandered to the Hills
And the Little Less became Much More.”

This is a pertinent comment upon the Government's attitude of stringency. What is this stringency? It is due more to windfalls than a deliberate attempt to cut down extravagance and wastefulness. I will just give the House a few figures. Take page 76 of the Blue Book. Police expenditure has been reduced only by 2 per cent., *i.e.*, from 1·84 lacs to 1·81 lacs. On Miscellaneous 47, which is another department where economy could have been largely practised, expenditure has been reduced from 44 lakhs to 33 lakhs; *i.e.*, only 25 per cent. On the other hand, look at the way the establishments have increased and how officers' salaries have gone up. At page 198 of the White Book, honourable members will find a most curious state of things. The post of the medical research officer, under the Public Health Department presided over by my honourable friend the Minister for Education, has been created, but the expenditure on him has not been shown to us at the end of the budget, as the rules require. I do not find any figures for the previous years against this officer in this department, so I gather that this post is new in this department. A new medical research officer drawing Rs. 3,150 per month has been introduced in this department for the first time, and immediately his salary is made non-votable. I congratulate my honourable friend the Minister for Education upon his independence, in his own department, in that he allows an officer to be created, drawing Rs. 3,150 a month and his salary to be turned into non-votable. Did he at all exercise his mind on this question or did he leave the matter to others? I have very great doubt whether most of these alterations can be justified under section 72B of the Government of India Act, and I wish it was possible to try in a court of law the question whether Government had the power of making these several emoluments and allowances non-votable. There are scattered throughout the budget many other emoluments that were at one time votable but have been made non-votable in the budget. For instance Rs. 80,000—“Governor's tour expenses” which were votable last year have been turned into non-votable this year. Under the heading of “Publicity Officer”, a new item of Rs. 2,400, for house-rent and allowances, appearing on page 82 of the White Book, is made non-votable this time. And, once more, coming to the department of my honourable friend, the Education Minister, the Consulting Surveyor to Government, drawing a salary of Rs. 25,700 a year—what a colossal figure—, his travelling allowance is Rs. 15,000 a year, and was all votable till last year; but in the budget Rs. 8,000 of

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

that has been converted into non-votable. Is this due to the policy of trusting this honourable House? Government take more and more bits of expenditure and turn them gradually from votable to non-votable, and yet Government argue in all seriousness, that they are trusting the House. Then, take another extraordinary feature. My honourable friend Mr. Joshi has prepared a list of the various allowances, which are enjoyed by Government officials on various pretexts. When one goes to Nasik the priests cry out "pay so much for God's bed; so much for God's linen, so much for worship, so much for *chandani*". They draw out money in the name of God on various pleas. All this loot may be excusable in the domain of human superstition, but cannot be justified in the dull and prosaic departments of a modern Government. I will read to the honourable members these allowances. They are as many as 52 in number, and some of them are intensely amusing.

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1. Dispensary allowance. | 27. Presidency House Rent allowance. |
| 2. District Local Board. | 28. Bad climate " |
| 3. Staff Allowance. | 29. Concessional Personal " |
| 4. Checking " | 30. Typing " |
| 5. X-Ray " | 31. Exchange Compensation " |
| 6. Sind " | 32. Hutting money " |
| 7. Duty " | 33. Archæological " |
| 8. Uniform " | 34. Hill journey charges " |
| 9. Provisional " | 35. Plague " |
| 10. Sub-divisional " | 36. Overtime " |
| 11. Board " | 37. Contract Establishment " |
| 12. House Rent. | 38. Cycle " |
| 13. Conveyance. | 39. Grain compensation " |
| 14. Local. | 40. Special pay " |
| 15. Travelling. | 41. Allowance for collecting tree tapping fees. |
| 16. Compensatory. | 42. Superintendent's allowance. |
| 17. Hill allowance. | 43. Jailor's " |
| 18. Baluchistan. | 44. Jail " |
| 19. Additional. | 45. Traffic duty allowance. |
| 20. Barrage. | 46. Clothing allowance (Plain clothing allowance). |
| 21. Presidency. | 47. Horse allowance. |
| 22. Station. | 48. Shorthand " |
| 23. Dearness allowance. | 49. Literary " |
| 24. Pagi. | 50. Boat " |
| 25. Mewas allowance. | 51. Camel " |
| 26. Deputation. | 52. Horse " |

In this varied list of 52 allowances, the only allowance that one expects to find but does not find is idleness allowance. And yet in spite of this looting under various garbs we are told that the expenditure is being cut down. I need not say the pretext is hollow. I see my twenty minutes are over and I must stop putting before my honourable friends many other considerations I wanted to urge on the budget.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Sir, I do not wish to take the time of the House. I only want to reply to two or three specific points that have been asked. I will not deal, Sir, with the general principles of assessments or of revision settlements or with their application so far as the *annewari* procedure is concerned. Committees on both these matters are sitting at the present moment, and I hope my honourable friend

[Mr. C. V. Mehta]

opposite (Mr. D. R. Patil), the member for East Khandesh, who is a prominent member of the assessment committee will take the middle course and not follow either the policy he attributed to Lord Curzon or to Lord Canning; not take the least or the most, but just that which is fair for the State.

Sir, an honourable member in a moving speech asked what was the position of the revision of settlements. I replied to the House four months ago that in two talukas revision settlement has been introduced. With regard to Sindkheda, I wish now to state that the new rates although introduced are not going to be collected this year. I would like here to explain what happened. In the complicated machinery of a democratic Government it takes considerable time before decisions are reached. I think an honourable member referred to Government as a very heartless piece of cumbrous machinery, and he also suggested that the only remedy for it was autocracy. I do not wish, Sir, to follow that remedy, but I want to point out how in any form of democratic Government delays are bound to occur when decisions of this character have to be taken. When the honourable member for West Khandesh was touring his constituency he found that the rains had held off and there was consequently a great deal of uneasiness in the minds of cultivators. Before the rains had come the collector had sent in a report more or less supporting what the honourable member has stated. After that the rains came on; the collector toured again, and he reported that under the changed circumstances the new rates could be recovered. After that again I received a representation from the honourable member for West Khandesh and as there had been a change of collectors in the meantime I asked for a fresh report on the circumstances, and the collector having reported that in several villages in the taluka conditions were not good, Government decided some little time ago—and the orders, I believe, were actually issued on the 8th of February—that the new rates would not be recovered this year. It takes, Mr. President, a considerable amount of time to get reports from the officers, who have to tour and see conditions for themselves and then advise Government.

Another point on which information was asked was with regard to boundary marks. Now, I cannot concede that cultivators do not know that boundary marks are required to be kept in repairs not in the interests of Government but in their own interests.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA : Sir, I rise to a point of explanation. I never said that the cultivators did not know that boundary marks have to be kept in repairs. I only said that the cultivators did not know which boundary marks Government wanted them to repair and which not. I never said that the boundary marks are not necessary and useful. They are useful and necessary.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I thank the honourable member. I quite accept his explanation. I would like to say that the practice so far used to be to charge penal rates where boundary marks had not been

[Mr. C. V. Mehta]

repaired. But the orders of Government issued some little time ago are that these penal rates should be discontinued and that only actual costs should be recovered in all cases where boundary marks had not been repaired.

It may be that the costs charged by the contractors are perhaps higher, necessarily must be higher than those incurred by the people themselves. The real remedy is for the people to repair the boundary marks themselves.

One matter I should like to refer to because it is an important matter and reference has been made to it by the honourable member opposite, the honourable member from Ahmednagar. Sir Gangaram in his evidence before the taxation committee made a valuable suggestion in regard to land revenue which has not escaped the attention of Government. We have already asked for copies of the evidence and the cross-examination, but we have not got it yet. If honourable members who are interested in the welfare of the agricultural community will apply their minds to this idea Government will be most grateful for their advice. At the first flush it appears that the scheme is unpractical because of the payment in lump and one lump of the present land assessment multiplied by 30 times. Now honourable members will understand that if the land revenue is in the neighbourhood of $5\frac{1}{2}$ crores 30 times that would come to about 160 or 170 crores of rupees. I cannot conceive how cultivators in this part of the presidency would be able to find this enormous sum leaving aside the tax on surplus produce which is also a part of the scheme. Another difficulty is that as a necessary consequence of the scheme you must take steps to bring in tenancy legislation or rent acts to prevent landlords from exploiting tenants. There are various other points regarding this, and I shall be grateful if honourable members will apply their minds to this matter and advise Government. The last point is as to the land revenue figure which has been entered into the budget this year. Now, I will confess at once that I do not look upon 5 crores and 60 lakhs as a normal figure for land revenue (hear, hear). We have never said that, and last year I was careful to point out in reply to the criticisms which had been made that the figure was expected to be collected only on account of large suspensions and arrears that were outstanding. That outstanding continues even in the present year and owing to several unfortunate circumstances suspensions are still at a high figure. No one can tell whether the season of 1925-26 will be favourable enough to enable the collection of the whole amount of these suspensions. What will be the season a year and a half ahead depends on the monsoon which we all hope will be favourable, but I do not think that 5 crores and 60 lakhs can be taken as a fair normal revenue to be collected by Government.

Mr. PUNJABHAI THAKERSI (Bombay City North): Sir, the debate on the budget must have now convinced the Honourable the Finance Member that the non-officials cannot be caught napping. His game of getting sanction for new taxations is well-exposed. All these years, Government have consolidated their position by securing fat pay,

[Mr. Punjabhai Thakersi]

allowances and pensions to the Steel Frame of Mr. Lloyd George. They have doubled the police budget and have made no cuts in the reserved departments. They have not carried out loyally the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee and have refused to publish evidences or even summaries of evidence before that committee for fear of damaging admissions by their own officials and now the Finance Secretary turns round and says "Oh, the Non-official's criticism is only destructive." What else is possible to us when the Executive is unresponsive to popular demands? We have no real power of the purse. Government admit that administration since the war has doubled. It has doubled its expenses from 8 to 15 crores and yet they go on merrily spending to keep up the show. They cannot raise loans for technical education but raise loans of 30 crores of rupees for the Development Department. Back to war-time limit ought to be our demand. Let Government curtail expenses or declare bankruptcy of ability. Let the Honourable the Finance and Revenue Members exchange portfolios and we shall have at least the satisfaction of having an Indian point of view in our financial arrangement. The Honourable the Finance Member wants to steal a march over our Excise Minister. He wants to bleed us white by so much that we shall be unable to respond to the prohibitive taxation when it comes before this Council. The Council therefore can give only one reply to the Honourable the Finance Member: Retrench or resign.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Mr. President, the budget which has been presented to us by the Honourable the Finance Member will, in my opinion, please Government officials more than the people of the presidency. I therefore call it a budget of government officials, and not of the people. It is a well-known fact, Sir, that major portion of the population of this presidency lives in countryside. It is said, and rightly said, that the villages are the life blood of a country. It is the villages that supply money and men to Government to defend the country and to administer it. It is the villages that send material and labour to cities and towns for developing the country and for developing its commerce and trade. The welfare of the people living in the countryside is therefore the welfare of the country as a whole, and the welfare of the country should be the first care of a good Government. The budget that provides for the welfare of the people living in the villages, that is on the countryside, is a good budget, and the Government that frames such a budget is a good Government. It is now to be seen whether the budget that has been presented to us is one that has been framed with that object. The villagers, Sir, are suffering on many counts. They are suffering from want of proper and adequate road communications, they are suffering from want of easy medical aid and relief, they are suffering from want of sanitary improvements, they are suffering from want of educational facilities and industrial and technical training, they are suffering from want of religious and moral training, they are suffering from want of good water supply for drinking and irrigation purposes and so on. All these wants have made them unhappy, miserable, poor and in many cases immoral and dishonest. Soon after I got the budget my

[Mr. M. D. Karki]

first care was to read the statements "D" and "E" to the Blue Book to see whether any provision substantially benefiting the people living in the countryside has been made. To my great horror and disappointment I found that no such provision was made. The further study of the budget has convinced me, Sir, that the Finance Member has cared more for the Government officers. Wherever we see we find in the budget that provision has been made for allowances of officers which have been stated to be of nearly 52 kinds by the last speaker, for the construction of buildings such as 2, 3, 4, and 5-roomed quarters for guards, foresters, police constables and inspectors, for construction of stables and motor car sheds for officers' use, for erection of new offices and bungalows for the officers, for purchase of furniture, tents, and books for their use. When the people living in the countryside are suffering from so many causes the Finance Member in his speech speaks of the electric railway being shortly opened in Bombay. The Finance Member merrily deals with the development of Bombay and the suburbs, which in the long run will put us in a state of repentance and financial embarrassment. He also dwells on the electric railway and states that that is a signal example of the happy union of Indian financial enterprise with Western mechanical science. When we are suffering from want of food and clothing, to speak of electric trains and the development of cities and suburbs is nothing but to care very little for the welfare of the people living in the countryside. His Excellency the Governor, when he came to India as Governor, said that the medical relief in Bombay was quite inadequate. We people from villages have known that Bombay city has more medical facilities than anywhere else in the Presidency. Then we had thought that during the regime of our kind-hearted Governor the villages would be provided with sufficient medical aid. While I see so many grants made for the medical relief in Bombay and other big cities, I am grieved to note that only Rs. 3,000, a meagre sum, has been allotted for a scheme for medical aid for the small villages of the whole presidency. When we are for our own Ayurvedic system of medicine, when patriotic and learned Indians pass resolutions in Ayurvedic Conferences for Government encouragement to that system of medicine; when other provincial Governments such as Madras, Mysore and others have already launched schemes for furtherance of such systems; when many of the Indians like their own system of medicine more than allopathy, it is to be regretted that nothing is being done by our Government in furtherance of the cause of Ayurvedic system of medicine. The village aid scheme which is intended to be started is on the allopathic line. This, in my humble opinion, will not be fully availed of by the people in the countryside, who are more conservative and after their own system. The Bombay Presidency is notorious for its forest tracts where malaria is rampant. Last year fortunately for the poor people living there a small financial provision for quinine treatments was made. It is not known if the amount provided for was fully spent or saved on account of stringency of finance. This year that does not find a place in the budget at all; at least I could not find it. I had suggested to the Honourable Minister of Education that bad climate

[Mr. M. D. Karki]

allowance should be provided for primary school teachers living in the malarial tracts of Kanara and he had said that he would see to make some provision for them in this connection. But to my great disappointment I do not find any such provision.

Now, Sir, last year this time in reply to my criticisms on the forest policy of the Government and to my representation of some of the grievances of my district, Government had assured me on this floor of this House that that policy would be strictly in accordance with the spirit and intentions of the policy of the India Government and this Government as laid down in the past had given expressions of good wishes and sympathy for the Kanara agriculturists. They had further assured that the cause of agriculture in Kanara would on no account be hampered and allowed to suffer. The Honourable the Forest Minister, Sir, also had promised us to visit Kanara and to see that the forest grievances were redressed. One year has elapsed since then. What has been the state of things throughout. No doubt the Honourable the Forest Minister visited Kanara, but I regret to say that he did nothing beyond coming to and going from Kanara. After the discussion of the budget during the first session, the Government of Bombay issued privilege rules known as Kanara Forest Privilege Rules, under notification no. 779 dated 16th April 1924 in their Revenue Department without consulting the landed interests of the district and also without publishing and inviting criticisms on the draft rules. These rules, as a matter of fact, are affecting the landed interests of Kanara. They were very severely criticised by the local press and dissatisfaction about them was expressed in various quarters.

Thirdly, Sir, the Betta Rules which were published under notification 7198 dated 16th April 1923 and brought into force in that year were considered by the people of the district as most unsatisfactory, inadequate and unworkable. We had great hopes that they would soon be revised entirely to the satisfaction of the gardeners and new rules would come into existence. But nothing substantial has been done, Sir. The grazing problem which has been made difficult and complex by the Forest policy in Kanara and which is being made more and more so, is still there. No step has been taken to provide for improved grazing in the district.

Fifthly, the question of wild animals is kept intact. The elephants, the tigers, and the panthers are doing their daily duties without fear of any injury to themselves or to their posterity.

Sir, notwithstanding the resolution of this Council to the contrary, revision settlement has been forced upon the people of two talukas in my district, namely, Sirsi and Siddapur. They are forest talukas, there the difficulties of labour are immense and they are labouring under various sorts of other difficulties in effectively carrying out their agricultural operations. As regards the wild elephants I represented the matter to the Honourable the Minister and corresponded with him on the matter, but to my great surprise that was not heeded in time and the elephants had their own share in taking away the produce of the ryots of my district. Besides putting to Government various questions, the answers of which have been very much criticised in the local press and which have been

[Mr. M. D. Karki]

said to be more disappointing and untrue, Sir, besides making speeches on all suitable occasions, and thereby ventilating the grievances of my constituency and besides moving resolutions on matters of general public interest before this honourable House, I have spared no pains in bringing the grievances of the individual constituents and the group of constituents to the notice of the Ministers as well as of the Members of the Government by means of special correspondence. They will one and all bear me out in this connection, Sir. What has been the result, Sir? The result is most unsatisfactory.

The granting of gun licenses has become a burning question in my district. Kanara is in itself a forest district haunted by various sorts of reptiles and other wild animals injurious to both life and property. The Crop Protection Committee had *inter alia* recommended that gun licenses should be freely issued to the people for the protection of their crops, their mainstay. I corresponded with the Honourable the Home Member and represented the grievances of two or more persons whose applications for gun licenses were either rejected or cancelled and while doing so, I spared no pains in pointing out to him the faulty procedure adopted by the district administration in granting the licenses and the tricks played by the lower officials in the matter. But, to my great disappointment, the reply that I got was that the persons whose applications had been either refused or cancelled ought to have made an appeal to the Commissioner. That was not my case. I pointed out the faulty procedure, but no notice was taken of it. My constituents sent me up to this Council to ventilate their grievances, and to get them redressed on the floor of this House. They thought that their cry from Kanara would be intercepted by its High Forests, and would not ultimately reach Government, and that the floor of this House would be more free and suitable for the purpose. Now, they have begun to mutter that the Hall of this House is higher and thicker than the High Forests of Kanara. Sir, they are not to be blamed at all but Government have given room for the people to do so.

Besides the commissions and omissions that I have above complained of, they have not given effect to my resolution regarding interest-free *tagai*—which was passed by this House—to those persons who were afflicted by the floods, for the purchase of seeds and cattle. Mr. Maxwell, the late Collector of Kanara, who was found by the Kanaraites as their real friend was transferred very unexpectedly. He had come in close touch with its people. He had studied its forest problems, and other difficult problems of grave importance. He was the proper person to deal with all these questions, as he had made himself fully acquainted with its facts and situations, by wisely and sympathetically serving there in the past. I wired to the Private Secretary to the Governor that he should be kept there for one or two years more, to have the forest and other problems of the district solved, which he would have done, to the satisfaction of both the Kanaraites and the Government, if he had continued there for another two years. Government were gracious enough not to even acknowledge the receipt of my telegram and not to give any

[Mr. M. D. Karki]

reply to it up till now. These are the things that are going on in the Government. Sir, this has been the work of the one year that has passed since assurances and expressions of good wishes and sympathy were held out. The people have begun to realise that the sympathy which is given expression to by the honourable members on the opposite benches on the floor of this House or elsewhere is nothing but lip sympathy. They say that Government do not wish that the assurances should be translated into action. This, Sir, has been the impression left on the minds of the people of the mofussil. To this we are not responsible. We are doing our own duty to them. I hope the Government will mend all matters soon. The revision settlement, if it is for decreasing the assessment to which the ryots are, as a matter of fact, entitled, will be welcomed by us. I warn the Government, any increase would certainly add fuel to the fire and cause great discontent and irritation among the people.

Now, I want to draw the attention of the Honourable Minister for Local Self-government to one or two points. The road communication in Kanara is worse off than anywhere else. Kanara is a forest country, where rainfall is very heavy. Like Ratnagiri, the coast road is intercepted by many creeks and rivers, and the major portion of the road is very bad for traffic. No attempt was made by Government to have causeways or bridges on these creeks. It was only last year that provision was made for constructing a causeway over the Kumta river, but although that provision was budgetted and passed in this Council, nothing has come out of it, and no causeway is to be seen there. Many of the main roads across the above-ghat and below-ghat talukas pass through the ghats. These roads except Arbail-ghat road are in an extremely bad condition, and the motor services which have been opened are on the verge of bankruptcy on that account. I invite the Honourable Minister for Local Self-government to visit Kanara once in his own motor car, to see things personally. As my time is up, I would ask for two minutes' time more.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member cannot get even a single minute more.

Mr. M. D. KARKI: Sir, I fully sympathise with the view of the honourable members from Dharwar that there should be an independent province for the Karnatak, and that there should be a unification of all the Kanarese-speaking districts. I fully agree with them that Government is not giving much attention to the people of the Karnatak. Not only for the last two years they have absolutely neglected Karnatak, but they have done so in the past. They have rendered a great disservice to the Karnatak by abandoning the Karwar harbour scheme and the Kanara railway project mooted out in the 19th century.

Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH JATOI (Larkana District) (Addressed the House in Sindhi): Sir, I do not know English, so I would have attempted to speak in Urdu as Urdu is known to a large majority of this House, but as I am unable to speak Urdu so fluently, I shall have to speak in Sindhi, which I do realise will not be followed by the

[Khan Saheb Karimbaksh Jatoi]

majority of the honourable members of this House. It is a difficulty which cannot be solved or overcome by me.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member is entitled to speak in Sindhi.

Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH JATOI: Sir, the main point which I wish to criticise in the budget is the barrage scheme in particular and irrigation in general. The fact cannot remain hidden, nor can it be denied that there is any amount of extravagance going on in carrying out this scheme.

In February last I had thanked Government for taking such precautions for the welfare of the agriculturists of Sind as by constructing such a big scheme as the barrage. The demand of funds for the year 1924-25 was granted and it was hoped that something substantial would be done in the current year, and that it would be run most economically. But this one year's experience by silent watch over the progress of the work clearly shows that only a little of survey has been done and some stones are pitched here and there and for every two or three stones a watchman on a pay of Rs. 20 or Rs.15 is engaged. This is also one proof of the way in which they are wasting public money.

What I have seen and what everybody has seen is that they have built good many bungalows at Sukkur and elsewhere, and all this staff has been engaged in having those bungalows nicely built and every one of them, from an overseer high up to the Superintending Engineer is simply supervising that work of the construction of buildings. I do not see what necessity there is to construct so many houses, and it is nothing but a sheer waste of money.

As regards irrigation, I would tell this honourable House that they are troubling the Sind agriculturists to a very great extent. They insist upon the policy of reduction of sluices of the zamindari karias. The Honourable Mr. Cowasji had visited Sind in November last and held two conferences, one at Hyderabad and the other at Sukkur, in connection with this question of reduction of sluices. All the important zamindars of Upper Sind and Lower Sind attended the conferences and all protested in a body against the reduction of the karia heads. Only two or three out of three hundred zamindars defended the fallacious policy of the irrigation officers. Those two or three men, though they were very ordinary zamindars, were so much respected by the officers that the chief engineers and the superintending engineers began to vacate their chairs to accommodate them. This is how things are happening in Sind.

It is said by the Irrigation Department officers that very little water goes to the tail of the canals, because karias at the head take away more water, and so it is necessary to have karia sluices reduction. But I would tell them that I have got a large holding at the tail, but I find that it won't benefit the tail people at all. What they should do is to widen and improve the tails of these canals, which are now so heavily silted up.

Profiles at the heads of canals are also very harmful to the zamindars. After the introduction of these profiles, the result has been that, where

[Khan Saheb Karimbaksh Jatoi]

we used to get seven feet flow in a normal inundation season, we get only four feet now. From this, you can see how far they have harmed us.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District): Sir, I consider it my painful duty to offer some pungent but honest remarks on the deficit budget of this presidency, so tactfully submitted by the Honourable the Finance Member for the consideration of this honourable House. Sir, it is with a heavy heart that I have to declare that the Honourable the Finance Member does not deserve any congratulations so far as the budget itself is concerned. While speaking this I cannot forget that he was in bed last time and I remember to have prayed God to bring him back soon. Somehow or other God granted my request and he is among us here to-day. I cannot help congratulating him on his sound health and happy return with more vigour and more strength to frame more such budgets of this presidency in future.

Sir, I had practically no mind to speak at the time of general discussion of the budget, but after hearing the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member I made up my mind to speak a few words, as I thought the life of the official benches would be monotonous if I do not contribute my instalment to the debate.

Before coming to the actual figures of different departments, I would like to express the difficulties the non-official members experience as regards the budget. The other day we learnt that the officials of Government take no less than three months to frame this budget. When well experienced, tactful and competent Government officials, well equipped with every material and weapon at their command, take more than three months to prepare the budget, Sir, imagine what time should be allotted to non-official members to read and consider it. The printed copy of the budget should therefore be submitted to the members at least one fortnight before the commencement of the session. I hope the language-liberal officials will show their liberality of heart in action at least in such cases where they have practically nothing to lose.

Sir, poor uneducated agriculturists on our side have, by experience of the different departments of Government, given different names to different departments, according to their works and their merits. After reading the budget, I am convinced that those people are in the right. Though uneducated and dumb creatures they are, they have understood several departments by experience more than what we have understood by reading. The Land Revenue Department is called the son's department, that is, a department that serves the Government as a son. This department earns for the father and the family. The Public Works Department is called the son-in-law's department, that is, the son-in-law knows only how to spend and make *maja* at the father-in-law's house. He is always a guest there for enjoyment. The Educational Department is called the nephew's department. This department is the nephew of the Government. The maternal uncle always takes the credit for educating the nephew, when the nephew lives at his place for education. But the poor nephew alone knows how he is treated by the aunt. The aunt would serve milk to her own favourite

[Mr. W. S. Mukadam]

son and curd to the nephew. With all partiality the maternal uncle takes the credit for the education of the nephew. The poor nephew knows it but he is gagged by obligation. This is exactly the state here. The Excise Department is the bad companion of Government. Government is in love with this bad companion and it is actually mad after her. Government has sacrificed respect, prestige, credit, and everything on her account. It is very difficult in life to leave the company of a bad companion even after knowing the wickedness. The Police Department is the spoilt child of Government. The father knows the defects, wickedness and mischief of the son and still he hides his faults and fights with his brothers. The Forest Department is the old mother department. As the old mother though not liked by the son and the daughter-in-law is useful to the house, in the same way this department is useful to the Government. The old mother has got large and extensive property and the son wishes the death of the mother, as he will be in possession of lakhs and crores.

Sir, I now touch the several departments in brief. The Government want to collect 36 lakhs of rupees more in the Land Revenue Department. Even the Mahomedan and non-Brahmin members of this House know that the agriculturists of this presidency are taxed to their utmost capacity. Sir, there is no blood left in the agriculturists. The flesh and blood of agriculturists have been taken away, and now only remain skin and bones in them. If the Government want to trade on skin and bones of the agriculturists they can do so, as they have powers in their hands. But remember, Sir, the impartial historians of the future age of independence will certainly call this action of the Government a sort of cannibalism. The Revenue Department has not properly looked to the increased inconvenience of the cultivators. Cultivators in Gujarat are in want of lands for cultivation. Government tendency is always to give big plots to influential monied men. Thus Government make poor cultivators actual slaves of capitalists. I understand that the Honourable the Revenue Member might be feeling for this. But what can he do? He is helpless. I pity his position. On paper he is the head but in reality he is a subordinate to the I.C.S. people and secretary. He has to please the I.C.S. people to please the whole Government.

The Development Department has desparately developed the difficulties of the people. The Government now understand that we have understood their polished plan of feeding the foreigners beyond limit in this department also. Government is perfectly right in saying that they will not be at a loss in the long run in this business. I understand that they are not at a loss even to-day. Government gain their points every day, every hour and every minute in taking India's wealth to England by any means fair or foul. It seems that the Bombay Government is playing speculation like a losing and defeated speculator in this concern, but inwardly it is not so. This is all outward show. Government is successful in thrusting fat salaries into the pockets of Europeans and European contractors.

[Mr. W. S. Mukadam]

Sir, are we not justified in cursing the Government when we actually see with our own eyes open that our wealth is wasted intentionally to enrich those who are our declared enemies in the constitutional battle of political freedom? Sir, I have studied the forest administration of my presidency and have noticed without any surprise that new posts are created in this department to make provision for Europeans. Lakhs and lakhs of rupees are being spent every year unnecessarily on such wealthy foreign favourites. I am prepared to prove the nondeclared policy of the Government of imposing upon us European officers of high salaries even when there is absolutely no necessity for them. I reserve my remarks regarding this department till demand for grants is made.

The less said about the Lee loot the better. Nearly 9 lakhs are distributed to higher officials as *khairat* on the mischievous suggestion of the Lee Commission and the Government want to give nearly 10 lakhs the next year. Government is liberal enough to cut down one lakh from the dietary charges of the prisoners of this presidency. Government think that prisoners are over-fed and the starving civilians are under-fed. Is this the civilization they are proud of? I speak this knowing full well that I am exciting the anger of the civilians and in India their anger is the anger of God. Civilians are capable of threatening the Government. If through mistake or through policy or for any purpose in view Government do anything by which Indian prestige and position may be increased and raised, the I.C.S. people and their other sympathisers will not lose a minute to serve the Government with a notice that they all will resign the Government service and would leave India with their friends. And if in anger—fortunately or unfortunately it is for the House to decide—they put their threat into action and go on strike and leave India for good, imagine, Sir, what will be the result? If they go away, who will live in beautiful buildings and bungalows; who will draw fat salaries; who will taunt Indian subordinates by ridiculing self-government and Swaraj; who will lessen the burden of the Indian treasury; and, Sir, last but not the least, who will shoot us in shikar and kick us to cause rupture of our spleen? Sir, this experiment is worth trying, and if the civilians of this presidency are going to try it—I think I should congratulate them in advance—if they make common cause and go on strike and leave India, I think all that we can do will be to go to the Docks to see them off, and some members will even go to Aden with tears in their eyes and cocoanuts in their hands. With these few words, I resume my seat.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Mr. President, I desire to make a few remarks upon the budget. The capital and revenue accounts have got to be carefully distinguished if we are to get an accurate idea of our financial position and of the results of the budget. The capital account deals in crores of rupees for loans to various departments, some of which are received back again from the persons to whom they are advanced. This part of the budget is a matter which is properly

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

for my honourable friend in the Finance Department. I only allude to very small parts of it, not crores of rupees, but a few lakhs, a sum of eight lakhs for police buildings. I gather that my honourable friend opposite (Mr. M. R. Jayakar) approves of expenditure on such items as police buildings from capital account, though it formerly used to be spent out of the revenue account. I am entirely at one with him there. I think that these large sums on expensive police lines are properly sums spent from the capital account. They are not altogether expenditure which produce no return, because they enable us to forego giving hutting money allowance to our police men, which we have to give if they have no houses to live in, and to get rid of one of those 52 allowances which were said to go on increasing every year. There was one allowance which I do not recollect he has mentioned—a most necessary one the allowance to us members coming here to this Legislative Council. (Mr. M. R. Jayakar: They are not Government officers.) I entirely appreciate the distinction. These allowances should indeed be continued as they are not paid to Government officials. I return to this eight lakhs for police buildings. I pointed out that this really is good expenditure, because it saves us the hutting money. I want to point out that we provide a sinking fund and interest charges to pay off the whole amount within a certain period, I think it is 30 years. So at the end of 30 years, we pay off the debt; we have got the buildings; and we save the corresponding hutting allowance.

I now turn to the revenue account, which is more properly my business. And it is, Sir, the revenue account which we have to look at if we are to judge whether our income is sufficient for our annual recurring expenditure. It is the revenue account upon which our eyes must be fixed when we have to decide whether we ought to sanction additional funds being raised by additional taxation. Now, Sir, it is a most significant fact that, looking to the revenue account of the past year, we are down by exactly that sum of 18 lakhs of rupees which we had hoped to raise from the continuation of the Court-fees Act. That, Sir, is, I think all members will allow, a very significant fact. Turning to the budget for the coming year, and in particular to that part for which I am responsible I would invite the attention of honourable members to the fact that there has been on the whole no increase in the Home Department. We effected considerable reductions in expenditure in these departments under the advice of the Retrenchment Committee. In Administration of Justice we effected very nearly all the retrenchments which were recommended to us. In the Jail Department no retrenchments were recommended, but we were able to effect certain economies, for instance the economy in dietary charges, which, as has already been explained, does not mean that the rations are any less or any worse, but that we pay less for the same article. We have effected a very material decrease in the police budget of some 12½ lakhs of rupees. All these items have been before honourable members in a statement which has been laid upon the table of this House. They can refer to that and test the accuracy of the remarks I have made. In the coming year's budget, it is true that

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

Administration of Justice shows a small increase, from 75 lakhs to 78 lakhs of rupees, but I am afraid, Sir, that is an increase which we must expect with the ever-growing population, the ever-increasing trade and industries, and the corresponding increase in litigation, and I am afraid that that increase will go on as the years go on and we increase in prosperity, until we reach that millennium when we should be blessed by both an honorary bench and an honorary bar. The jails budget shows equilibrium. It was 28 lakhs last year and it will be 28 lakhs in the year to come. The police budget shows a reduction. It was 184 lakhs in the current year ; it will be 177 lakhs in the coming year. That is a further very valuable saving of a sum of 7 lakhs of rupees, which has been foreshadowed sometime, by the discontinuation of our payments for the Agency police in Gujarat.

We have re-examined our budget very carefully this year when we were advised by the Finance Department that it would not be possible to pay our way, and I hope honourable members will believe me when I say that we have done our best by economies here and there to reduce expenditure in every direction possible and I do not believe that it will be practicable to make any further reductions in these important departments without seriously reducing the efficiency of both the courts and the police. With regard to the latter, there have been, as many honourable members here know, complaints that we have gone too far in the retrenchment of the police.

I would ask honourable members then to compare this Home Department budget which on the whole shows a decrease with the other important departments such as education, medical, public health and public works. Education, you will notice, was 190, and it is proposed to raise it from 190 to 215, an increase of 25 lakhs. There is a small rise in Medical and also a small rise of 6 lakhs in Public Health, and a proposed rise in the Public Works Department from 124 to 141, namely 17 lakhs. Taking alone Educational Department and the Public Works Department, 25 and 17 give you 42 lakhs which is just the sum which we hope to get from the additional taxation proposed. These, Sir, are facts which have to be recognised. They are not threats. They are facts which we have got to face however unpleasant they may be. We want progress and particularly we want progress in those departments under the control of our Ministers. We have on this account agreed that these increases should be put into their budgets and we are now making an appeal to honourable members to exercise responsible statesmanship in this most important matter and grant us these funds for the progress of this presidency. Sir, the funds required are to be found in a comparatively easy and simple manner. The Court-fees Bill is one that is well known to us. We had it for 2 years. There were no complaints. We enquired and were informed it did not really work harshly on any people. It was a moderate increase and it was an increase borne by persons involved in litigation which cost us so much in the administration of justice budget. It is, Sir, only fair that they should be called upon to pay a part of the increase in the cost of justice. It is a measure

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

which is particular by its limitations to exclude from its increase the poorer suitors. Whether that limitation is sufficiently high or not is a matter which will be for the consideration of honourable members of this House. It excludes suits below Rs. 500. If that limit is thought to be too low that would be a good matter for consideration in the select committee. The other bill is the Stamp Bill, a tax on transfers of property in towns. A tax on large properties at the time when the money is received from the sale of those properties. It is a tax on persons who are able to pay at the time when they have the money in hand to pay. It is, Sir, I submit a very proper tax looking to the very vast sums received from the mofussil and elsewhere which are spent in these large cities in the presidency.

Sir, the Ministers have done their part. They have persuaded us to put into this budget these very valuable additional sums. The Honourable Minister of Education has got his 25 lakhs. The Honourable Minister of Public Works has got another 17 lakhs. They have got this money. They have done their part. Now, it is for honourable members to do their part and to give us full support in these moderate measures of extra taxation to pay them the necessary funds to carry out their proposed improvements. It is for honourable members particularly of the ministerial parties to support their ministers, to give them the money which they require for these important works in the presidency. The Honourable Minister for Forests I have not mentioned. But he also has done his part. You have heard his decision on the excise question. You have heard the conclusion he has come to, a conclusion entirely in accordance with the views of this House, and how any honourable member could say that he had done it without consultation it baffles me to understand. He did it after a full committee of enquiry after the matter was discussed on more than one occasion in this House. I think he is also entitled to full support of the ministerial parties of this House. One word of warning. He had to point out that the policy which has been adopted is likely to prove an expensive policy: that has to be faced. It may mean a great number of rupees running into crores. It means that we shall have to find that revenue from somewhere else, and I think in view of that honourable members must make the mistake of thinking that our immediate wants may be left to the chance of getting anything out of the income tax. It will in the first place take time. We need not however despair. We believe that in the end we will get it because we believe that we have a just cause. But in the next place I wish merely to give this warning that when we get our share a very large part of it, if not all, will be required to carry out the excise policy which has been approved and set in force by this honourable House.

Mr. H. B. SHIVDASANI (Surat District): Sir, before I make a few remarks about the budget I wish to repeat that to me it seems that the budget statements are very badly drawn up and that they are likely to mislead several honourable members on the non-official benches

[Mr. H. B. Shivdasani]

and that they have even misled some of the members on the official benches. For instance the Honourable the Finance Member said that income this year was 14 crores 78 lakhs, and that expenditure was 15 crores 19 lakhs. I looked at the White Book at statement "A" and there the income for this year was given as 16 crores 16 lakhs and in statement "B" the expenditure was given as 16 crores 67 lakhs, and in statement "C" of the White Book the same figures of 16 crores and odd for Receipts and Expenditure were confirmed. Then, I looked at the Blue Book, but statement "A" of the Blue Book gives no separate total of receipts and expenditure from revenue. In statement "B" I found that Receipts from ordinary Revenue were 15 crores 68 lakhs and 48 lakhs from Development Department. And in the same statement "B" of the Blue Book I found that ordinary expenditure was 16 crores 9 lakhs and the expenditure of the development department was 57 lakhs. It is only in statement III on page 35 of the Blue Book that I find that receipts are 14 crores and 78 lakhs and on page 37 of the Blue Book expenditure is shown as 15 crores 19 lakhs, but if we take statements III and IV in the Blue Book we find that the current year's figures of Revenue and Expenditure do not tally with the figures as given by Honourable the Finance Member in his speech. The Honourable the Finance Member told us that in the current year Revenue is 14 crores and the Expenditure 14 crores 18 lakhs but in these statements we find that the Receipts are shown as 14 crores but the expenditure is shown as 13 crores 72 lakhs. It is confusing to have different statements and statements which do not agree. For instance in the White Book the Revenue in the coming year is shown as 16 crores and 16 lakhs and it is not clear from that statement whether this Revenue includes income from the Development Department. It will be only when we look at the statement "B" of the Blue Book that we find that the figures 16 crores 16 lakhs include Receipts from the Development Department. Similarly expenditure in statement "B" of the White Book is shown as 16 crores 67 lakhs but at the top heading we find the words "Expenditure charged to revenue". Expenditure on the Development Department is not charged to revenue and I wonder how it is included in this statement "B" in the White Book. Another difficulty is that several items in the budget are shown under different headings. For instance, if I want to know what is the expenditure on the band establishment of His Excellency the Governor's household, I have to look to so many headings. There is one provision for band establishment of Rs. 52,332, on page 75 of the Civil Estimate. Then there is an item of allowance to bandsmen and musicians, Rs. 7,260. Then an item of band contingencies, Rs. 3,000. Then the item of rations, clothing and fuel for bands, Rs. 11,423. Then there is the item of railway charge to band establishment, Rs. 1,000. So there are five items relating to one subject under five different headings, and in addition there might be some provision under the heading household rates and taxes Rs. 30,000 in respect of band. So our difficulty is that if we desire to cut down expenditure on any particular service it is difficult to find out what cuts we should

[Mr. H. B. Shivdasani]

propose. For instance, on page 187 of C. E. the figures for assistant directors of public health are given. Now if I want to propose a cut in the expenditure of these officers, I am at a loss to know what cut to propose. Pay is given and the leave salary is given, but I do not know what is the cut which can be proposed for their establishments. It is not given separately. Travelling allowances are not given separately. Similarly as regards every other expenditure. Expenditure on one particular service is not shown separately, it is shown under so many headings and it is so mixed up that it is absolutely impossible for any member, official or non-official, to know how much the expenditure on a particular service or a particular branch of a department is. Now, I am not in a position to say what is the cost of the assistant directors of public health. I am unable to tell what is the cost of the assistant collectors and their establishments. It is all mixed up under travelling allowances under general administration, and so on. I think it would be clearer if statements were prepared separately showing what is the expenditure on each service, so that if honourable members wish to propose cuts, they could give notice of those particular cuts.

The expenditure side of the budget has been commented upon by most members ; so I will look at the revenue side of the present budget. If we examine that side carefully, we will find that the budget presents a much more dismal picture than the figures given to us by the Finance Member would indicate. The figures seem to show that there is an increase of 78 lakhs in the next year's revenue. But on scrutiny we find that of this increase 28 lakhs is in respect of receipts from interest. Against this, we have got a corresponding increase of 30 lakhs in respect of interest on the expenditure side. So this increase is absolutely illusory. The Revenue Member told us that we should budget for the highest possible amount that we are capable of realising if the season is a favourable one. That is why he said we had budgetted for Rs. 560 lakhs. Even in the current year, which was not a bad year—it was a good average year—it was found that Government could not recover more than Rs. 5,24 lakhs. There is no reason to presume that the coming year will be a more favourable year. We can budget only as for an average year. So we should budget for only Rs. 5,24 or Rs. 5,25 lakhs. So this increase of Rs. 36 lakhs under land revenue is also illusory and exists only on paper.

Then, there is an increase of 21 lakhs under the item of adjustments between the Central and Provincial Governments (No. XXXIX 4). Out of this Rs. 10,48,000 is refund of customs duty on imported stores from the Government of India. Formerly we were exempted from this duty, but this year we have been assessed to duty. The Government of India has promised to make a refund of this duty to the local Governments, but this is to be utilised solely for the reduction or avoidance of debt. Then, there is an increase of 14 lakhs under assignment on account of unified stamps. But half of this is for the current year and half for the coming year. Out of these 14 lakhs only 7 lakhs are the receipts

[Mr. H. B. Shivdasani]

for the coming year and 7 lakhs are for the present year. So taking all these items together, they come to about 81 lakhs. So practically in the coming year's budget the receipts are the same as in the current year. As for expenditure, of course, if we do not consider the receipts against which there is a corresponding expenditure we should also not consider that portion of the expenditure which is a set-off against those receipts. If we do so we will find that the deficit is really 88 lakhs and not merely 41 lakhs. However taking the figures as they have been presented to us we find that expenditure has been increased by 111 lakhs, whereas the income has increased by 78 lakhs though a great portion of this increase of revenue is illusory and a part of it has been improperly budgeted for.

In conclusion, I will say a few things about the constituency I represent. I find, in the matter of communications, Gujarat and Sind are being treated very shabbily. The Central Division and the Southern Division get more than three-fourths of the amounts that are spent on roads, while in Gujarat and Sind very little money is spent on the roads. And moreover on account of metal and other materials required for the roads not being so easily available there, their cost is very high and so what is being spent in these two provinces does not go very far. To take a concrete example the cost of metal, say, in Surat is excessive as compared with the cost at Poona for instance. In Surat you cannot do with five lakhs what you can do at Poona with say one lakh or two lakhs. So the disparity is in reality very much more than what appears on paper.

Another great grievance of the poor cultivators of Gujarat is that Government does not pay sufficient attention to the upkeep of the tanks. In the last session of the Council I was able to show that Government were pocketing Rs. 30,000 every year from *Himayat* assessment. Now, when Government gives 10 lakhs for interest on the Sukkur Barrage loan by taking that money taken from Famine Relief Fund, why should Government not spend some money out of Famine Relief Fund for tanks in Gujarat? The cost of the Sukkur Barrage is excessive. To minimise it you pay 2 crores out of Famine Relief and you do that for a productive work, whereas for protective works in Gujarat you not only do not give a grant from the Famine Insurance grant, but on the contrary you pocket the money which the poor people pay.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Honourable members should not address the Government members but should address the Chair.

Mr. H. B. SHIVDASANI: Another thing that calls for some remarks is the policy of the Education Minister. In the last budget session the Council passed a resolution to appoint a committee to consider the question of the pay of primary teachers. The last meeting of the committee was held in October last and, as far as I know, even the report of the committee has not been sent to the members for their signature. If Government do not want to give anything to the primary teachers, they may not; but they should behave in a more courageous fashion; they

[Mr. H. B. Shivdasani]

should not play such dodges. If they do not want to give them an increase, let them come forward in a straightforward fashion and say so; it is no use causing delay in issuing a report in the first instance and then giving replies to questions in Council that "the matter is under consideration" or "the committee is still sitting, and considering the matter" and so forth. The committee finished its labours four or five months ago, and still the report has not been sent to the members, though some of the members have written to the Honourable Minister for Education to send them the report for their signature. They have also verbally asked him to do so, but still nothing is forthcoming. [An Honourable Member: Perhaps Government have not got the money.] If Government have not got the money, they should come forward in a straightforward fashion and say that they have no money. They should not put off the evil day. One day or the other, that report must come before the House.

In conclusion, I must congratulate Government on the bold step they have taken in agreeing to have accepted prohibition as the ultimate goal in excise matters. They had frightened honourable members on this side of the House by telling them that it would not be possible to replace the big slice of income from excise, Rs. 4½ crores, which represents one-third the entire revenues. It may be asked, where is the money to come from? The money will be there in the pockets of the people. If you do not take money from them for drink, they will be richer by that amount. At present the people have to maintain not only the Excise Department of Government, but also the excise contractors, the coolies, the tappers who take out toddy, and all those who are engaged in the liquor traffic. If Government gets Rs. 4½ crores, these people, who are more or less parasites, take away another 3 or 4 crores. Because of drink, people are not able to earn as much as they would otherwise, and they remain in poverty. I am confident that if people do not drink they would be able to earn very much more than they do now. I think the additional earnings, if people do not drink, would amount to some crores of rupees. If you do away with excise revenue, if you enforce prohibition, the money is not going to evaporate; the money will be in the pockets of the people, and if you forego 4½ crores, you would be putting 10 crores in the pockets of the people, and we have got so many clever and ingenious people on the Government benches that it should not be difficult for one or more of them to suggest ways and means of tapping the pockets of the people and getting, say, 4 or 5 crores out of it when there is 10 crores more inside the pockets of the people. The right and statesmanlike policy of Government should be to enrich the people, and then, if their capacity to pay taxes is increased, Government can always, in all sorts of ways, take part of that increased amount from the people's pockets, instead of taking it from excise traffic which is so degrading and demoralising. If this is done Government will be able to get the same revenue, but the people will be much richer than they are under the present system,

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : Mr. President, the budget has received such a remarkably generous reception from all quarters of the House that I feel very seriously handicapped in making a reply ; I gather that the House as a whole is thoroughly satisfied with the information that has been put before it in the shape of the Blue Book and the new statements and graphs which have been attached to that book, and that there is a far wider recognition of the financial position and difficulties of Government and far greater sympathy with their efforts to suggest a right policy to this House than certainly I had any previous anticipation of ; and I feel also that I must express my personal obligations to those honourable members who have so kindly made personal references to myself on my return to my duties.

A very large number of the criticisms are obviously based upon an imperfect understanding and appreciation of the figures, and as the budget demands come up for discussion one by one, my honourable colleagues will, I have no doubt, be able to relieve the anxiety and disappointment of honourable members who have been led to misunderstand the position by reason of the complexity and intricacy of our accounts. Perhaps, one of the most important criticisms relates to the question of our loan commitments and the avoidance of debt. I should be very glad if that question be brought up in the Finance Committee, for it is a very difficult matter to explain at all clearly in public debate in a House of this size ; it can be far more readily elucidated by question and answer across the table. Our Finance Committee is, I believe, about to receive the assistance of several honourable members who are perhaps amongst our most vigorous critics, and I welcome their acceptance of this position. My only wish is that the leader of the Swaraj party would take his proper place on that committee, and assist us to grapple with our problems in personal discussion on the Finance Committee.

Now, Sir, amongst the detailed misunderstandings, one of the first that I have down for notice is the enquiry from one of the honourable members for Bombay city, which he put forward, as far as I can understand, with a touch of humour—from the context I gathered there was a touch of humour—as to how expenditure on an arsenal in Karachi was intended to improve the public health of that city. Put in that form, it does appear to call for some explanation, but a little study of the papers in the Blue Book would have made it clear to the honourable member, as it is well known to most people here, that the Bombay Government is relieving congestion in Karachi by acquiring from the military a considerable area of land. On those lands there is situated an arsenal, and the military authorities very naturally made it a condition of their surrender of the land that we should build them an arsenal somewhere else. That is why the building of an arsenal becomes an improvement of public health in Karachi city.

Then, Sir, the honourable member the leader of the Swaraj party was very indignant with the Honourable Minister for Public Health because he had admitted an officer entitled Medical Research Officer,

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

with a salary of Rs. 3,150 and an expenditure of Rs. 37,800 in the next year's budget. But the honourable member had not carried his researches himself far enough, for the whole transaction is explained in the Blue Book, paragraphs 146 and 155. This Medical Research Officer was previously shown, and is shown in the White Book on page 180, under the Grant Medical College, and all that has happened is that he is transferred from the Grant Medical College to the Bacteriological Laboratory. There has been no such negligence or remissness on the part of the Honourable Minister for Public Health as some imagined had taken place. This officer has been in the employ of Government for some time, and I believe the circumstances are known to this House.

Now, Sir, there were various references made to the Lee Commission Report; and I do not think it is worth while to discuss that in any detail at this stage. Provision has now been made for carrying out those measures and we are acting under the instructions of the Government of India and the Secretary of State. The Lee Report is a necessary condition of the transitional stage of politics in India. That Commission was appointed not merely to recommend measures to render the public services contented and efficient but also to expedite the Indianisation of the services. That Committee consisted of nine members of whom only three were officials and four were Indians. They submitted a most careful and unanimous report. I do not think that this House, which has accepted the conditions of the Government of India Act and has never attempted to challenge the essential foundations of the system, as has been done with disastrous results in other parts of India, is really inclined to quarrel with the necessary results of the policy adopted.

One honourable member who spoke with some bitterness said that the view of excessive salaries of English officers was not his own but was derived from John Bright. Now, Sir, John Bright's view on India carried weight some 70 years ago. His speeches of 1854 can be read with interest and profit now, and it is obviously that light that has illuminated the honourable member in his present reflections. What appeared monstrous and incredible to John Bright in 1854 seems monstrous and incredible to the honourable member for Khandesh in 1924. The honourable member lives in the mists of the past: and while the House will always be glad to hear his views on philosophy, I am inclined to wonder if they will also accept his theories on modern life.

The same honourable member with bitterness referred to the land revenue situation in the Sindkheda taluka of the Khandesh district. The honourable member in charge of the Revenue Department has had no difficulty in demonstrating that the honourable member's violence of language is only equalled by the entire inaccuracy of his statements. The Government which he abused for its heartless treatment has already granted the relief which he asked for. Was it really impossible for the honourable member to ascertain such simple facts before he expended the time of the House in baseless diatribes?

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

Another speech which also was characterised by a little exaggeration was that of the honourable member for Bombay, who referred to the expenditure on Government House as amounting to 31 lakhs in 3 years and as demonstrating the total incompetency of the Government and the neglect of their duties to the people of this country. That was the subject of some discussion last October and I had then occasion to point out that out of this 31 lakhs of rupees, 13 lakhs were expended on building lines for the bodyguard. That money was derived not from the taxpayer but by the sale of the old lines which was in the possession of the bodyguard for many years. As a result of that transaction, not only are the bodyguard housed in better surroundings but Government made a profit of nearly a lakh of rupees. I am explaining this to the House for a second time. The expenditure on Government House has in fact amounted in these three years to something like 17 lakhs of rupees. That too, no doubt, is a considerable sum. Since the honourable member has stated in so many words that this is an extravagant expenditure on His Excellency the Governor, that is a point where full information is desirable. During the war all expenditure on Government House was curtailed. Before the war it had been reported after investigation by engineering experts that the Government Houses were in a very bad condition and required repairs. In fact some portions were on the point of tumbling down, and the roof of one of the principal rooms was blown off or fell down, immediately after some important guests had left. These repairs have now been carried out and they were necessary. This matter had been under discussion for some 10 years before the repairs were carried out. Further out of this 17 lakhs, some 5 lakhs were spent on building quarters for non-gazetted staff who were housed in very bad conditions and a couple of lakhs on office accommodation. A sum of 1½ lakhs was spent on drainage and sanitation under the express instructions of the municipality of Bombay, which refused to permit the Government House to remain any longer in an insanitary condition. That, Sir, is the true history of what is alleged to be an extravagant expenditure on the Government Houses of this presidency.

Among other detailed criticisms of our actions I note that some members have expressed their disapproval of the grant of compensatory local allowance in Bombay and its suburbs, Poona and Karachi. This decision was taken some 15 months ago after a careful examination of the problem over a period of 4 years.

As the name implies, this allowance is intended to compensate officers for the exceptionally high cost of living in those places and to place those officers on a more equal level of remuneration with those other officers of the same rank serving in other parts of the presidency. I think members of this House when they visit Bombay see personal demonstration of the fact that money does not go so far in Bombay as it does in other places. It is for this reason that the standard of salaries granted in Bombay is higher than elsewhere. That compensation was granted

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

on a percentage basis. I believe the papers were placed on the table of this House last March.

But from a different point of view, another complaint is made, that though we have given these compensatory allowances to superior officers, we have not given such allowances to officers of the lower grade. One honourable member has criticised Government very unfavourably for their differential treatment. I do not suppose that it will mollify him at all to be reminded that we took some years to find out the facts before we gave allowances in the first case to higher officers, and that we are still making enquiry and investigation of those cases for which he himself pleads with such vehemence. Those humble officers have not, as he states, been entirely disregarded by Government. Three years before the compensatory allowances were granted to the higher officers, the pay of those inferior officers was raised by 100 per cent. in the lower ranks and by some 60 per cent. in the upper ranks, at the time when those officers from whom he withholds all sympathy received increases of from 20 to 40 per cent. So that, this terrible Government has in fact been responsible for giving differential treatment, but in favour of the poorer officers and not in favour of the richer.

Now, mention has been made of the very large number of allowances which are paid to various officers throughout the presidency, and the fact that these allowances are entered under some 52 different heads is apparently made the subject of complaint. Sir, I think the only people who have to complain about it are the officers of Government who have to read these Blue Books and White Books and to write them up. The only real complaint consists in the excessive and meticulous care and detail with which our accounts are maintained. The number of names given to these allowances is very great, but it is obvious that a great number of them might come under one heading, compensatory local allowance, and the vast number of these allowances are given to petty officers in the different departments serving in the jungles and hills throughout the country. The total sum at issue can be calculated from the White Book, but as none of our critics has mentioned the sum, I think it is a fair inference to say that the total must be something inconsiderable.

Sir, it would be ungrateful of me to pass without comment the contribution of my honourable friend from Kaira. He has put before us once again his panacea for the financial troubles of Government, and no argument will ever persuade him that it is better that the officers of Government should look after the rupees by hundreds and thousands, than after the annas and pies. The honourable member has such implicit faith in the natural good feeling, industry and intelligence of every officer who dons a Government uniform that he thinks it quite unnecessary that he should be watched, stimulated or guided by advice from any superiors. If the honourable member commanded an army he would obviously have no officers between the general and the simple sepoy; if he managed a bank he would have nobody between the general manager and the peon or the clerk. So also in running a district he would have

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

no one between the district collector and the kulkarni or peon. Well, Sir, perhaps in some future age we may arrive at such a Utopian country where every one will do his duty in perfect good faith and perfect intelligence ; but while we admire his confidence in the essential goodness of human nature, Government with a bitter experience of human nature and the hard facts of human life cannot agree to re-arrange all their cadre of public services in accordance with this principle. I would remind the House once more that if we are to dismiss every officer of the superior grade, from the assistant engineer, deputy collector, deputy educational inspector upwards, we should not save more than 10 per cent. of our total expenditure.

Another honourable member complained that there was nothing in the budget for the benefit of the agriculturist. Sir, is primary education no benefit to the agriculturist ? Does the honourable member forget that Government supply some 90 per cent. of the funds for expenditure on primary education carried out by the district local boards, and that they have increased their expenditure on primary education two-fold or more within the last few years ? And are the roads maintained by Government and the local boards of no value to the agriculturist ? Is it nothing that in this budget for next year, we are increasing our grants to district local boards from the sum of 11 lakhs we paid in former years to 18½ lakhs ? In the budget again, he will find that the grant for dispensaries has been doubled—it is proposed to be doubled if we get the money. Then, I believe that that honourable member comes from some part of the Deccan, and I imagine he must be well acquainted with the advantages conferred on the ryot by the Pravara and the Godavari canals. That irrigation policy is devised primarily in the interests of the ryot. The operations of the Agricultural Department have also done much to improve his crops. And in this budget we have provided for a large development of the scheme for improving water-supply by boring wells not only for village water-supply, but also for cultivation. Then, if he turns to Civil Works, on page 94 of the Blue Book, he will find a long list of improvements of communications, bridges, causeways, new roads, and on page 121 of the Blue Book there is a further list of roads, causeways, bridges, all of which mean increased amenities to the ryot and his cattle and a better price to the cultivator for his crop.

I turn now to our loan policy. Some rather hard things have been said about the Sukkur Barrage, about the scale and working of our establishment there. The honourable member in charge of the department will give a complete and detailed reply in due course when he comes to asking for grants for that work. I should like to add a few words for the encouragement in particular of our friends from Sind. These words must of necessity be of a general character. When an enterprise on such an enormous scale representing an expenditure of over 18 crores spread over some 10 years is started it is necessary that the early stages should consist largely in the preparation of maps and plans

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

of most elaborate descriptions: the survey of lands and the calculations to be made have nothing of a spectacular character about them, nothing by which on-lookers can gauge the value of the work done. But if the plans are not carefully and elaborately prepared and thoroughly checked and scrutinised at the outset, immense waste of time, immense expenditure of money may at any time be incurred if of necessity we are required to alter and modify all these plans. From other works that have been carried out by Government at different times Government have had ample experience of the absolute necessity for very careful preparation extending over a long period of time before the works are actually begun. We have seen just recently in a neighbouring province terrible results of a deviation from this policy, a matter which honourable members may hear of but it cannot be discussed here. Now it is necessary to select the officials very carefully and leave detailed supervision in their hands taking steps to ascertain from time to time that they are exercising their powers of superintendence in the right spirit. The staff employed on the Sukkur Barrage has been specially selected and the Bombay Government are fortunate in being able to command the devoted services of such able engineers. It is somewhat invidious to mention names, but in view of the criticisms offered in this House I think this House would be glad to be assured that Government had full experience of the work and value of the work of the men whom they have employed. Mr. Harrison has served them for over a quarter of a century and Mr. Mould has completed 20 years' service and has recently built one of the great engineering works of the world, the Bhandardara Dam near Nasik. Apart from that staff we have the advice in Sind of the Commissioner Mr. Rieu, and Mr. C. M. Baker as Land Officer, both of whom have intimate knowledge of Sind for over 30 years. During the month of November the Honourable Mr. Cowasji Jehangir spent several weeks in Sind and I myself who have had some previous experience of Sind visited the head works of the Sukkur Barrage on a brief visit. I fully recognise that the anxiety of our honourable colleagues in this Council is genuine. They see large sums of money being spent and think that some of it is being spent without sufficient cause. We shall be always glad to receive definite information on any points of extravagance and we shall investigate those points thoroughly. For in so large a project where so many men of different degrees of intelligence and industry have to combine their efforts to a common end, it is absolutely certain that some of the men so employed will fall below the standard of perfection. Any suggestion for economy will receive our most careful consideration. And those particular points which have been mentioned by the honourable member from Larkana will be fully investigated. I fear a recital of these complaints from some of the Sind members may have led the honourable member from Kaira to believe that he was right when he stood up in this House as a solitary dissident from the vote in favour of the barrage, but I feel confident that the progress of time will solve these doubts and hesitations and that the Sukkur Barrage will prove a magnificent success.

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

Sir, when all is said and done have we any real cause for despair and despondancy? Every country at all times has its defeatists. These are men who believe that the battle is lost before it is even begun. Nothing can cure those who are determined to be down-hearted. We know that outside this House this doctrine of despair has its origin frequently in political or financial motives. But there are others who plumb the depths of despair with perfectly honest intention by some form of logical process. To these men I venture to offer some calculations and general observations for their critical analysis.

We are told that the presidency will be overburdened if we undertake the debt of 60 crores. We are told that the Sukkur Barrage cannot pay its way. We are told that the Bombay city cannot pay for its land whether reclaimed from the sea or from the marshes in the north of the Bombay island or the land developed in the suburbs. Now let us take these three charges separately.

First as regards the Bombay city. Have our friends ever calculated the wealth of the Bombay city? The income-tax assessment in 1920-21 gave us a datum line for our negotiations with the Government of India at 45 crores per annum. Heavy commercial depression is prevailing at the present time. But is there anyone so determined to look at the black side of things as to assert that the income from the Bombay city alone will not soon again exceed 40 crores per annum? Is it conceivable that a community which possesses such reserves of strength as we see in the vast mill industry of Bombay the capital of which alone I believe is over 20 crores, or any other of those other vast enterprises which have brought Bombay to the forefront of all cities in India as the premier industrial city, is it possible that when it possesses such reserves of strength, it cannot cope successfully with enterprises which required to be financed to the extent of 40 to 50 crores? Let us inculcate a proper civic pride. There is a noble city rising under your very eyes and there can be no question that the people down to the lowest grades will derive immense benefit from the changes that are now in progress.

We are engaged in a war against poverty, disease and death. Is there anyone here who will stand aside and refuse to take part in that campaign?

Now in regard to that Sukkur Barrage. We are accused of undue optimism. Sir, we have estimated that we shall receive some 12 crores of rupees, or two-thirds the value of the whole project, by the sale of lands: an average say of about Rs. 150 per acre. Now, our neighbours in the Punjab have a similar project, the Sutlej Valley project, under construction at the present time. The conditions of the soil and the climate are very similar, and there they have estimated that they will recover 37 crores at an average rate of Rs. 400 per acre. I suggest, Sir, that our estimates are at any rate modest in comparison with those of our neighbours not so very far away.

We are told that land cannot be cultivated because there will not be enough people to cultivate it. We have ascertained that when water is available all the year round the people can cultivate three times as much

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

land as they can if water is available for only four months in the year. That seems a simple mathematical problem. If a man works for 12 months in a year instead of 4 months, he will turn out three times as much work. It is not merely a mathematical problem; it is a proposition that is supported by actual facts on record. We have areas in this presidency and there are areas in the Punjab where people can cultivate and do cultivate three or four acres per head of population. At present in Sind the cultivation is only one acre per head. There are two million people residing in the area that will be covered by the canals from the barrage and they will be able to cultivate another 5 million acres, even without the immigration that is bound to be attracted.

The barrage project will indeed relieve and abolish that great evil which is so largely at the root of poverty in India: the evil of unemployment in rural areas. This evil, I believe, is not disputed by any school of thought in India. It is the basis of Mr. Gandhi's *khaddar* campaign. While we regard Mr. Gandhi's remedy as economically unsound from various aspects, here in Sind we shall provide employment all the year round: an employment free from monotony and drudgery, an employment that will draw out all the resources of body and mind of man and will bring prosperity and contentment to his home.

There is one further point, a detailed point, which I want to touch. The honourable member from Dharwar told us of the neglect by Government of the interests of the Southern Mahratta Country and threatened us with secession to Madras. His chief complaints were that we had carried out no great irrigation projects in the Karnatak and that we had not given them a medical college. If the honourable member, and his friends of the same way of thinking, will examine the conditions of life in similar tracts in Madras, I think he will find reasons to change his opinion. We can all understand the attraction of a non-Brahmin community towards a province where their allied communities hold supremacy of position. But there is no reason why if a proper organisation is achieved and party discipline is enforced, the party of the honourable member should not achieve a position of considerable influence here though not of supremacy. When we consider the material benefits which the honourable member rightly demands, I venture to suggest that the Karnatak has in fact not been so very badly treated. Where in this province will you find a better system of communications, better roads, more bridges or more causeways over the rivers? These are amongst the first benefits of importance required by agriculturists and these have been provided for the agriculturists in the Karnatak in a degree which need fear no comparison with their neighbours. Let my honourable friend only go across the border and look for himself.

Then, in regard to irrigation. The Gokak canal has long been in existence. It is in fact one of the pioneer efforts in irrigation projects in Western India. There is a scheme for enlarging the tank and extending the canals, and if we can only get the Irrigation Bill accepted by this House, which we have under contemplation, there is no reason that I can see why this vast scheme for the Karnatak irrigation should

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

not be carried through even before the rival scheme across the border, which he mentions, has advanced any further.

I am glad, however, that the honourable member for Dharwar has put forward these demands. We shall do our best to fulfil them. It would indeed be strange if there were no unfulfilled demands from so large and important a country as the honourable member speaks for. That fact merely shows once more the need of greater revenues for the State. Give us the revenues necessary and we will apply them to the most urgent demands of the people.

Now, Sir, I fully appreciate the reluctance of this Assembly to approve of enhanced taxation. It is the common feature of every popular assembly in the world to accept fresh taxation with reluctance. But if we look round the world to-day, we may observe that as Governments become more and more identified with the people, popular assemblies become more readily reconciled to the unpleasant necessity of the payment of taxes. One of the chief lessons of the War was the power of combination of all classes in every country. The necessary effort put forth for the purposes of the War would have been considered incredible at any other time. Since the end of the War this recognition of the power of combined effort has continued and has been translated into the field of financial administration.

To many of us the scale of taxation in England is so vast as to be beyond comprehension, but we cannot dismiss it from our thoughts on the superficial ground that England is a rich country and no comparison is possible. We can draw valuable lessons from it. The chief lesson which I suggest for the consideration of the House is the sacrifice of individual interests for the good of the whole country. Just consider the income tax in England to which the honourable member for Bombay city drew attention. He expressed envy of a country which could remit some 60 millions by the reduction of 1 shilling in the pound. But I ask the House to consider another aspect of that same fact. The country submitted for several years to a tax of 6 shillings in the pound. What does this mean? It means that every person of moderate means gave the whole of his labour, the whole proceeds of his industry, to the country for $3\frac{1}{2}$ months in the year. He maintained himself and his family on the labour and income of $8\frac{1}{2}$ months, and he sacrificed the whole of his income for $3\frac{1}{2}$ months for his country. That scale was reduced to $2\frac{1}{2}$ months two years ago, and it is possible that it may be reduced to 2 months next year. That is the point on which the honourable member Mr. Lalji Naranji expressed such envy. But to ask members of this House and members of this city to labour absolutely and entirely for the good of the country for two months in the year without any remuneration is, I think, a new idea to some of us. I omit from this consideration the question of supertax, for that concerns only a limited number of men. But with the supertax added, the wealthy classes in England often paid six months' income to the State. The maximum rate of income tax reached in this country has been 10 per cent. and

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

supertax 25 per cent. : and it is unfortunately only in rare cases where the State has been able to levy the full percentage.

Now, I feel confident that when this House appreciates the sacrifice of private interests for the good of the country, to which other popular assemblies have consented, it will enter into a generous competition with them. It will not fall short in its efforts for the public welfare. The power of the masses of the people welded together in a common endeavour has been demonstrated to be far greater than the mind of man could formerly conceive. Let us utilise this wonderful instrument which by the will of Providence has been put into the hands of this Council. Let us put aside our petty bickerings and personal jealousies, and let us join forces in the onward march.

As I have said before, we are engaged in a war against poverty, disease and death ; and we have full confidence that this House will give us their generous support in the policy that we have laid before this House. (Cheers.)

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Before I adjourn I should like to know what the wishes of the House are with regard to the meeting hour to-morrow. Honourable members are aware that His Excellency has issued invitations to a garden party at Government House at half past four and I take it that the House would like to adjourn at the latest at about 4 o'clock, to enable honourable members to attend that function. I therefore propose to adjourn to-morrow's meeting at 4 o'clock, but I should like to know at what time they wish to meet.

[Honourable Members: 'Twelve', 'one', 'two'.] My own idea was 12, but I should like to know whether the general feeling in the House is in favour of 12 or 1. Those in favour of 12 will rise up in their seats. [A count was taken.] Those in favour of 1 will rise up in their seats. [A count was taken.] I find that there are 29 members in favour of meeting at 12 o'clock, and 32 members in favour of meeting at 1 o'clock. The Council will therefore now adjourn till 1 p.m. to-morrow, Thursday, the 26th February 1925.

Thursday, the 26th February 1925.

The Council re-assembled at the Town Hall, Bombay, at 1 p.m. on Thursday, the 26th February 1925, the Honourable the President, Sir IBRAHIM RAHIMTOOLA, K.O.S.I., O.I.E., presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
ABDULPURKAR, Mr. N. A.
ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
ANGADI, Mr. S. N.
BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
BHURGRI, Mr. J. M.
BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
BLJARANI, Khan Saheb SHER MAHOMED KHAN
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
BUNTER, Mr. J. P.
CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
DELVES, Mr. R. H. A.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
GHOSAL, Mr. J.
GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH
GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
HUDSON, Mr. L. S.
JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
JATOI, Khan Saheb HAJI SERAI IMAMBAKSH
JATOI, Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
JOG, Mr. V. N.
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.
KARKI, Mr. M. D.

KAY, Mr. J. A.
 KAZI INAITULLAKHAN
 KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
 LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
 LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.
 LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 LINFORD, Mr. J. W.
 MADAN, Mr. J. A.
 MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO, Mr.
 MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
 MAVALANKAR, Mr. G. K.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
 MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUKHI, JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
 NANAL, Mr. B. R.
 NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
 NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
 OWEN, Mr. A. O.
 PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
 PATEL, Mr. A. E.
 PATEL, Mr. D. N.
 PATEL, Mr. G. I.
 PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED KHAN
 PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
 PATIL, Mr. D. R.
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 PIR RASULBAKSH SHAH
 POWAR, Mr. M. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 PRATT, Mr. F. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSENALLY M.
 SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
 SAPTARSHI, Mr. O. M.
 SARDESAL, Mr. S. A.
 SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH
 SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
 SEDGWICK, Mr. L. J.
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 SHIVDASANI, Mr. H. B.
 SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
 SURVE, Mr. A. N.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.

SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
 THAKOR OF AMOD, the
 THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
 TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
 VELKAR, Dr. M. B.
 WILES, Mr. G.
 WOODS, Mr. E. E.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order. Questions.

MUBARAKWAH AND SUHRABWAH CANALS.

* Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR on behalf of Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact (i) that at a conference held at Nawabshah in 1921 between the revenue and public works department officers it was decided that regulators would be provided at the heads of the Mubarakwah and the Suhrabwah in the Nasrat Canals division?

(ii) that a regulator was constructed at the head of the Mubarakwah in 1922, while that on the Suhrabwah though sanctioned in 1923 and provided for in the budget for 1923-24 has been held in abeyance because of the sanction of the Lloyd Barrage and Canals Construction scheme?

(iii) that the construction of the regulator at the Mubarakwah without a regulator being provided at the Suhrabwah has decreased the supply in the latter canal;

(b) Will Government be pleased to lay a copy of their resolution sanctioning the regulator over the Suhrabwah on the Council table?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: (a) (i) At the conference the zamindars were informed that the two regulators which were considered necessary formed part of the Lower Dad Remodelling Project to be shortly submitted to Government.

(ii) Yes, a regulator was constructed just below the head of Mubarakwah. The regulator at mile 65 for Suhrabwah was included in the project for remodelling the Lower Dad Canal which has been finally abandoned as the area on this branch will be commanded by the Rohri Canal of the Lloyd Barrage and Canals Construction Project.

(iii) No.

(b) The construction of the regulator at the head of Suhrabwah was never sanctioned by Government.

COURT OF THE SUB-JUDGE, TANDO MAHAMADKHAN.

* Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR on behalf of Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that though the subordinate judge at Tando Mahamadkhan is empowered to try criminal cases, yet on account of the congestion of civil work, both civil and criminal work in his court suffers a good deal?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

(b) Is it a fact that Mr. Percival, a former district judge of Hyderabad (Sind), strongly recommended to his superior officers that the subordinate judge at Tando Mahamadkhan should be relieved of the criminal work on this ground ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : (a) The civil and criminal work at Tando Mahomedkhan has not suffered at all from the joinder of functions. Since January 1st to October 31st 1924 the number of civil suits instituted has been 566 while 619 suits have been decided. The arrears of criminal work on 1st January 1924 were 34 cases. Up to 31st October 1924, 74 cases were received making a total of 108 cases. Out of these, 71 cases were disposed of, leaving a balance of 37.

(b) No. The recommendation was made by Mr. Percival on different grounds, viz., that the sub-judge, Tando Mahomedkhan, might be available for deputation, when required, to clear off arrears at Hyderabad or Mirpurkhas.

ALLEGATIONS OF ILLEGAL GRATIFICATION AGAINST SUB-ASSISTANT SURGEON MULCHAND.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR on behalf of Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether their attention has been drawn to the articles in the "Hindu" of Hyderabad (Sind), dated 22nd and 24th May and 9th June 1924, in connection with certain allegations against the Sub-Assistant Surgeon Dr. Mulchand, by the people of Dadu ?

(b) Are Government aware that a petition signed by some 250 persons has been sent to the Surgeon General to the Government of Bombay ?

(c) If so, do Government intend to take any action ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply given to question put by Haji Abdullah Haroon (Karachi City) on 24th February 1925.

CLERKS IN THE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

* Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government be pleased to state the total number of clerks in each section of the Bombay Development Department and the number of clerks belonging to the Hindu backward classes in each section ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : A statement† furnishing the desired information is appended.

TALATI IN TALEGAON MUNICIPALITY.

* Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government be pleased to state —

(a) Whether any of the elected members of the Talegaon municipality in the Poona district is a talati ?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 33.

(b) Whether any complaint as regards his eligibility to be such member was made to the Collector of Poona ?

(c) If so, what reply the Collector gave ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN :

(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The talati was ordered to reside at the village of his Saza. It is reported that he has already resigned his post.

PRIZE FOR KILLING A TIGER.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government be pleased to state whether any reward was given to the villager who fought with a tiger which was eventually killed in a village near Nagothna in the Kolaba district ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : Payment of rewards for the destruction of wild animals has been discontinued since 1920. Government are not aware of any conspicuous act of bravery in the Kolaba district to justify an exception being made to the decision arrived at by Government in 1920.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Does Government think that to fight with a tiger is not an act of bravery ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : It depends upon how you fight.

COMPENSATORY ALLOWANCE TO NON-MINISTERIAL OFFICERS IN POONA.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether any compensatory allowance has been sanctioned for those non-ministerial officers whose offices are located in Poona, and also, if so, to state the circumstances which have necessitated such allowance ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether any representations were received from the ministerial establishments of the said offices asking for a similar concession and, if so, how they have been disposed of ?

(c) Do Government intend to take any action, or, if any action has been taken, any further action, in connection with the subject matter of such representations ?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : (a) Copies* of the Government Resolutions, Finance Department, No. 2837 dated 5th December 1923 and No. 2837 dated 15th March 1924 are laid on the table.

(b) and (c) Yes. The question is being investigated.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : I find, on page 27 of the list under rule 1, that ministerial and menial Government servants have been excluded from drawing compensatory allowance. May I know the reason for it ?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : I want notice of the question.

* Vide Appendix 34.

REFUSAL TO PAY LAND REVENUE IN RAJURI, TALUKA HAVELI.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether they are aware that the khatedars of Rajuri in taluka Haveli objected to having to pay last year any instalment of the land revenue for 1920-21 which had been suspended ?

(b) Whether any instalment of land revenue, over and above the year's instalments, was collected last year ; if so, to what year did this instalment pertain ?

(c) If such instalment pertained to 1920-21, is it a fact that some of the khatedars from whom it was realised had already paid the full assessment for that year ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. One more instalment over and above the year's instalments was collected out of the suspended arrears. In the case of Rajuri proper this instalment pertained to the suspended arrears of the year 1920-21. At Unchkhadakwadi, a hamlet under Rajuri, this instalment pertained to the suspended arrears of the year 1922-23, as there were no suspended arrears in this wadi for the years 1920-21 and 1921-22.

(c) No.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : May I know the limit of annawari beyond which Government is entitled to realise suspended revenues ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I think that if the annawari is 6 annas then the current year's revenue is collected. If the annawari is between 8 annas and 12 annas the current year's revenue plus the previous year's suspension equal to half the revenue is collected. If the annawari is 12 annas and over, the current year's revenue plus an amount equal to the current year's revenue out of the suspended revenue is collected.

ADVISORY BOARDS TO ASSIST AND ADVISE MINISTERS AND MEMBERS.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have taken any steps to appoint standing committees to assist and advise the Ministers and Members of Government ?

(b) Have they taken any steps to ascertain what other local Governments have done in the matter ?

(c) If so, what has been the result of their enquiry ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : (a), (b) and (c) A reference is requested to the reply given in September 1922 to the then honourable member for Poona City reported at page 20 of Volume VII, Part I of Council Debates. No further steps have been taken nor have enquiries been made from other local Governments.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : May I know why steps have not been taken by Government since 1922 in order to bring into existence standing committees to advice and assist the Members and Ministers of Government ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I did not quite hear the honourable member; but it was not considered necessary to make further enquiry.

DIRECTORATE OF INDUSTRIES.

*Khan Bahadur D. B. COOPER (Satara District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) When the Directorate of Industries was created in this presidency?

(b) What total annual expenditure has been incurred by Government on that directorate since its creation from year to year?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) Already replied to.

| Year. | Expenditure. |
|-------------|--------------|
| | Rs. |
| (b) 1917-18 | 10,726 |
| 1918-19 | 73,133 |
| 1919-20 | 2,95,739 |
| 1920-21 | 2,76,046 |
| 1921-22 | 7,55,263 |
| 1922-23 | 2,91,502 |
| 1923-24 | 1,51,258 |

LOCAL BOARD PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICTS OF NORTHERN DIVISION.

* Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state how many local board primary schools are there in each of the districts in the Northern Division, and how many of them are housed in local board buildings?

(b) What grant by Government has been given for current repairs to these buildings during each of the last three years and during the current year?

(c) How many new buildings have been constructed in these districts during the last three years for primary schools? and

(d) What amount has been allotted in each of these districts for library during the last three years and the current year and how much of this amount has been spent on books, magazines, periodicals and maps respectively?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a), (b), (c) and (d) The appended statement† gives the information required.

BOOKSTALLS AT B. B. & C. I. RAILWAY STATIONS.

* Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state whether it is true that applications to vend vernacular and other papers at the stations of Nadiad and Broach

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† Kept in the Secretary's office.

are refused by the B. B. & C. I. Railway? If the reply be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state what arrangements are made to supply papers at these stations?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: A contract for vending newspapers on the station platforms of the B. B. & C. I. Railway has been let out to Messrs. A. H. Wheeler and Company. The Railway Company is therefore unable to permit others to sell newspapers at the stations.

Messrs. A. H. Wheeler and Company have their agent at Nadiad who sells newspapers daily. They had a similar arrangement at Broach some years ago, but as it did not pay, they discontinued it. It may also be mentioned that bookstalls where newspapers are sold have been provided at Surat and Baroda, and there is hardly any necessity, so far as the travelling public are concerned, to provide for the sale of newspapers at Broach.

SALE OF ROSHA GRASS IN WEST KHANDESH.

* Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that rosha (spice) grass in West Khandesh used to be sold every year by public auction?

(b) Whether it is a fact that it used to be purchased up till now by Mr. Abdul Hussain Mulla Badruddin of Sindkheda taluka, he being the highest bidder at every auction?

(c) Whether it is a fact that this year it was sold to a foreign company for a period of five years, without its being put up to sale by auction as usual?

(d) Whether it is a fact that Mr. Abdul Hussain had once applied that the grass be sold by auction for a longer period than one year, but that this application had been rejected?

(e) If the reply to (a) to (d) be in the affirmative, why the old practice of annually putting up the grass to sale by auction for the period of one year has been departed from this year?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) Yes, in all the ranges except the Akrani where a three years contract was given out for the period ending 31st January 1926.

(b) No, his name cannot be traced in the North Khandesh Division. In the West Khandesh Division he did not purchase the grass during the last six years.

(c) A contract for five years for all the rosha grass areas of the presidency has been given out to the Essential Oils Syndicate of India which consists of five partners, four of whom are Indians.

(d) No such application was received.

(e) Past experience has shown that the sale of rosha grass farms for small periods and in small areas to different contractors whose methods

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

of distilling and refining the oil were crude and faulty led eventually to loss of revenue to Government; and consequently there was a proposal that the Industries Department, since abolished, should undertake experiments in connection with the distillation of rosha oil. It was found that unless a supply of sufficiently large quantities of grass and a reasonably long period of contract were guaranteed to make it worth while for firms with resources to initiate modern methods of distillation, no improvement could be hoped for. A contract for five years for all the areas of the presidency was therefore given out, after enquiries with several firms, to the Essential Oils Syndicate, the price fixed being appreciably in advance of the average revenue from rosha grass for the last seven years.

IRRIGATION IN NANDURBAR AND SINDKHEDA TALUKA.

* Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(1) whether it is true that two or three years ago they entertained the idea of erecting a dam in the hills near Bhaler in the Nandurbar Taluka, for the purpose of irrigation?

(2) If so, what progress has been made in carrying out the scheme?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: (1) Yes.

(2) The scheme for the construction of a dam near the village Akrala which is near Bhaler in Nandurbar Taluka was not proceeded with since it was ascertained that—

(a) a considerable area of land would be submerged and cultivation on this area stopped.

(b) the project would be a very costly one and thus not satisfactory from a financial aspect.

Mr. S. S. DEV: Are Government aware that that part of the district forms a famine zone and that financial aspect should be no consideration in such a case?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Will the honourable House supply the funds? Till then Government will certainly consider the financial aspect.

SALE OF ANNUAL ADMINISTRATION REPORTS.

* Mr. M. B. POWAR on behalf of Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the annual administration reports of all the departments of Government are offered for sale to the public?

(b) If there is any exception will they be pleased to give reasons for making such exceptions, with the names of the departments concerned?

(c) Will they be pleased to lay on the Council table the annual reports of the Director of Information for the last three years?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: (a) Not all.

(b) The reports mentioned in the attached list† are not sold to the public as they are intended for official use only.

(c) No annual Report of the Director of Information is issued.

LOW CASTE BOYS IN SCHOOLS IN POONA DISTRICT.

* Mr. M. B. POWAR on behalf of Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the deputy educational inspector, Poona, has received any representations from the inhabitants of several villages in the Poona district regarding the subject of low caste boys being allowed to sit with other boys in the same schools?

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

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) Yes.

(b) The petitioners were informed that no discrimination could be made against depressed class pupils in schools maintained by public bodies.

CONFINEMENT OF REVENUE DEFAULTERS AT RAJURI.

* Mr. M. B. POWAR on behalf of Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state—(a) whether it is a fact that certain defaulters of land revenue arrears of Rajuri, taluka Junnar in the Poona district, were imprisoned in the civil jail under section 157 of the Land Revenue Code within the last few months?

(b) what is the anna valuation of the crops at Rajuri and surrounding villages with respect to the payment of assessment regarding which such action was taken and how was such valuation arrived at?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) The honourable member is referred to the answer to his question No. 4 at this session.

(b) A statement‡ of the anna valuation of crops for the year 1923-24 at Rajuri and other surrounding villages is appended. The valuation of crops was arrived at after crop-inspection.

REVENUE DEFAULTERS IN RAJURI VILLAGE.

* Mr. M. B. POWAR on behalf of Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that three persons at Rajuri, taluka Junnar, district Poona, who were imprisoned this year at Junnar under section 157 of the Land Revenue Code were kept in police custody in a locked room where criminal offenders are usually kept?

(b) Is it a fact that one of them, Mr. Anaji Tukaram Hadavle, was taken for about 5 hours by the mamlatdar of Junnar to his house where he had his meal and was again sent back to the jail?

(c) Is it a fact that the notices of forfeiture issued to defaulters in the Rajuri village on the above occasion were written in pencil and that in

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 35.

‡ *Vide* Appendix 36.

most of such notices the amount to be recovered was incorrectly entered ?

(d) Were any *panchnamas* of the attached properties made in the presence of the owners on the said occasion ?

(e) Were any utensils belonging to any of the defaulters attached on the said occasion ? If so, in the case of how many defaulters was this done ?

(f) How many forfeiture notices were issued, in how many cases had distraints to be made to realise the arrears of 1920-21, how many *khatadars* paid their arrears willingly ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) The honourable member is referred to the reply to question† put by the honourable member for Poona city at the October session. There is no civil jail.

(b) Anaji Tukaram was taken to the house of the *mamlatdar*, Junnar, at his own request to represent that he should be released on payment of the money by his friend Ganu. This interview lasted for about a quarter of an hour. Anaji had no meal at the *mamlatdar's* house.

(c) Yes. There were some cases in which the amount was wrongly entered owing to incorrect calculations. But at the time of recovery the correct amount due was recovered.

(d) Yes, with the exception of a few which were made in the presence of their families.

(e) Utensils not exempted from attachment were distrained in a hundred cases.

(f) 449 notices of forfeiture were issued to realise the arrears. In 134 cases distraints had to be made and 33 *khatadars* paid their arrears willingly.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : Is it a fact that Mr. Anaji Tukaram told the *mamlatdar* that he never authorised his friend Ganu to pay for him ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I should like to have notice of that question.

TUNGABHADRA RIVER FLOOD.

* Mr. V. N. JOG (Dharwar District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state in what villages in the talukas of Ranebennur, Karajgi, and the petha of Mundargi in the Dharwar district damage has been done by the Tungabhadra river rising in flood ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state what is the nature and extent of damage done in each village ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state what relief has been given to the sufferers or what relief Government intends to give to the sufferers ?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Vol. XIII, page 711.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) and (b) Damage was done in the following villages to the extent shown against them :—

| Village. | Approximate value of damage to | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | Houses. | Crops and other property. |
| <i>Taluka Ranebennur.</i> | | |
| | Rs. | Rs. |
| (1) Maknur | 15,000 | 11,000 |
| (2) Kotihal | 8,000 | 4,000 |
| (3) Hiladhalli | 5,000 | .. |
| (4) Kudrihal | 4,000 | 1,000 |
| (5) Chandapur | 3,000 | .. |
| (6) Hirebidri | 5,000 | 800 |
| (7) Chikkurwatti | 7,000 | 700 |
| (8) Chavadanapur | 7,000 | .. |
| (9) Mudenur | 2,000 | 700 |
| (10) Hadargerri | 4,000 | 500 |
| (11) Nadiharlahalli | 400 | 300 |
| (12) Udagatti | 2,000 | 300 |

Taluka Karajgi.

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------|--------|
| (1) Haralahalli | 3,000 | 11,000 |
| (2) Kanchargatti | 1,000 | 7,000 |
| (3) Havanur | 600 | 1,500 |
| (4) Shakar | 1,700 | 1,300 |
| (5) Guilgundi | 400 | .. |
| (6) Belvigi | 1,700 | .. |
| (7) Galagnath | 15,000 | 9,400 |

Petha Mundargi.

| | | |
|-----------------------|-------|----|
| (1) Singtalur | 5,500 | .. |
|-----------------------|-------|----|

(c) In the Ranebennur taluka a sum of Rs. 500 was placed at the disposal of the mamlatdar for distribution as gratuitous relief and a free grant of wood and grass worth Rs. 900, and 1,220 cart-loads of stone was made for rebuilding the houses.

In the Karajgi taluka also Rs. 1,245 locally collected and Rs. 200 out of the famine relief fund were utilised for the grant of gratuitous relief. A free grant of timber and bamboos worth about Rs. 4,200 was made for rebuilding houses and a sum of Rs. 40,000 was also allotted for distribution as takavi for the same purpose.

The inhabitants of Singtalur, the only village affected in Mundargi, have been advised to remove to a site higher than the flood level and they have been allowed to remove free of cost hutting materials. A sum of Rs. 100 out of the famine relief fund was distributed as gratuitous relief.

DAMAGE TO CROPS BY EXCESSIVE RAIN AND LOCUSTS IN
DHARWAR DISTRICT.

* Mr. V. N. JOG (Dharwar District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that in several talukas of the Dharwar district great damage has been done to the crops by excessive rain and locusts?

(b) Are they aware that the jowari crop in several villages having been damaged by rain and locusts, had to be ploughed up and cotton sown in those lands again?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state what is the extent of the damage in the Dharwar district from these two sources?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state whether they intend to take any steps for the relief of the ryots in this connection, and if so, what steps they intend to take?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) No.

(b) Jowari crop in some lands in a few villages in Karajgi, Bankapur, Dharwar and Hubli talukas was damaged by locusts and the lands were resown with cotton which promises to more than compensate the loss caused by locusts.

(c) and (d) Attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply to his previous question.

PAY OF TRAINED PRIMARY TEACHERS.

* Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether any first, second and third year trained primary teachers were engaged by them in 1923 and 1924 on Rs. 25, Rs. 30 and Rs. 35 respectively as their starting pay, and, if so, what is their total number?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether these appointments were made under instructions from the Director of Public Instruction and with the concurrence of the Honourable the Education Minister?

(c) Will Government be pleased to explain why these teachers were paid five rupees less per month than the starting salary as stated in the press-note No. 560, Educational Department, dated the 24th October 1921, and confirmed by the press-note No. 560, dated 3rd December 1923?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that while those teachers were under instruction in the training schools or before, a circular was issued to them regarding their pay and prospects; if so, will they be pleased to place a copy of that circular on the table?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) The first part of the question has already been answered. With regard to the second part the total number of such teachers is 1,126.

(b) and (c) These have already been answered.

(d) Copies† of the circulars issued in the several divisions are laid on the Council table.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† Vide Appendix 37.

GOVERNMENT CART DEPÔTS.

* Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of cart depôts maintained by them in Kanara and the names of the places where they are located ;

(b) the number of carts and animals in each of such depôts and the average cost of a cart and an animal respectively ;

(c) the total amount of money spent on the upkeep of each of the depôts during the years 1922-23 and 1923-24 ;

(d) the amount of money earned in each of the depôts during these years ;

(e) the purpose for which such depôts are maintained ;

(f) whether the carts in the depôts are let out to private individuals or forest contractors for their use ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : A statement† furnishing the required information is placed on the Council table.

Mr. M. D. KARKI : Does the amount stated in column (c) of the statement represent the money spent or the money received ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : They are receipts.

Mr. M. D. KARKI : My question refers to the amount of money spent, because I wanted to know if the depôts are working at a loss or profit.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : I am sorry that has been omitted.

Mr. M. D. KARKI : Do the amounts of Rs. 38, Rs. 36 and Rs. 37 represent the whole cost including the pay of the cartsmen ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Yes.

DISCOURAGEMENT TO THE USE OF ' KHADI '.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is an order issued to district officers or issued by the district officers to their subordinates that the use of ' khadi ' either by the public or by officials should be discouraged ;

(b) if so, when and by whom was such order issued, and what are the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : No such orders have been issued.

DAMAGE BY MONKEYS TO GARDEN CROPS IN KANARA.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware of the damage caused to crops in Kanara by monkeys ?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 38.

(b) If so, what kinds of crops are subject to such damage, and are Government in a position to state what is the extent of such damage caused annually ?

(c) Have Government considered any measures for protecting the said crops from such damage ?

(d) If so, do they intend to take any action in this connexion, and if so, when ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : (a) Yes.

(b) Almost all crops. Government are not in a position to estimate the extent of the damage.

(c) As the destruction of monkeys would be contrary to popular sentiment in the areas in question no effective measures of protection can be taken.

(d) No.

Mr. M. D. KARKI : Is it the opinion of the Government or the opinion of the people that the destruction of monkeys would be contrary to public sentiment ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : That is the sentiment as understood by Government.

Mr. M. D. KARKI : Is there not a cry to destroy the monkeys ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : There is a cry about the damage done by the monkeys, but there is no cry for the destruction of the monkeys.

PROGRESS OF FREE AND COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

* Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALJEE (Bombay City) : Will Government be pleased to put on the table a statement showing the progress made by the various local authorities in the presidency towards the introduction of free and compulsory primary education during the last official year and the extent to which Government intend to help them during the current year in this behalf ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The accompanying statement† gives the information asked for in the first part of the question. With regard to the latter part, attention is invited to section 13 (1) of the Bombay Primary Education Act, 1923, which prescribes the extent of the Government aid for schemes of free and compulsory elementary education. A provision of Rs. 4,50,000 has been made in the current year's educational budget for meeting the cost to Government of expansion of primary education (including schemes of free and compulsory elementary education).

* This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 39.

HINDU TEACHERS IN URDU SCHOOLS.

* Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities):

(a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Hindu teachers who are not trained in Urdu are employed in some Urdu schools in the presidency ?

(b) If so, how many such Hindu teachers are employed in Urdu schools in the presidency proper ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) Yes, but they teach the vernacular and not Urdu.

(b) 71.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI: Is it due to the dearth of Mahomedan teachers that Hindu teachers are employed in Urdu schools to teach the vernacular ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: In Urdu schools they have to teach the vernaculars also, and many a time Hindu vernacular teachers are engaged. Government find the dearth of qualified Urdu teachers, and they think that Urdu education will not suffer if non-Mussalman teachers are employed to teach subjects other than Urdu.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI: Do the Government believe that if the training classes are done away with, it will help Mahomedan education ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: They are not done away with: they are retained.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI: The second and third year classes have already been done away with.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: They are not done away with.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: Am I to understand that Mahomedan teachers are unable to teach the vernacular ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: They are not unable.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: Why are they not employed then ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Mahomedan teachers to teach Urdu are required and they are employed. As a matter of fact they are employed not only in Mahomedan Urdu schools, but also in other vernacular schools.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: That is not an answer to my question. My question is, are they employed to teach the vernacular ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: They are not.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: Then, why are they not employed ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: As many of them as are available are employed, not only in Urdu schools, but other schools also.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: I am not asking about other schools.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

MUSSALMAN HEADMASTERS FOR HIGH SCHOOLS.

* Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities): Will Government be pleased to state :—

(a) Whether any Mahomedan in the educational department has been appointed to be the headmaster of a high school in this Presidency since the retirement of Mr. Nanjiani ?

(b) If the answer to (a) be in the negative, the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) and (b) Yes. Four.

INAM VILLAGES.

† Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars): Will Government be pleased to supply lists of the inam villages in this Presidency :—

(a) in which the Village Panchayat Act has been introduced ;

(b) in which city survey has been introduced ;

(c) in which co-operative credit societies have been established ;

(d) which were jadid inams and which have been summarily settled with the inamdar's consent and made kadim ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: The requisite information is given in the statement† appended.

CONTRACTORS OF THE SUKKUR BARRAGE SCHEME.

* Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District): Will Government be pleased to give information in the form given below in connection with the Sukkur Barrage scheme :—

(1) Name of the contractor or firm to whom contracts of Rs. 25,000

or above have been given ;

(2) Amount of contract ;

(3) Contract for what work ;

(4) When given (date) ;

(5) When contract expires ;

(6) By whom given ;

(7) What deposit, if any, has been taken ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: A statement§ giving the requisite information is placed on the Council table

DESPATCH OF SPIRIT FROM NASIK DISTILLERY.

† Mr. B. R. NANAL (Ratnagiri District): (a) Will Government be pleased to place on the table a statement showing year by year the total transit losses that have been noticed in consignment of spirit despatched

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924 when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924 when an *ad interim* reply was given.

‡ *Vide* Appendix 40.

§ *Vide* Appendix 41.

in bond from the Nasik Distillery to each of the spirit warehouses in the Kolaba District, viz., those at Panvel, Pen and Mahad, during the last 5 years ?

(b) What is the total loss in stillhead duty and cost price suffered by Government thereby ?

(c) What is the total freight charge paid by Government in transporting these spirits by sea or by land to the several warehouses ?

(d) How do those losses compare with similar losses noticed at other warehouses in the presidency ?

(e) What steps Government have taken to bring these losses under control, and whether Government intend to take any action in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : (a), (b) and (c). A statement* giving the requisite information is appended.

(d) The average of transit losses in the case of the above three warehouses was 3.31 per cent. against 0.68 per cent. for other warehouses.

(e) The transport of liquor by sea presents special difficulties. Several attempts to prevent pilfering in transit were unsuccessful ; but arrangements have been made since June last to send all consignments to the warehouses in the Kolaba district under armed escort and the losses are now reported to be very low.

ANONYMOUS PETITION AND THE TERMINATION OF THE SERVICES OF
MR. N. L. MEHTA, EXECUTIVE ENGINEER IN THE DEVELOPMENT
DIRECTORATE.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that an anonymous petition adversely criticising and making allegations against the Development Directorate and addressed to the last Governor of Bombay was received by them shortly before his departure ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to place the said petition on the table ?

(c) Has any action been taken thereon ? If not, why has no action been taken ?

(d) Is it a fact that shortly after the presentation of the said petition, one Mr. N. L. Mehta, an Executive Engineer under the Directorate, was served with one month's notice to terminate his services ?

(e) If so, why were his services dispensed with ?

(f) Do Government intend to take any action

(1) on the petition and

(2) in the case of Mr. Mehta ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : (a), (b) and (c) An anonymous petition was received. Under the Petition Rules such petitions

are to be disregarded and Government have not taken any action on that petition.

(d) Yes.

(e) His services were not dispensed with on account of the petition received, but on account of his unsatisfactory work.

(f) (1) and (2) Government do not intend to take any action.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: May I draw the Honourable Member's attention to the fact that there is no reply to my question (b), namely "will Government be pleased to place the said petition on the table?" May I know if the Government are prepared to place the petition on the table?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: That petition was disregarded and Government cannot place it on the table.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: Are Government in possession of the petition?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Most probably it is in the big waste paper basket which the honourable member referred to yesterday.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: Will the honourable member make an attempt to search the waste paper basket, because it is very important?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: It is an anonymous petition. All such petitions under the rules of Government are put into the waste paper basket.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: Is it a fact that in the said anonymous petition specific allegations of fraud, mismanagement, misappropriation, favouritism in the purchase of stores, etc., against particular officials had been made?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: The honourable member seems to know the contents of that anonymous petition. He will inform the House.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: Will the Honourable the General Member please reply to the question whether it is a fact or not. I want to make use of that denial when the time comes.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: I refuse to disclose the contents of that petition.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: How long was Mr. Mehta in service before the petition was received?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: I must ask for notice of that question.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: Is it not a fact that he was in service for a considerable time before that, and that he had given considerable satisfaction till the date of the receipt of this petition?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: That is not correct.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: In what respect was his work unsatisfactory?
(No reply.)

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI: Are Government aware that such anonymous petitions are taken notice of in other cases?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Government are not aware of that.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: May I know if there were any adverse remarks or reports on Mr. Mehta, up to the time of the petition, by his superiors?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: There were and they were communicated to Mr. Mehta.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: May I know how long after the petition the discovery was made that his work was unsatisfactory?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: The discovery was made long before the petition was received.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: May I know why action was taken only when the petition was received?

(No reply.)

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Next question.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: I want to ask further supplementary questions.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: We have passed on to the next question. The Honourable the General Member did not reply to your last supplementary question.

DISTRIBUTION OF QUININE.

Mr. NOOR MAHOMED (Hyderabad District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The quantity of quinine supplied to the different talukas of Sind and to the other divisions of the presidency for free distribution out of the funds allotted in the last budget:

(b) What amount of money has actually been spent on the purchase of quinine?

(c) Are Government aware that the quinine intended for free distribution hardly ever reaches the people through the present official agency? If so, do Government intend to take any action in order to improve the method of its distribution?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV:

(a) *Sind Division.*

| | Quantity supplied. | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--------|
| | lb. | grs. |
| Karachi District | 99 | 4,200 |
| Hyderabad District | 64 | 2,000 |
| Nawabshah District | 88 | 4,000 |
| Larkana District | 45 | 5,000 |
| Sukkur District | 72 | 6,000 |
| Thar and Parkar District | 74 | 2,000 |
| Upper Sind Frontier District | 59 | 2,000 |
| Southern Division | 143 | 10,500 |
| Central Division | 118 | 12,400 |
| Northern Division | 181 | 12,500 |
| Bombay Suburban Division | 2 | 6,000 |

(b) Rs. 39,500. A further grant of Rs. 20,000 has also been sanctioned.
 (c) No. Government have no reason to believe that the work of distribution by the present official agencies is not properly carried out. Twenty pounds of quinine were also sent to the Sind branch of the Bombay Co-operative Institute for free distribution.

Mr. NOOR MAHOMED : May I know whether Government wants to make any enquiry in view of the fact that there was no proper distribution of quinine ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The honourable member is suggesting a course of action.

Mr. NOOR MAHOMED : Have, Sir, any complaints been made to Government by the district local boards that the distribution was not being properly made through the Commissioner's or official agency ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I am not aware of any such complaint, because district local boards have nothing to do with me.

NEW LIQUOR SHOP IN HYDERABAD.

* Mr. NOOR MAHOMED (Hyderabad District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a liquor shop has been permitted to be opened near the Jugnoor cinema and theatre at Hyderabad ? If so, was any demand made by any section of the public for the opening of this shop in its present locality ? If not, will Government be pleased to state the reasons for permitting the license in this case ?

(b) Was the advisory committee consulted in licensing this shop ?

(c) What are the hours during which this shop is kept open ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : (a) and (b) No liquor shop has been permitted to be opened near the Jugnoor cinema and theatre at Hyderabad. An application was made for a bar license by the proprietors of that cinema and was refused after the advisory committee had been consulted.

(c) The question does not arise.

BRIDGE ON THE INDUS AT GIDU IN SIND.

* Mr. NOOR MAHOMED (Hyderabad District) : (a) Are Government aware that the bridge on the Indus at Gidu very often remains closed to vehicular and animal traffic at times, for even four hours at a stretch, causing considerable inconvenience to the public ?

(b) Is it a fact that the gates are closed as soon as a line clear signal is given to the railway trains at Hyderabad ?

(c) Do Government intend to issue instructions to minimise such inconvenience ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. The railway authorities consider it absolutely necessary.

*This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

(c) The Railway Administration endeavours to make the bridge available for road traffic as frequently for as long as practicable. It is not possible to modify the existing arrangements.

GHOTKI CANAL PROJECT.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO on behalf of PIR RASUL BAKSH SHAH (Sukkur District): Will Government be pleased to state how far the execution of the Ghotki Canal project has progressed?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: The question of undertaking a detailed survey with a view to drawing up a project for the proposed large Ghotki canal is still under the consideration of Government.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO: How long will Government take to consider this question?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Government will consider the question as expeditiously as it is possible to do so, considering the size, extent and the cost of such a huge scheme. Government will consider the scheme most sympathetically and are doing so.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: (Question inaudible).

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: I am afraid I could not tell you that. But I can give you this further information that the consideration of the scheme is coming up before Government very soon indeed and Government will decide after due consideration. Government cannot rush any scheme involving such a huge expenditure. They have got to be very careful, but they will give it their most serious consideration as one of those schemes which deserve such serious consideration.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: Has no survey been made of this project?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: No; I don't think so. But I am not dead certain. I think the position is that you have got to provide a very large sum of money for detailed survey.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: Are there any papers before Government?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Yes.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: Do these papers contain any detailed survey of the scheme?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: As far as I remember, a provision is being asked for for the detailed survey. Even the provision for a detailed survey runs into six figures.

BRIDGES IN THE KOLABA DISTRICT.

Mr. M. B. POWAR (Kolaba District): Will Government be pleased to state when they intend to commence the construction of the bridges

across the river Pali near Nagothna and the river Savitri near Mahad in the Kolaba District, *i.e.*, on the Dharamtar-Mahableshwar Road?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: *Bridge across the river Pali near Nagothna.*—Presumably the honourable member refers to the proposed bridge across the river Amba near Nagothna on the Dharamtar-Mahableshwar Road. The preliminary plans and estimate for this bridge have been prepared and are under the consideration of Government. When the plans and estimate are sanctioned and funds become available, the work will be commenced.

Bridge over the Savitri river near Mahad.—The site originally proposed for this bridge has been rejected and another site has been selected. Instructions have been issued to survey the new site and to collect the necessary data after which the preparation of the project will be undertaken. When the plans and estimate are sanctioned and funds become available, the work will be started.

STRENGTH OF INDIAN TERRITORIAL FORCE IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to state what is the maximum strength of the Indian Territorial Force allowed for our presidency and the strength actually attained?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: The authorised establishment of an Indian Territorial Force Unit is 738.

The present actual strength of each unit of all ranks in the Bombay presidency is as follows—

| | | | |
|--|----|----|-----|
| 11th/5th Mahratta Light Infantry | .. | .. | 326 |
| 1st Bombay Battalion, University Training Corps .. | .. | .. | 656 |
| 11th/2nd Bombay Pioneers | .. | .. | 755 |
| 12th/2nd Bombay Pioneers | .. | .. | 404 |

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN: May I know what is the maximum number of units sanctioned for this presidency? That question has not been answered.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I do not see the question.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN: I want to know the maximum number of units of the Indian Territorial Force allowed for our presidency. I have not been informed of the total strength or number of the units.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I thought the honourable member knew that. They are four.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN: Is that the number sanctioned for this presidency?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: There are none other sanctioned for this presidency than those mentioned in the reply.

ADEN PORT TRUST.

* Mr. K. F. NARIMAN on behalf of Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIM-TOOLA (Bombay City): Will Government be pleased to furnish (a) the number of Indians, Arabs and Europeans and others respectively, in the employ of the Aden Port Trust drawing a monthly pay (i) up to Rs.100, (ii) between Rs. 100 and Rs. 200, (iii) between Rs. 200 and Rs. 300, (iv) between Rs. 300 and Rs. 500 and (v) above Rs. 500 ;

(b) the average number of meetings of the trustees of the Aden Port Trust held every month during the last year ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: The number of Indians, Arabs and Europeans and others in the employ of the Aden Port Trust and the grades of their pay are shown below :—

| | Pay up to Rs. 100. | Pay Rs. 100 to Rs. 200. | Pay Rs. 200 to Rs. 300. | Pay Rs. 300 to Rs. 500. | Pay Rs. 500 and over. |
|--------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Indians .. | 43 | 14 | 2 | 4 | ... |
| Arabs .. | 104 | 5 | .... | .... | .... |
| Europeans .. | .... | .... | .... | 1 | 10 |
| Others .. | 45 | 3 | 1 | .... | ... |

Two meetings of the Trustees of the Aden Port Trust were held each month during the year ending 31st March 1924.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: Does the honourable member mean to suggest that there is no Indian available for a post above Rs. 500 who can be considered suitable ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: I do not mean to suggest anything of the sort.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: Why are they all Europeans, there, then ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: I am afraid I cannot explain that myself. Personally I have no direct control over the Aden Port Trust. But I will give another bit of information to my honourable friend, *viz.*, a resolution was passed by the Council of State with regard to higher appointments in the Port Trusts, and that resolution has been communicated to the trustees of the Aden Port Trust.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: Has any care been taken to see that it is acted on ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: All the care that this Government can take.

An Honourable Member: What care has been taken by Government in this connection ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: I have already told the honourable House that all the care that Government can take in these matters is taken.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : Has the Honourable Member any reason to think that the resolution communicated to the Aden Port Trust will not be considered by that Trust ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : I have no reason to think that it will not be considered. We work under the Aden Port Trust Act ; I hope honourable members will realise that. Under that Act the trustees have got full power to act in certain ways under certain sections of the Act. For certain posts the trustees have to get the sanction of the Resident, for others the sanction of Government, and so on. We can only work under the Port Trust Act.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : Do I understand that the Port Trust Act prohibits the employment of Indians on posts above Rs. 500 ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Of course, it does not.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI : Have the Government of Bombay merely communicated the resolution passed by the Council of State to the Aden Port Trust or have they also given an expression of their own opinion along with it ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : It has been forwarded to the Aden Port Trustees at the express desire of the Government of India with an expression of opinion by the Government of Bombay that it should be acted upon.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : How soon will Government know whether it has been acted upon ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Government can only know when references are made by the Trustees under the Act to the Bombay Government.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : How soon will that be ? When will that be ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Whenever occasions arise under the Act.

VACANCIES IN THE INSPECTING BRANCH OF TEACHERS.

* Mr. H. D. SAHEBA (Ahmedabad District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that all new vacancies in the inspecting branch of teachers are not permanently filled up ?

(b) How many places fell vacant during the last three years in each division and how many of them have been filled up by acting men ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) This part has already been answered †.

(b) The accompanying statement ‡ gives the information required.

SECRETARY TO THE KURLA MUNICIPALITY.

* Mr. G. B. PRADHAN on behalf of Mr. SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts) :

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† Printed in the First List of Questions and Answers at the last Session.

‡ *Vide* Appendix 44.

Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that at a meeting of the Kurla municipality held on the 20th June 1924 to consider the conduct of the present Secretary, Kurla municipality, the president of the local Khilafat Committee came with a number of men and that those men eventually took possession of the hall which the councillors left without being able to transact business ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: The meeting in question was held on 28th June 1924. A large number of local inhabitants assembled in the municipal office and outside. Some councillors asked the president to hold the meeting in private and on his declining to do so, all but three councillors (including the president) left the meeting which had therefore to be dissolved. The crowd was apparently orderly and well behaved.

PROPORTION OF SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN on behalf of Mr. SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts): Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that at present special scholarships in the Government secondary schools are given to boys belonging to non-Mahomedan backward classes at the rate of one for every six lakhs of the total population of such classes and to Mahomedan boys at the rate of one for every twenty thousand of the total population of that community ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: According to a scheme recently sanctioned by Government with effect from the current year special scholarships in secondary schools are given as follows:—

- | | | |
|------------------------------|----|---|
| (a) Intermediate Hindus | .. | One set for every 50,000 of population. |
| (b) Backward Hindus | .. | One set for every 40,000 of population. |
| (c) Mahomedans— | | |
| (i) in the Presidency proper | | One set for every 15,000 of population. |
| (ii) In Sind | .. | One set for every 25,000 of population. |

If both Intermediate and Backward Hindus are included in the term "Non-Mahomedan Backward Classes," the scheme provides one set for every 47,000 of population. These special scholarships are not restricted to pupils from Government secondary schools, as pupils from all recognised secondary schools are eligible for them.

DAM AT VAKESHWAR.

* Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a dam was intended to be constructed at Vakeshwar in Khatav taluka in the Satara district and has been partially constructed ?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

(b) Is it a fact that work was abandoned some years back, and, if so, what were the grounds therefor ?

(c) Has the Collector of Satara recently received any application in this respect from the inhabitants of Vaduj in Khatav taluka ?

(d) If so, do Government intend to take any action in this connection ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : (a) The possibility of a suitable site for a dam at Vakeshwar was investigated between the years 1893—1896 but the work was never started.

(b) The proposal of constructing the dam was abandoned in 1896 as the local officers of both the Public Works and Revenue Departments were of opinion that the scheme was useless and unremunerative.

(c) Yes.

(d) No.

DAM OR TANK AT JASHI.

* Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is true that a scheme of constructing a dam or a tank at Jashi in Man taluka of the Satara district was under contemplation some years ago and that the estimates were prepared of the approximate cost of this scheme ?

(b) What was the total cost estimated ?

(c) What were the grounds for abandoning this scheme ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : (a and b) The probability of the scheme of constructing a tank at Jashi in the Man taluka being a suitable one or otherwise was considered in the year 1900-1901 and a rough project for the dam waste weir only amounting to Rs. 98,418 was prepared, but it required certain modifications.

(c) No further action was taken in the matter of revising the estimate as the scheme was considered to be impracticable. This work which was also entered in the Famine Programme in 1901 was subsequently struck off as the catchment required for this tank would cut off a large portion of the catchment of the Mhaswad tank.

DISMISSAL OF CLERKS FROM SATARA REGISTRATION OFFICE.

* Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District) : Will Government be pleased to state (a) Whether it is a fact that owing to the introduction of the photo-copying system in the registration offices of the Satara district, the services of eleven copying clerks from eleven registration offices of the district have been dispensed with ?

(b) If so, in how many out of these cases piece-workers have been appointed to act for these copying clerks ?

(c) What is the period of the service of each of those clerks whose services have been dispensed with ?

(d) Is it true that the services of seven out of these eleven clerks were dispensed with at the time of the abolition of the village registration offices ?

*This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : (a) Five clerks were discharged on account of the introduction of the photo-copying system in three offices of Satara, Karad and Walva, five clerks were discharged in five offices on account of paucity of work, and one clerk, who had been transferred from the Poona district to the Satara district, was sent back to the Poona district.

(b) In the ten cases referred to above piece-workers and temporary hands have been engaged for a period of three to four months.

(c) A statement* is attached.

(d) Services of six, out of the ten karkuns discharged, had been once before dispensed with owing to the abolition of the Village Registration establishment.

FILLING UP VACANCIES IN THE EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

† Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District) : Will Government be pleased to state whether any instructions have been issued by Government to the Director of Public Instruction to give preference to persons whose services have been dispensed with on account of retrenchment since the year 1922 at the time of filling up new vacancies in the Educational Department ?

(b) Whether such preference is given in any other departments of Government in favour of persons whose services have been so dispensed with at the time of filling up new vacancies ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) The Director of Public Instruction has been instructed that employees under him whose services were dispensed with owing to retrenchment should be given the first refusal of any post which might fall vacant.

(b) All Heads of offices under the Local Government, including the Secretariat Departments, have been directed to consider the claims of retrenched Government servants for any vacancies which then existed or which occurred within three months after the date of the orders, and to make appointments from their ranks, whenever this could suitably be done. These orders were given effect to generally in all Government offices wherever suitable occasions arose.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN : Have those instructions been issued now, or were they issued at the time when retrenchments took place ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I cannot give the honourable member the exact date, but if he will give notice, I shall find out.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : Is the word "refusal" in part (a) of the reply properly printed, or was some other word necessary there ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I think it is right.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : Are there any instances in which these employees have been re-engaged ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I think there must be some. If the honourable member will kindly give notice, I shall find out.

* Vide Appendix 45.

† This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

SEPARATE SCHOOLS FOR DEPRESSED CLASSES.

* Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North): (a) Will Government be pleased to state on what principles the depressed classes have been given separate schools in rural areas?

(b) Did the Mahar population of Mithabao, taluka Devgad, district Ratnagiri, apply for a separate school?

(c) If so, has their request been complied with? If not, why not?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) Separate schools for the depressed classes are opened when it is found that a demand exists for them, provided suitable accommodation is available, an attendance of at least 20 children of school-going age is likely to be forthcoming, and funds permit.

(b) and (c) The answer to (b) is in the negative.

GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTION TO URDU SCHOOLS.

* Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North): Will Government be pleased to state—

(1) How many Urdu schools have been opened by them in the Bombay Division at their own expense?

(2) Is it a fact that in the districts of Ratnagiri and Kolaba all the Urdu schools have been built by private enterprise?

(3) Is it a fact that Government allowed the public in the district of Ratnagiri to conduct some Urdu schools only when they had constructed buildings for the purpose?

(4) Is it a fact that the late Minister of Education (Dr. Paranjpye) informed the Urdu school proprietors of Phurus, taluka Khed, Ratnagiri district, that they would not get permission to introduce Urdu standards VI and VII in the school unless they had a building worth Rs. 10,000?

(5) How many Urdu schools conducted by the local board in the Bombay Division have been granted rents by Government for the accommodation of buildings?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (1) Government have opened two Central Urdu schools, one in Kolaba and the other in Ratnagiri.

(2) No.

(3) In opening new schools, preference is generally given to villages which provide suitable rent-free quarters for the school, and in accordance with this principle, Urdu schools were given to Mahomedan villages in the Ratnagiri district which provided suitable buildings.

(4) There is no information on the subject on the records of Government.

(5) Rents paid by District Local Boards for school buildings are included in the expenditure on which the Provincial grant is based.

*This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

RESTORATION OF TALUKDARS TO FORMER POSITION.

The THAKOR OF AMOD on behalf of the Thakor of Kerwada (Gujarat Sardars and Inamdars): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that the Honourable Mr. Reeves definitely stated at the time of the introduction of the Talukdars Act, 1862, to restore the talukdars to their former position, and gave an assurance that their jama would be reduced when they were free from debt?

(b) Do Government intend to fulfil the assurance thus given both as regards the restoration of the talukdars to their former position and the reduction of their jama, and, if so, when?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: In introducing the "Bill for the restoration of the Girassias in the Ahmedabad Collectorate and for their relief from debt", the Honourable Mr. Reeves explained that the British Government had refused to recognize the Girassias as holding any higher status than that of a hereditary leaseholder whose position was little better than that of a tenant-at-will dependent on the pleasure of Government and stated that it was the duty of the British Government to do its utmost to restore the Talukdars so far as possible to the position in which they were found at the cession of the Ahmedabad district by the Mahrattas, to declare them to be proprietors and to lower their taxes.

(b) The assurances then given were fulfilled in the following ways:—

(1) The old status of the talukdars was restored to them by the declaration made in section 20 of Act VI of 1862 that "the talukdar shall be the absolute proprietor of his said landed estates as regards succession to, and possession, management and transfer of, the same, subject to such land tax as the Governor in Council may be pleased to reserve."

(2) The reduction of the jama has been effected by the abandonment of the old practice of basing Government demand upon the actual collections or rentals of the talukdar and by the introduction of a new policy of basing the demand upon the valuations determined by regular survey and settlement operations.

CUSTOM LINE IN DHOLKA TALUKA.

* Mr. G. I. PATEL (Ahmedabad Millowners' Association): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether their attention has been drawn to the articles in the *Navjivan* of the 15th June and the *Bombay Chronicle* of the 30th June headed "Custom line in Dholka Taluka" complaining of the hardships in traffic caused to agriculturists and other people of the Dholka taluka and particularly to the inhabitants of Shiyal, Bagodra, Dingda and Kanakpura?

(b) Will Government be pleased to place on the table a list of roads with points of custom restrictions and distances between different gateways?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

(c) Do Government intend to take any action with regard to the grievances described in the above article ?

(d) Is it a fact that the chowkidars recruited from the Bhil population of the Idar State are provided with rifles which they make use of in hunting hares and deer ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a), (c) and (d) Already answered.*

(b) The list† furnishing the requisite information is put up.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Government Bills.

(BILL No. II OF 1925.) A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE INDIAN STAMP ACT, 1899, IN ITS APPLICATION TO THE PRESIDENCY OF BOMBAY.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : Mr. President, I rise to ask for the first reading of Bill† No. II of 1925, a Bill further to amend the Indian Stamp Act, 1899,

First Reading.

in its application to the Presidency of Bombay. Sir, this bill has behind it a history of some interest. It is a bill which concerns primarily the city of Bombay, and secondarily other important towns. So far as regards the city of Bombay, the House will be interested to learn that some three years ago, in 1922, the corporation considered the introduction of a similar bill, for the purpose of giving revenue to the city of Bombay. That was strongly urged upon the corporation by the Municipal Commissioner, it was considered by their committee, and finally, after the approval of the corporation, a bill on those lines was submitted to Government. Government, however, came to the conclusion that this source of revenue, which has been assigned to the provincial Government under the Government of India Act and the rules thereunder, could not be delegated to the corporation of Bombay, and they have now considered that the necessities of the financial condition of the Bombay presidency require them to bring forward this demand for additional revenue, and to ask that this House would give their approval to an Act which will enable us to obtain money on the transfers of land in the principal cities of this presidency. I might refer the House to the statement of objects and reasons, which is a brief document and which is before honourable members, and, with your permission, Sir, I will read it. It says :

“The Municipal Corporation of the City of Bombay and all municipalities receive considerable subventions from Government in respect of their expenditure on education, hospitals, sanitation and such other purposes. This expenditure is growing rapidly and with the movement in favour of compulsory education will grow still faster with a consequent increase in the demands for assistance from Provincial revenues.

“In order to enable Government to meet these demands, it is necessary to secure further revenue from those areas which will chiefly benefit from the expenditure.

“The tax now proposed is in the form of Stamp Duty; it involves no additional expense in collection; it will be paid by people at the most convenient time when the transaction taxed places them in funds, and the incidence is restricted to a small percentage of the price obtained by the transaction.”

Now, Sir, we have had, in the last three days, a very full discussion on the financial position of the Government, and I trust that the House

*Printed in the 4th list of Questions and Answers at the last session.

†Vide Appendix 43. ‡Vide Appendix B.

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

is now fully appraised of the major facts of their financial position. We have prepared a budget for the approval of this House which exceeds the revenue anticipated by Rs. 41 lakhs. We have shown in that Blue Book, which is before honourable members, that the increased expenditure of the coming year is almost entirely expended on transferred departments on measures for the promotion of the well-being of the people in public health, in hospitals, in roads, in water supply, and so forth. I would remind the House that we propose to increase the grant to the district local boards for roads from Rs. 11 lakhs to Rs. 18½ lakhs. We are providing boring plant to the extent of over Rs. 4 lakhs for giving greater facilities to the cultivators for improving wells. We are giving additional grants to local boards for water supply exceeding one lakh of rupees. We propose to give a grant to the Poona city municipality which is in addition to the grant previously given of over 2½ lakhs for the Poona drainage scheme. We propose to give a grant to the Kapadwanj municipality in the Kaira district of one lakh of rupees for the water supply. We are revising the grant to dispensaries by an addition of 90 thousand rupees. In education we have provided building grants of over five lakhs of rupees. I have only noted in this brief list the larger special grants which we hope to be in a position to provide in the coming year.

Then in particular in regard to larger towns we are faced with a very large demand from the Bombay municipality for further expenditure on primary education. We are asked to give a large grant for hospitals, important hospitals in Ahmedabad. I think the total is over 7½ lakhs of rupees for that scheme alone.

Now in the discussion yesterday, Sir, certain honourable members used an argument which suggests that this House would be foolish to give any additional taxation at all on the ground that it would induce the Government of India to consider that we had no real grievance under the Meston Settlement. I think the whole House is unanimous that the Meston Settlement is grossly unjust to this presidency. On that point there is no difference of opinion between the Bombay Government and this House. We do not agree with those honourable members who think that we can in any way advance our claim by refusing to do what we can to help ourselves under the existing financial arrangements. We do not think that the Government of India or the Secretary of State or any superior authority would look with any great favour on a presidency which sits down, folds its hands and says "We will not do anything whatever to assist our poorer classes; we will not provide any more funds until we have a revision of this settlement." I quite agree that that argument and that that kind of conduct would appeal to a certain class of mind. I do not in the least deny that it is a plausible argument, but I ask this House to consider seriously whether that is the most reasonable attitude to take, whether it is an attitude that would commend the cause of this presidency to other outside impartial critics. If on the other hand we can go before any arbitrator or before any tribunal of revision and point out that we have been making every effort to meet our needs and that we realize that we are starved in our

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

necessary revenue, but that so far as is possible within the restricted resources available to us we have done our very best for the people committed to our charge, surely, Sir, that is a far more generous attitude to take. Not only is it more generous but it is an attitude that would command more sympathy in such a tribunal of revision and will satisfy that tribunal that they are dealing with earnest statesmen and not with people who sulk and refuse to play their part.

I have no doubt, Sir, that in this discussion the question of our balances, will again come forward. I wish it were an easier matter to explain, but as obviously in certain minds there is still some misapprehension I would ask your permission, Sir, to mention some of the essential factors. It is perfectly true, as one honourable member pointed out, that we have a larger balance than other presidencies. It is perhaps not known to this House that the Meston Committee when considering the conditions of every presidency put on record that there is no province so exposed to the ravages of famine as the Bombay Presidency. There is no province where it was necessary to reserve so large a sum in balance to meet the needs of famine administration. No doubt, Sir, to meet the needs of expenditure on famine administration we have now built up a fund of nearly a crore and a half. But, Sir, in two years of terrible distress in this presidency we had actually to pay out on famine administration a sum of $7\frac{1}{2}$ crores. We have every reason to believe that owing to the advance of the people in knowledge and experience so large an expenditure may not fall on us again, but still that expenditure in those two years was five times our present balance set apart for famine. We do not think it is safe to depend on the famine balance alone; we must continue to add to that famine balance for at the time when famine affects this presidency we not only have to spend money in vast quantities for the relief of the poor and afflicted but at the same time we have to abstain from collecting our land revenue, and we have had a decrease, in our land revenue of as much as two crores of rupees in a single year. Therefore over and above the sum which we have to provide for expenditure on famine, we must keep a sum in balance to meet the case when our revenues fall off or else we should not be able to meet the daily necessities of ordinary administration.

We are moving towards provincial autonomy and there is a general desire throughout India and in all provinces that the revenues and expenditure of each province should be cut off from the Imperial exchequer and in Bombay I believe that desire has found expression more than once. If we are to stand on our own legs we must have a regular balance at our credit to enable us to meet all the necessities that arise in the course of the year. The revenue comes in in certain months, but the expenditure goes on all the time. We cannot keep a small balance and be faced with a deficit in part of the year. We must have enough money with our bankers to meet our demands. Out of the 369 lakhs with which it is proposed that we should conclude next year, 148 lakhs is Famine Insurance Fund and in the balance we have a sum of 13 lakhs which is borrowed money. We have to pay annually 29

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

lakhs to the Government of India for the redemption of our loan account, and the remaining balance is below two crores of rupees which is the minimum sum that has for several years now been recognised in this House as the necessary balance which we must maintain against eventualities. Our inflated balance can thus be fairly explained. It is not possible from this balance to carry on when our annual expenditure exceeds the revenue. It is one of the first principles of financial management that we must have a budget in which the revenue is greater by a sufficiently large amount than the expenditure. Some honourable members have accused Government of a spendthrift policy, because they expend all the revenue whatever it may be. Whenever we have increased revenue from any source the demands that are pressed on us from every quarter of the presidency for improvements are so enormous that it is difficult to decide the rival claims, the superior claims of one area over another area. There is nothing spendthrift in deciding, that you have now a small sum of money, to improve the hospitals in Ahmedabad or build causeways in Kanara or Dharwar. I have given a couple of instances which are recent. The demands are so urgent and so impetuous that any money we have in hand is at once claimed. I do urge this House to realise that the Government are doing their best with the funds at their disposal and they are entirely expended for the benefit of the community.

Now, Sir, coming to the bill, it is a very brief one and requires very little detailed explanation. It is in the form of an amendment to the Stamp Act of 1899 and it raises the duty payable on instruments relating to immovable property only. It raises the duty by roughly 2 per cent. The revenue that will be realised therefrom amounts to a sum of 12 lakhs of rupees from the city of Bombay and a sum of 6 lakhs from the other principal cities in the presidency. We propose that the bill in the form in which it is put before you should apply to any other municipal area to which this Government may by notification extend the provisions of this Act. That is probably the most convenient form in which it can be placed. We propose to apply it in the first instance to bigger municipalities. Subsequently it would be possible to apply it elsewhere after taking this House into consultation. We do not state that it should apply indiscriminately to all places. The exact form in which this extension should apply may be settled after discussion by this House. Sir, with this explanation, I desire to ask for the first reading of Bill No. II of 1925.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : I rise, Sir, to oppose the first reading of this bill. Before honourable members make up their mind as to how to vote

.....

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN : I rise to a point of information. There is an amendment of which I have given notice.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The amendment is that after clause 2, add the following :

"3. The additional revenue that may be derived under clause 2 of the Act, shall be earmarked for expenditure on education, medical relief and sanitation."

[The President]

The difficulty in all these cases has been to determine what is an amendment of principle and what is an amendment of detail. At the first reading an amendment of principle alone is allowed. At the second reading only amendments of detail are allowed. The principle, as far as I understand, of the bill is that additional taxation should be imposed and that it should be in the nature of an increased levy on stamp duty. The question is whether you can impose by legislation the condition proposed. This question was fully discussed in this House on the occasion of the Entertainments Duty Act and I hold a ruling from Sir Narayan Chandavarkar who decided the issue as shown in the proceedings. The amendment proposed at the second reading was by Mr. Gandhi to the following effect :

“The whole of the balance of the money so received, after deducting the cost of collection thereof, shall be allotted every year for providing for the elementary primary education in the presidency.”

Honourable members will observe that that amendment is on the same lines as the amendment now proposed, and Sir Narayan ruled that you cannot move it. He said :

“I must declare it out of order, because it requires the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor as it is a motion for appropriation.”

I recognise that the question is not free from doubt. The difficulty really arises because the honourable member has given notice of his amendment on the occasion of the first reading, whereas it appears to me the proper time for his amendment is the second reading. However that may be the question whether an amendment is one of principle or detail has always caused much difficulty. The House has, however, decided in favour of this procedure, and I have no option but to rule the amendment out of order at this stage.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District) : Sir, before honourable members make up their minds how to vote upon these additional taxation proposals, they have to realise, Sir, the financial condition of this presidency. They have got also to correctly appreciate the deficit and they have to find out what is the excess of the budgetted expenditure over the current year's expenditure. Next, they have also to satisfy themselves about the *bona fides* of Government, and they must convince themselves that all sources of retrenchment have been exhausted. Thirdly, the House has got to decide the justification or otherwise of these taxation proposals. While considering all these points we come back to the subject of the budget and the subject of retrenchment. The primary purpose of a solvent budget is that we must reduce our expenditure to the natural resources of the province. This is a beautiful and sound dictum and has been laid down by the Honourable the Finance Member in the speech which he delivered in the year 1923. I find, Sir, that he has again repeated that statement to-day. But if we consider this year's budget, we will find that he is not at all consistent with the dictum which he has laid down. I feel, Sir, that instead of giving us a solvency budget, he has succeeded in giving us an insolvency budget. I am reminded in this connection, Sir, of a Sanskrit quotation

[Mr. P. G. Joshi]

which speaks of a man who began to paint the likeness of a beautiful goddess and ended by painting a monkey. Sir, if we want to find out and appreciate the correct financial position of the presidency, we have first of all got to know what the actual income of this presidency is. For the next year the budgetted income is 16,16 lakhs. If from this figure we deduct the development interest figures, then the actual figure of the income for the next year is 15,68 lakhs. We all know that finance ministers are often driven to different devices and several shifts in framing the budget. We know that overestimating the revenue is also one of their devices, as also the showing of a small deficit. We have been told by the honourable the Finance Secretary in his note that our finances are stationary. If he is correct, then we have got to take the current year's income to be the normal revenue on which to base our criticisms upon estimates. The current year's revenue is something like 14 crores, and that is really the revenue on which we ought to base our expenditure for the next year. Now, Sir, the expenditure figures that have been given in the Blue Book referring to the next year are 16,67 lakhs. If we deduct from this the development figures under Debt Services, then the budgetted expenditure for the next year we get as 16,09 lakhs. I am a country lawyer and I have not the extensive experience of financial matters which the Honourable the Finance Member possesses. But I find great difficulty in understanding the figures of expenditure which have been given to us as 15,19 lakhs on page 5 of his budget speech. I would like to know how the budgetted expenditure for the next year is given as 15,19 lakhs. If we take into consideration the normal revenue of the presidency to be 14 crores, then the actual deficit we have to face is 2,66 lakhs. We have been told that the actual deficit is only 41 lakhs. I refuse to accept that position, and I am afraid that the deficit is far more serious than what it has been represented to be. Then, if we compare the next year's expenditure with the figures for 1922-23, namely, 13,11 lakhs, then there is an excess of something like 3,66 lakhs. Now, Sir, when we have to face such a large deficit as I have shown, we have to find out whether all the sources of retrenchment at the disposal of Government have been exhausted and whether Government have proved to the satisfaction of the House their *bona fides* in matters of retrenchment. Till then, all talk about new taxation is absurd. You will see, Sir, that our difficulties are not due to the non-expansion of revenue but they are due to lavish expenditure. Our administration is extremely costly, notwithstanding the declaration of the Honourable the Finance Member that our administration is the cheapest in the world. In support of my contention I will quote an authority of the position of Lord Meston. Lord Meston has stated in the course of the enquiry which he held :

"The cost of administration in Bombay is considerably higher in most departments than in the neighbouring provinces, with the almost sole exception of Burma, where conditions are wholly unusual. We have been working throughout on a table which shows that taking all the ordinary business of administration, the land revenue, the courts, the police, the medical, and so on, Bombay spends Rs. 5·6 per head of its population whereas Madras next door spends only Rs. 2·5 and Bengal 1·7."

[Mr. P. G. Joshi]

At another place he has stated :

“The cost of Bombay police is *680 per head⁷ of population, that is about 11 annas per head, whereas in Madras it is *335 and in Bengal it is *312, in each case a little less than half of the Bombay figure.”

Since Lord Meston had made this declaration our expenditure has enormously increased. We have heard some interesting figures yesterday about the increase in crime in this presidency as compared with the figures of crime in England. I think, Sir, that if those figures provide anything, they provide more an inference that the supervising officers of our Police Department are more lax and negligent than an argument that more police is necessary or more expenditure on our Police Department is necessary. But, Sir, so far as regards retrenchment proposals we find that nothing practically is done. The Honourable the Finance Member some years back wanted a clear guidance from this House to threaten the spending departments, the Ministers as well as the Members of the Executive Council, with the displeasure of this House. He wanted a clear guidance from this House. I am glad he wants such a clear guidance from this House. We have shown, Sir, that there are so many sources in which retrenchment can be effected. Year after year it has been suggested that two posts of the Executive Councillors ought to go, but nothing has been done since the suggestion was first made. Then, Sir, the Ministers also will do well in forgoing some of their salaries and, if they do it, they would be earning the blessings of the ryots by whom they have been elected. The all-India Services also, Sir, are a drag on the financial resources of this province. We have been told, Sir, that the expenditure on the all-India Services is Rs. 97 lakhs. I find that there is some mistake in the figure given by the Honourable the Finance Member. We were told, Sir, by the Honourable Mr. Lawrence in his speech in 1921 that the cost of the all-India Services was Rs. 97 lakhs and this year he also repeats that the cost is Rs. 97 lakhs. I think, Sir, he must be wrongsomewhere ; he is wrong either in the 1921 speech or in this year's speech. According to me, the cost of the all-India Services will be something like Rs. 1,07 lakhs. While on this point, Sir, I would like to bring one point to the notice of this honourable House. This province is under a statutory obligation to engage the services of a certain number of all-India Service men. But at present we are employing a number of all-India Service men in excess of the statutory obligation. It is quite true we cannot touch the pay of these all-India Service men, but it is quite possible for us to make retrenchments if the Bombay Government are serious about it. If the Government of Bombay make up their minds to send back some of these men to the Government of India, I think we will be saving something like six lakhs of rupees per year. Then, we have been told, Sir, that the Meston Settlement is very unjust. In this connection, I should like to say one thing, that our contribution to the Central Government is something like Rs. 56 lakhs. I do not know whether any effort has been made by this Government to request the Government of India to waive this contribution from this Presidency. I think, Sir, that the Bengal Government has made such a request and

[Mr. P. G. Joshi]

their contribution has been waived. I think, if the Bombay Government make out a very strong case before the Government of India, this contribution will certainly be waived.

Then, Sir, if we take all these things into consideration, the large amount of the deficit, the failure of the Government to make retrenchment, then we see, Sir, that these taxation proposals are not at all necessary. All the elected members of this House have come here on the express understanding that the present taxation will be reduced. They have come here not to sanction any additional taxation, and if Government have not been able to manage within the Rs. 15 crores which the ryot is giving to them, I do not think, as my honourable friend Mr. Nariman has suggested, they have proved their capacity to rule us. I think the taxation proposals put forward by the Honourable the Finance Member ought not to be accepted and I therefore oppose the first reading of this bill.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North): Mr. President, the bill which is before us strikes me as an attempt on the part of the benches opposite to follow the principle of "divide and rule". Sir, here a clear attempt has been made of setting the rural areas against the urban areas. The mofussil members must have noticed during the past three or four days that a strenuous effort is being made to impress upon their minds that the urban areas are swallowing up all the revenues which the rural areas contribute. Sir, a more untrue statement could not be made. May I just now point out that the presidency town alone contributes its share, more than its legitimate share, to the provincial exchequer? Why, Sir, take the stamp duty alone. According to the latest report, you will find that the proceeds of the judicial stamps amounted to about Rs. 80 lakhs, and out of that, Rs. 38 lakhs was given by Bombay city alone. Just think of a small area hardly exceeding 23 square miles contributing nearly 48 per cent. of the total revenue in one item alone! Take the excise. Even there you will find that this city has been contributing more than its share if you look at it from the basis of area or from the basis of population. And still an attempt is being made to show "Oh, lots of money is going to be spent for the welfare only of these urban areas". Sir, may I tell the benches opposite what is the native population of this city of Bombay? If they refer to the census report, they will find that out of the 12 lakhs hardly 2 lakhs are the people who are natives of this town and island of Bombay. All the rest of the population is drawn from the mofussil area, and if they swallow up any of the benefits which this beneficent Government showers upon them, they are showering them upon people who come to Bombay to earn their living from the rural areas. Therefore, to tell this House that the urban areas are receiving an undue share of the benefits is an incorrect statement.

Then, Sir, let us go to another point. The notions of jurisprudence are that the transfer of property must be unhampered, must be free, otherwise the commerce of a country is restricted. On account of this fact, jurisprudence has introduced various devices. There is the law

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

of perpetuity and various other devices. What is at the bottom of all these things? It is in the interest of a country that the transfer of property shall be as free as it possibly could be made. What are Government trying to do? They are trying to curtail the transfer as much as it lies in their power to do. If you are going to tax it more and more, what will be the effect? The effect naturally would be that there will be less changes in the ownership of property. Sir, what is sauce for the goose must be sauce for the gander. If you restrict the people by such devices as the law of perpetuity and other measures restricting the ownership of property, must you not equally be bound by that very same rule, that by restricting property, you must not try to gain more revenue?

The next point is, what is the time that Government have selected for the imposition of this extra taxation? We have been passing through trade depression for the past four or five years. Year after year, Government reports are telling us that the trade depression is reflected very seriously upon the revenues of Government. In the latest Stamp Report you will come across a statement, where the Collector of Bombay says that even now the pre-war figure of 1914 is not reached. Every year the stamp revenue is declining, and still we are going headlong to perpetuate that mistake. We had introduced an additional burden by way of increasing the general stamps, and we are not yet out of the evil effects of that, and here Government want to try to perpetuate that mistake.

The next point is, there is a technical flaw also. So far as I understand the rules of Scheduled Taxes, I find that Government is not entitled to appropriate this source of revenue. I think the land tax is included in the second schedule. If you will refer to the land taxes rules which are in the Manual, you will find that in the second schedule land tax is included, and that source is given away to local bodies. Now, if you are going to deprive the local bodies of this source of taxation and you throw upon them the burden of additional educational expenses, wherefrom are they to meet it? Various local bodies in the Deccan had presented, especially municipal bodies, addresses to His Excellency the Governor when he was on tour, and they demanded larger grants for education. And what was the reply that they received? I think the reply is of the Government, and that reply is far from encouraging. Government expects the local bodies to finance it from their revenues, and, at the same time, it is crippling their sources of revenue by appropriating this tax which really and rightly belongs to the local bodies.

The next point is about the proportion of expenditure that is fixed by the Primary Education Act. So far as the extra expenditure is concerned, Government have definitely made a statutory provision that no local body shall expect anything in excess of the obligation undertaken by Government. If that is the case, if Government is not going to give help to the local bodies, then how are the local bodies to undertake their schemes of expansion of primary education?

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

Then I think some honourable member might perhaps think "Well, let us at least impose conditions upon Government and grant them this new taxation. Let us say that, provided the money is earmarked for education, there would be no objection to our sanctioning the taxation". So far as I think, this sort of argument will not do, because that argument was once raised in this House some years ago, and at that time we were told that, under the Fundamental Rules, no source of revenue can be earmarked for any particular object. The result will be that, even if we sanction this additional taxation, it would be a mistake on our part to suppose that we would get the benefit of the tax for educational purposes.

The next point is that this is a money bill ; we may accept it or reject at any stage. Some honourable members might say " Let us at least pass its first reading and let it go to the select committee ". That sort of argument, too, is not a good argument, because when we once entrust a bill to the select committee, it means that we believe ourselves that there is something in the bill which should go to the select committee. When a bill goes to a select committee, what does the committee do ? It does not consider the principle whether fresh taxation should be imposed or not, it would only concern itself with the provisions that are in the bill. Therefore, my suggestion is, let us not allow the passing of even the first reading of the bill. In these circumstances, I find it my duty to oppose the first reading of this bill.

Dr. M. B. VELKAR (Bombay City, South): Sir, I rise to oppose the first reading of the bill, and in doing so, I want to tell the opposite benches once for all that this House is in no mood to allow even a single pie of additional taxation to be thrown on the already over-burdened backs of the people of this presidency. If we just look to the speeches that were delivered by this side of the House during the course of the budget discussion for the last three days, we will see that there was one keynote struck, and that was that there ought to be greater retrenchment, but no taxation. I find, after the presentation of this bill by the Honourable the Finance Member, that all those speeches have really been wasted, and the Honourable the Finance Member has the temerity to come forward and ask for fresh taxation. He says that Government want more money and Government want to tax the people of this presidency. I wonder, after a deficit budget and after finding out that there was no money in hand, that Government should have the temerity to come forward with proposals to give effect to the Lee Commission's recommendations. With regard to the Lee Commission's recommendations, what was the argument that was brought forward by the Honourable the Finance Member ? He said that, in order to keep these special services contented, in order to keep them efficient, a price has to be paid. Certainly, a price has to be paid for duty done ; but when ? When we attach a certain value to that duty. But we find, after many years' experience that the value which the Services had attached to themselves is not any more there. We have passed the stage when these officers were necessary for the preservation of law and order in this country. Now, Indians are

[Dr. M. B. Velkar]

prepared to take up these high posts. Therefore, the Lee recommendations were not proper recommendations, and Government ought not to have come forward at this stage with proposals for fresh taxation when they have a deficit budget. Another point that was made out by the Honourable the Finance Member in support of his argument was that the framework of these special services ought to be preserved in order that the nation-building departments may advance on proper lines. When I was listening to that particular part of his speech which he delivered the other day, when he presented the budget, I was reminded of my old days when I was a student in school when, times out of number, it was being dinned into our young minds that law and order were necessary, that security and peace were necessary for the prosperity of this country. What do we find after so many years' experience? Peace, there is; security, there is; but it is the security of decay and the peace of death. Law, order, stability, is necessary, but it ought to be the stability of health and life, and not of death and disease. As has been pointed out, that state of things continues to go on. The wealth of the country is not increasing owing to lack of industries and lack of encouragement to agriculture. When we find this state of things I do not understand why so much expenditure should be incurred for law and order.

My honourable friend, Mr. Joshi, pointed out that there are so many other resources. Government can give effect to so many recommendations of the retrenchment committee. The other day the honourable member from Ratnagiri pointed out how they should retrench the expenses. He said to Government "Cut off half of your establishments in this country". He said "Trust the people more and more and give them Village Panchayats". In regard to this I will point out that though the Village Panchayats Act was passed four years ago, Government have not introduced as many panchayats as they ought to have done. The people do not feel any enthusiasm for these panchayats because they have not conferred any judicial powers on these panchayats. In Madras they have entrusted the panchayats with the power of trying judicial cases and village panchayats are being substituted for civil courts. I will not take the time of the House in going into details on that particular question, but I may tell this House that by introducing village panchayats in Madras half the cases of judicial courts are being tried by village panchayats, and thus the cost of those courts is saved. Therefore I submit that this House should not sanction any more taxation and that the House must show in a clear and emphatic manner that it will never encourage any such attempt on the part of Government.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University): Sir, I rise to oppose the first reading of this bill. In so doing, I shall leave aside, for the moment, general considerations based upon the budget, particularly as to the nature of the deficit and the large balances in the hands of the Honourable the Finance Member, as also other considerations making out a case for additional taxation. My present purpose is more humble, and that is to ask the attention of my honourable friends to the provisions of the bill with a view that they may be able to judge the bill on its merits.

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

This bill is intended—and I am very glad that the honourable non-Brahman member for Bombay city North (Mr. Surve) saw through the device of this bill—that it was intended to raise additional taxation on a vicious principle, which he aptly described as “divide and rule”—a very strong expression indeed but perfectly justified by the measure. This bill is intended to be applied to the presidency of Bombay in order to provide an additional levy of a duty on the transfer of land primarily in the city of Bombay. But, the House will note that the bill is not restricted to the city of Bombay, but is to apply also to all municipal areas throughout the presidency. Therefore if there are any honourable members present here who think that it is going to be applied to the opulent city of Bombay only, they are mistaken. The Government has power in this bill by notification to make any municipal area in the presidency liable to the additional levy. The bill is stated to extend to the whole of the presidency of Bombay and may be made applicable to other municipal areas than the city of Bombay. Therefore let not this feeling arise in the minds of mofussil members that this is a measure only for drawing more money out of the coffers of opulent Bombay landlords, and landowners. The sword of Damocles will hang over the head of all municipal areas. In taxing municipal areas for the benefit of the entire presidency, the bill sets up a conflict between municipal areas and mofussil places. Therefore I feel that the description of this bill which the honourable member Mr. Surve has given—he is generally very guarded and discreet in his language—characterising it as an attempt to divide and rule is justifiable. I want honourable members to bear another circumstance in mind. It is a sister bill to the Court-fees Act Amendment Bill which follows. It was once thrown out last year, mainly with the help of the mofussil members. It is re-proposed this year and it represents a double-barrelled arrangement justifying the argument that not only Bombay but even the mofussil areas are going to be taxed. If Bombay people prove recalcitrant they will be told that the mofussil likewise is going to be taxed, and *vice versa*. I ask honourable members to be cautious in accepting that argument of the Government benches.

On the plain provisions of this bill, it is a very objectionable measure and for this reason. If honourable members will permit a little excursion in this department, a little research, I may tell them that an Act was passed by the Indian Legislature in 1899 which fixed a certain *ad valorem* levy of fees on the total cost of the property conveyed. Honourable members will be surprised to hear the comparative figures in that and the present enactment. I just give them a few instances. If the value of a conveyance exceeds 200 but does not exceed 300 rupees, the 1899 Act provides that a stamp fee of 3 rupees should be levied. In 1922 our predecessors here under certain powers given by the Act authorised the Bombay Government to pass a measure which became Act in April 1922, that is about two years ago. Government had some difficulty, even then, in inducing that House constituted as it then was, to accept the levy raised which was in this particular instance increased to Rs. 4-8. That is the Rs. 3

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

of 1899 were raised to Rs. 4-8-0. The duty on 300 to 400 rupees worth of property was originally Rs. 4 and it was raised to Rs. 6. In this way it went on in proportional rise until it came to a general provision, under which every conveyance over 500 exceeding 1 thousand which originally was charged 5 rupees duty was raised to Rs. 7-8-0 in 1922. Even that measure caused considerable hesitation in the minds of the House as it was constituted then. Now, the Honourable the Finance Member comes before the House with a proposal which practically means, and I want the issue to be clearly understood by my honourable friends, that the original Rs. 3 duty which was raised to Rs. 4-8-0 in 1922 is now going to be raised to Rs. 8-8-0. Mark the original Rs. 3 and the now proposed Rs. 8-8-0. The original Rs. 4 duty was changed to 6 in 1922 and is now going to be raised to 12. The original duty in 1899 was 10. In 1922 it was raised to 15 and it is now proposed to be raised to Rs. 33 which works out at 230 per cent. on the basis of 1899.

The Honourable the Finance Member with his usual tact has said that the proposed measure provides for a rise of 2 per cent. only. Yes; on the value of property. But we are entitled to examine by how much it is a rise on the basis of 1899 or that of 1922. Taking that as the basis, I take the liberty of pointing out to the Honourable the Finance Member that on the basis of the duty of 1899, the valuation proposed by this bill has risen by more than 230 per cent. There is no doubt therefore that it is too big a jump which the legislature is asked to take. I may point out to my honourable friend opposite that simultaneously with Bombay, in the same year 1922—it is a strange coincidence—practically in the same month Bengal and Madras passed similar amendments of the Stamp Act; and yet Bengal and Madras have accepted the valuation basis of 1922 and have not thought of raising it for the general benefit of the presidency. We want to know from the Honourable the Finance Member the reasons why he is proposing such a large jump over the basis of 1922. Then we are told, in persuasive terms, that the revenue raised in this manner is going to be devoted to the demands of the nation-building departments. As has been pointed out by previous speakers, this is only a pious hope. In view of the ruling given by the Honourable the President, the revenue cannot be earmarked for any particular purpose, and the House therefore has no effective means by which Government can be compelled to apply the proceeds of this taxation to educational purposes.

Let us pursue the argument advanced by the Honourable the Finance Member. He says that he is taking all this trouble in the interest of municipal areas. The simple answer to that is: Why not then leave the matter into the hands of the municipal areas? If Government are taking all this trouble and odium for the benefit of the municipal areas in the mofussil, why should they not leave it to them? Why this circuitous way of first getting the money with one hand on behalf of the municipal areas and then with the other hand giving out doles to municipalities? As the honourable member Mr. A. N. Surve pointed out, if all this trouble is going to be taken for the benefit of municipal areas and they are going to be saddled with large obligations in the

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

matter of compulsory primary education, then this additional revenue ought to be left in the hands of the municipal areas themselves.

Apart from general considerations, there is one important aspect which I wish to urge before the House and which several honourable members urged last year when the Court-fees Bill was thrown out. I remember my remarks caused a *furor* not only in this city and presidency but its reverberation was heard in distant Westminster. That apart, do honourable members think that we ought to allow more money to go into the hands of the Government by way of additional taxation? I put this question especially to the honourable members on my left. In view of the experience we have had during the last one or two years and previously to that also, does the House think that the ways of Government in managing the resources of the province have been so thrifty, so considerate, so careful that we can safely vote additional taxation, and make a present of 42 lakhs to them? I think, not. Apart from details, every honourable member will agree that, whatever else the budget may or may not show, it shows clearly the extreme indebtedness of the presidency, and the extreme extravagance and costliness of this Government. I am surprised that in the same year in which additional taxation is contemplated they have scored to the extent of 9 lakhs in their indecent scramble for salaries made possible by the Lee Commission. These 9 lakhs more have been appropriated towards services which are overpaid. To put the matter graphically, the Government put into the pockets of the services 9 lakhs with the left hand and with the right hand they attempt to lift out of our pockets 41 lakhs. If Government wanted this bill to be passed without objection, it would have been more seemly and decent to postpone this *khairat* of 9 lakhs till the next year. Then their move would have appeared to us more genuine, more straightforward. They would then have come before the Council with clean hands, if I may say so. 'He who seeks equity must come with clean hands' is an old maxim of British law and I say that Government have not come with clean hands. I may mention here an important matter. Honourable members are aware that the Swaraj party are generally averse to their leader moving any resolutions or asking any questions. But notwithstanding this general rule, I gave notice last time that the Government should not act on the recommendations of the Lee Commission relating to the increase of salaries without giving a chance to this House of having a debate on that question. That resolution was tabled, but it was not reached, which was a misfortune. But it cannot be denied that the Government had notice of that resolution, *i.e.*, of the fact that a large section of the House was desirous of having an opportunity of discussing this question. Government were aware of that in the last term. Notwithstanding that, however, without giving an opportunity to this Council, Government have, may I say surreptitiously, pocketed 9 lakhs this year and propose to pocket 10 lakhs next year.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Why did you not claim priority for it?

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: That was not possible. My point is this. I want my honourable friends to understand that we made our position perfectly clear to Government on the question of the Lee Commission proposals that this House wanted an opportunity of having its say. Can anybody deny it? Does Government deny it? (The Honourable Sir Maurice Hayward: Yes; Government deny it.)

Government cannot deny this. There is the resolution to speak for itself. Notwithstanding that, Government have adopted the proposals, and as a matter of fact they have taken the money. This is because we have no control over the purse. And the same year that Government do this, they come with a Syren voice and say "Oh! we have got a deficit of 41 lakhs: we want more money for education, etc." I have very great doubts whether this deficit is not a faked one. But assuming it is not so, this deficit is a very small one, and with some economy it can be avoided. At any rate, the large balances which Government retain in their hand can certainly swallow up this deficit very easily. I therefore want the House to remember that coming as it does in the same year in which Government have taken 9 lakhs in respect of the Lee Commission, the proposal is a tainted one. I ask therefore my honourable friends to oppose the first reading of this bill.

Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI (Bombay City, South): Mr. President, the only test by which we can judge of the justification or otherwise of the imposition of this finance bill on us, is the nature of our closing balance. Unfortunately, Sir, we do not find in the Blue Book what our closing balance was. In the past years, they used to give a resumé of our closed accounts, but in the present book there is no mention of it. But looking at page 20 of the White Book we find that in 1923-24 our closing balance was 5,46 lakhs; in the revised account for the current year it is 4,67 lakhs, and in the budget under consideration it is shown as 3,69 lakhs. The question for consideration now is whether 3,69 lakhs will or will not be sufficient to carry on the administration of the province of Bombay. If it will be sufficient, then, Sir, I do not see any reason why these bills should be imposed on us. In fact, I should think that even if we knock off 69 lakhs out of our present balance, nothing wrong will be done, and no contingency will arise to necessitate the keeping of such a large balance in our hands. Of course, Mr. President, our closing balance is diminishing. But the question is whether 3,69 lakhs is or is not a sufficient balance. It is on this question that we ought to fight out the cause of imposing this additional taxation.

In his speech the Honourable the Finance Member has stated that the city of Bombay which enjoys so many amenities must pay this transfer of property tax. He says that in the vicinity of Bombay there are large roads and large bridges. These are the amenities. We in the Bombay city never wanted them for ourselves. Our own communications, as was pointed out by Mr. Baptista, is more than sufficient for us. We know our requirements: we never wanted additional requirements any more. All these plots of land in the vicinity are now lying idle on account of the depression in trade. We see in the City Improvement Trust people are relinquishing the plots they had already taken up

[Dr. K. E. Dadachanji]

(Maalvi Rafiuddin Ahmad : Parsi colonies being filled). Everywhere, even in Hindu colonies they have given up their plots. Therefore, Sir; there was no necessity of making or constructing a greater Bombay. And then, why should this transfer of property tax be levied on the city of Bombay alone ? Of course other municipal areas will be taken up hereafter.

Then, Sir, I find from the resumé of 15 years' revenue and expenditure given in the graphs that while our revenue has increased by 62 per cent., our expenditure had gone up by 116 per cent., giving a ratio of nearly 1 to 2. In spite of the various retrenchments made by us in the former Council our expenditure still remains so very high. Sir, I would ask for an explanation as to why we cannot manage at present with our closing balance of 3,69 lakhs. I think we can even cut out as I said before 69 lakhs out of this and manage our affairs. We will, then, see next year or the year after, or two years after, whether there is any necessity of bringing a new finance bill. But I do not think, Sir, that at the present moment any case is made out for the bill. I think 3,69 lakhs is sufficient to carry on the government. Sixty-nine lakhs more can be knocked off from that, and even if we have only 3 crores of closing balance, that will be quite sufficient. I will wait for an explanation as to why that sum will not be enough. If no explanation is forthcoming I won't vote for the bill.

Mr. G. WILES : Sir, the effect of the speeches delivered so far has been to continue the budget discussions of the last three days, and therefore I need not make any apology for attempting to answer some of what I may call the budget questions which have been raised.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Budget discussion as affecting the increase of taxation.

Mr. G. WILES : Certainly, Sir. It seems to me to be assumed that because our expenditure has increased steadily as is shown in the statements and graphs put before the House, that means that the Government is a spendthrift Government. I cannot concede, Sir, that the two are synonymous. If there is to be progress expenditure must rise year by year at a steady rate. No one in this House will admit that we can now sit down and say we have reached a stage when we do not want to spend anything more. We are all at one, I believe, as regards that. The question is what the money shall be spent on. It is an axiom that if there is to be progress there must be a steady growth of expenditure. That does not mean that we cannot from time to time take stock of our position, and consolidate, as it were, the position we have won up to date. Nor does it mean that in times of stress or in an emergency such as the sudden rise in the cost of living which has taken place in the course of the last ten years, we cannot reduce our standards. We have definitely reduced what I might call the standard of living in the administration, and the figures of expenditure since 1921, I hold definitely prove that. The point I want to make is that as a whole over a long period steady progress must inevitably mean steady rise in the curve of expenditure. Therefore,

[Mr. G. Wiles]

it is a mistaken argument to say that because our revenue shows a steady rate of progress therefore we are a spendthrift government.

It is asked what the Finance Department has done and is doing in order to enforce economy. I think it can do no harm if I give away a little State secret, which will illustrate what the Finance Department is doing. As the House is aware, not a single project can be put in the budget until it has been approved and sanctioned by the Finance Department. In the exercise of this function the Finance Department is every day effecting economy. In spite of that this year the sum total of the departmental budgets, after the departments had themselves pruned away items which they considered unwillingly could be postponed, left us in our preliminary budget this year with a deficit of no less than two crores. This does not mean two crores would provide for all the projects which the departments think necessary for their progress. I am referring now only to those items which the Honourable Members and Honourable Ministers were prepared next year to carry out. By strenuous efforts on the part of the Finance Department and Government generally, the deficit has been reduced to the more reasonable sum of Rs. 41 lakhs.

Now, Sir, we are asked—various suggestions have been made here—to answer the question: Where is the money to come from? I have seen it suggested, for instance, that it may be possible to go to the Government of India and ask for a reduction of our contribution. I wish to put before the honourable members the consideration of Devolution Rule 18. If they read that rule and make the calculations necessary, they will find the total contribution from the provinces, which at present stands at something like 980 lakhs, must come down to as small a sum as 380 lakhs before the Bombay presidency is going to get any benefit from any remissions which the Government of India may make in the matter of provincial contributions. Another suggestion which has been made Sir, is that our balances are so large that we can well afford to meet this deficit from these balances this year. I tried to answer that argument in the course of the remarks which I made during the budget discussion. I pointed out that it was contrary to all financial canons that we should attempt to meet excess of expenditure from balances, that, if we were not to go bankrupt, we must make the annual revenue meet the annual expenditure. The Honourable the Finance Member dwelt, in his opening remarks on this bill, on the large balances we have and explained the necessity for maintaining them. But still as there is some misunderstanding on the part of honourable members, I will repeat the figures showing what the balances are made up of. The balance of Rs. 368 lakhs which is shown in the budget as it stands at present is made up of Rs. 148 lakhs in the Famine Insurance Fund; it contains Rs. 20 lakhs, which I said the other day consists of sinking fund charges and the assignments which are made to us from the Government of India on account of Customs; it also includes Rs. 13 lakhs which is surplus of borrowings. The total of these sums is Rs. 181 lakhs. That leaves us with Rs. 187 lakhs, available for the emergency of famine which is exactly Rs. 13 lakhs

[Mr. G. Wiles]

below the minimum which this House itself has in the past demanded shall be kept as a reserve against the emergency of famine. If, on the other hand, we obtain the taxation which we have demanded in order to make the budget balance in the current year that will enable us to close with a balance of Rs. 29 lakhs in excess of the two crores which we consider to be the minimum. That is the sum which we are under obligation to pay annually to the Government of India as an instalment of the pre-reform debt on account of the provincial loan fund. While dealing with the sum of 20 lakhs, I should like to remove a misapprehension which has been given expression to by several members. The honourable member for Karachi, for instance, told us that it is contrary to all financial canons to show an expenditure of Rs. 25 lakhs as appropriation for reduction or avoidance of debt. On the other hand, an objection was raised by the honourable member for Surat to a similar sum on the revenue side. Neither of these honourable members have apparently discovered the fact that these two entries cancel one another. I will refer them to the note given at page 69 of the Blue Book and the further explanation at page 124 where the whole history of this transaction is given in detail. The honourable member took exception to our methods of accounting, but we are guided in these matters by the orders received from the Auditor General and these transactions have been shown as they have been shown, under the orders of the Auditor General. The fact that it is left in our balances is due to the fact that we have not yet invested the amount of sinking fund, and the amount which we have received on account of customs assignments which we have paid from capital are, under the orders of the Government of India, not to be treated as revenue but are to be treated as assignments towards reduction of debt. The honourable member for Karachi's suggestion would mean a raid on our sinking funds. That is the very last resource which any finance department would think of permitting to be disturbed.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI : May I just explain, Sir, that what I said was . . .

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I am afraid we are going back into the whole discussion of the budget and the criticism that was levelled against it during the last three days is being repeated. Everything is perfectly relevant if it bears on the point of taxation, but elaborate replies on the various points raised during the budget discussion would not be relevant.

Mr. G. WILES : Sir, I thought it necessary because we have been told that by doing so and so we can get Rs. 25 lakhs, and so forth.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I do not wish to be misunderstood. I do not rule the honourable member (Mr. Wiles) out of order on the ground that his remarks are irrelevant, but I am merely making a suggestion that it would be much better if he dealt with the direct issue which is now before the House, namely, the justification for the additional taxation.

Mr. G. WILES : Another argument which has been brought forward, Sir, is that in the past our estimates have sometimes proved pessimistic. Therefore let us trust to luck and assume that everything will come out

[Mr. G. Wiles]

again all right in the end. It has been told to the House, Sir, that two years ago the year closed with a far more satisfactory state of affairs than we had hoped and it is suggested that what has happened once may happen again. There never was a worse argument brought to bear on a financial discussion. I gave details in my introductory note of the way in which the increased balance was arrived at. The Honourable the Finance Member also in his budget speech referred to it. As he pointed out, a considerable part of the savings of the year was illusory. A great part of it was merely postponed expenditure, which we had to incur in the next year. But the greater part of the actual savings which the honourable member referred to must, in my opinion, be put down to the results of retrenchments which were carried out in the previous year, the full result of such retrenchments never appearing in the year in which they are carried out. Nor could we, as some of our critics would have us do, anticipate those windfalls of revenue which have occasionally come to our assistance in the past. We cannot anticipate any windfall so far as I know, next year. We could only do that if trade revives to such an extent that income tax goes above the figure of 1922-23, and we get a share of the income tax from the Government of India, or if we have such a wonderful agricultural year that we called not only the current year's demand, but every rupee of arrears. I would now like to refer to the remark made by the leader of the Swaraj party in referring to our excessive balances. He thought that clever financiers could budget within a few rupees and value unnecessary so large a reserve. If he will guarantee to give us three years of good rainfall, I will guarantee to give him for three years a good budget and perfect estimates.

Coming to this bill in detail, the bill proposes to put a tax on real property in municipal areas of 2 per cent. in the form of a stamp duty, which will be payable on transfers carried out by document of sale, mortgage with possession or exchange, or such other methods of transfer as are under the Stamp Act required to be stamped as conveyances. I regret, Sir, that the leader of the Swaraj party should have given countenance to the idea that, in this matter, Government are carrying out the satanic policy of divide and rule. There is an intrinsic difference between taxation which can be put upon rural areas and taxation which can be put on urban areas. There is no question of divide and rule. We cannot put a tax on the cabbages which the urban man grows in his backyard in order to make it a tax from the land. There is an essential difference in the form of taxation applicable.

The amount of the tax will be found in item 23 of the schedule of the new bill. The bill is intended to be extended, in the first instance, to the city of Bombay and a number of other mofussil towns. The object of the bill is frankly to enable Government to raise more revenue. It is a fact that we are already spending in grants in aid to municipalities more than this bill will bring in. With the introduction of compulsory education, with the demand for better sanitation, supplies of water, etc., the tendency of our grants in aid to municipalities is continually to increase. We are already spending over Rs. 20 lakhs annually

[Mr. G. Wiles]

in grants to municipalities, and the increased demands on account of compulsory education have not yet begun to come in. The Honourable the Finance Member in introducing the bill has referred to the immense liability which the Government may be incurring in the Bombay city for instance on compulsory education.

I would draw the attention of honourable members to the fact that, under the Scheduled Taxes Rules, the Stamp Act is one of the very few, practically the only, source left to the Bombay Government to increase taxation. We cannot look for any considerable expansion of our revenues except by such a tax. That is the reason why, when the Bombay municipality applied to Government a few years ago to impose this tax, Government were constrained to refuse it. In 1921, the Bombay municipality actually asked for the permission of Government to introduce this tax, but, as I have said, it was not possible for Government to agree to surrender any of their restricted powers of taxation. We are told that the recommendation was made by the corporation, after very careful consideration. We ought, therefore, to be able to assume that, regarding the merits of the bill as a bill, Government and the corporation are at one. Otherwise, we should be reduced to come to the conclusion that what would be a very good tax when levied by the Bombay municipality, is a very bad tax when levied by the Government, and that is a conclusion which we have no right to assume. A change in the authority which desires to impose the tax cannot make any difference to, what I may call, the moral character of the bill.

This brings me to the only remaining argument, namely that it is wrong in principle to levy a tax, which is essentially a local tax, for general purposes. Now, in Calcutta, a tax exactly similar to this has been introduced by the Bengal Government. The leader of the Swaraj party was not quite correct when he told the House that the Bengal Government had stopped at the rate which was levied in 1922, because there is a tax, exactly similar to this, which is 2 per cent. on the sum levied under the Act of 1922, levied in Calcutta, and the proceeds go to the Calcutta Improvement Trust. In Madras also similar power has been taken by an Act of 1922 to raise money by similar means. In both these cities, the proceeds of the tax go directly towards expenditure on the administration of those cities. In Bombay, for the reasons I have given, Government have thought it essential to retain control over these revenues in their own hands, but there is no doubt whatever that the whole of the proceeds will not suffice to meet the demands which will be made on the general revenues. This itself is, to my mind, sufficient answer to the argument that we are using a local tax for general purposes. If it is true, as we are told, that provincial taxation bears more heavily, as a whole, on the rural areas than on the urban areas, then we have here one method of restoring the balance, and we get it by taking a minute proportion of the unearned increment to which the public has every right.

It is very difficult to make any comparison with systems in other countries, because everything depends on the general system of taxation

[Mr. G. Wiles]

and the position of stamp revenue in that general system. In America, for instance, there is a property tax—there is no stamp duty at all. In France, on the other hand, there is a tax very similar to this, on transfers of property which is not 2 per cent., or 3 per cent., or whatever it may work out here to be in individual instances, but it rises to 12½ per cent. on every transfer of landed property. Compared with this, and considering the very important part played by the stamp duty in our general system of taxation our proposals are very moderate and I trust that the House will accept the general principle of the bill.

Mr. S. S. DEV : Sir, I move for a closure.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : It is in the hands of the House. If nobody gets up to address the House, I will call upon the Honourable the Finance Member to reply. I want to make the position clear. In the matter of taxation bills, closure can only be applied with the greatest care, unless it is found that either side of the House is taking up the time of the House simply to prolong the debate. Closure will not be applied unless I am satisfied that a fair and full discussion has taken place.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN :
(Rose.)

Mr. J. BAPTISTA : Sir, I rise to a point of order. I saw the Honourable the Home Member signalling to the Honourable Minister for Local Self-government to speak. Is it not prolonging the debate unnecessarily ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I cannot assume that to be so, because so far, except the Honourable the Finance Member who has moved the first reading, there is only one Government member who has addressed the House. I must be perfectly fair between the two benches and if I am satisfied that such is the intention either on the right or the left I will immediately accept the closure.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN :
Sir, I am tempted to speak after hearing the honourable member the leader of the opposition. I expected something very constructive from him, but I am very much disappointed. (Mr. K. F. Nariman : There are many disappointments waiting for you.) We should not go into extraneous considerations in deciding the fate of this bill. Some of the arguments that have been raised are that, because Government have a large balance of over 3 crores of rupees, no additional tax should be levied. The honourable member the Finance Secretary has pointed out that out of the balance of over 3 crores a crore and a half are famine insurance and according to the Meston Award we are to keep a balance of 2 crores of rupees to meet emergencies. The main source of revenue in this presidency is land revenue, which depends on the vagaries of the Indus in Sind and the caprice of the rain here. Bad seasons have therefore to be provided against. Another honourable member made a point about the contribution of 56 lakhs that we make to the Government of India. But if honourable

[Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain]

members have followed the debates in the Legislative Assembly, they will find that the representatives of Bombay pressed that point but did not succeed, and even this Government has not been able to succeed in the matter. Then, Sir, a point was raised that the Meston Award needs to be readjusted. Honourable members are aware that this Government have been doing its best for the last four years to get that done but they have not yet succeeded.

Now, I come to the argument against the bill advanced by the honourable member the leader of the opposition. Sir, the argument that he trotted out is that these two bills were brought in this House for the purpose of setting the rural areas against the urban areas. I submit, Sir, that this is far from the intention of Government and the leader of the opposition ought to have credited Government with common-sense. (Mr. B. G. Pahalajani: More than common-sense.) Had they that object in view, they could have brought one bill to set the rural against the urban areas and not two bills at the same time taxing both the rural and the urban areas. I submit, Sir, that the charge is groundless. If Government had the least intention of doing so, they would not have brought the two bills simultaneously.

The leader of the opposition tried to make another point in suggesting that Government should not have taken the odium of introducing this tax but should have left the matter to the local bodies. One of the reasons why Government did not agree to the municipal corporation of Bombay levying this tax has been explained by the honourable member the Finance Secretary. The leader of the opposition says that Government should have acceded to the request of the corporation and allowed them to levy this tax. Will the municipalities give up the grants which they are receiving for primary education, for free and compulsory education, for medical relief, for water supply and drainage system? If they do so, then Government will consider whether they should be allowed to levy this tax.

Again, Sir, the criticism that was levelled by the leader of the opposition against this bill was a mere criticism of details. When he said that the rate was very high, he was only complaining about a detail. In this connection, I may say the bill is going to be referred to a select committee, and the question of the rates will be considered there. Nothing has been said against the nature of this tax. Nothing has been said about the incidence of this piece of taxation. It will fall on the rich landlords of the city of Bombay and Government have shown the necessity for further taxation. All along I have heard only one constructive suggestion from the other side, and that is to reduce our establishments and that we could do it at least to the extent of 6 lakhs. If we reduce our establishments to the tune of 41 lakhs, establishments which have already been reduced, which have been cut to the very bone, I am afraid that there will be no . . .

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: It has not been twice reduced. It has been reduced once though not effectively and restored.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : I say if we reduce our establishments to the tune of 41 lakhs of rupees what will be the result ? There will be absolutely no efficiency at all. (Mr. K. F. Nariman : Is there efficiency now ?) Suppose we reduce the police. Honourable members of this city will come to us and complain about the Pathan scare. Then, Sir, yesterday we heard complaints against Government for introducing the photo copying system in the interest of economy. We were told that by the introduction of that system so many people would be out of employment and that there would be discontent. Suppose we carry this retrenchment to the extent of 41 lakhs, how many thousands of higher and lower subordinates will be out of employment and what will be the discontent ?

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : We want retrenchment from the top and not the bottom.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : I think honourable members who yesterday joined in a chorus against the adoption of the photo system on the ground that it could cause unemployment and create discontent at least ought to have the decency not to support retrenchment to the extent of 41 lakhs of rupees which will turn away thousands of the employees of Government without any fault of theirs. Another danger is that there are so many people who have been in the permanent employ of Government for so many years. What will be their fate ? I am sure the country will have to pay them their damages. I am aware I am doing an unpleasant duty, but what I am saying is the plain truth.

Now, Sir, the honourable member from Bombay city (North) said that when His Excellency went on tour the municipalities approached him for grants. But let me tell the honourable member from Bombay that His Excellency told them what was right. Either increase the provincial revenue or levy local rates. Municipalities cannot have it both ways. Local bodies cannot run their show without Government aid, and even the present grants they are receiving are said to be insufficient and they are pressing for the revision of those grants. Crores of rupees are paid as grants-in-aid, and still they are not satisfied.

Nearly two-thirds of the expenditure of the local boards is borne by Government, and they want more. The village panchayats, municipalities and local boards are all asking for more grants.

Now, Sir, the municipal areas have enjoyed all the amenities of life after the advent of British rule. Take for instance the city of Bombay : the people enjoy the benefit of education from primary to collegiate, they have medical relief and so many other services are provided for them. The honourable member for Bombay stated that they pay 38 lakhs for stamps. But it should be remembered that Government spend over 51 lakhs for the people of Bombay. There are insistent demands from the rural areas for communication, medical relief, water supply, education. It has always been said in this House that the people in the mofussil have been bled white, and cannot afford to bear any further taxation. There is now an awakening in the mofussil and

[Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain]

the people there are asking for more facilities for education, for medical relief, and so on. It is now the duty of the residents of the cities to come to the help of the people of the mofussil. We have always been hearing in this House great solicitude expressed for the welfare of the masses. Now, here is an opportunity for the members residing in the cities to translate their solicitude into action. (One honourable member: You want to talk out, talk it out.) Now, I will take the House through certain figures regarding the expenditure on education. Mr. B. G. Pahalajani: We have got them already.) It is hardly fair, Sir, that I should be interrupted every now and then.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: You do not want to be interrupted?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: I do not want, Sir. I have shown yesterday that we spend one crore of rupees on.....

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI: I rise to a point of order, Sir. The Honourable Minister wants to take us through all the figures of Public Works, Education and other departments of Government. I think you have ruled that it is only open to him to address the House so far as it affects the Stamp Bill. I do not think he is in order in repeating all those figures he quoted yesterday and wasting the time of the House unnecessarily. He is not replying to the budget as a whole.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: On a question such as a taxation bill, it is very difficult to lay down any hard and fast limits on discussion. Any argument which bears on the question of the justification for additional taxation would be relevant. I will follow the Honourable Minister's speech carefully, now that my attention has been specifically drawn to it, and if there is anything irrelevant in the argument he advances, I will call him to order.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: I rise to a point of order. All these figures were quoted by him yesterday. Is he at liberty to re-quote those figures?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I am afraid that the restriction with regard to repetition cannot be enforced now. I will follow the general trend of his speech and I will see that it is relevant to the present discussion which is the first reading of a taxation bill.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Very large amounts have been spent in recent years on nation-building departments. If the Ministers are given larger grants and there is a deficit they will naturally ask for additional taxation. The House says 'no'. If the Ministers get small grants in proportion to the revenue, the House is not satisfied and says that the Ministers do not ask for more grants for the nation-building departments. The position of the Minister is not an enviable one. (An Honourable Member: Sorry.)

Mr. S. S. DEV: Has the Honourable Minister finished his speech? Is he speaking or standing?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Will the Honourable Minister please continue?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Is it fair, Sir, that there should be such interruptions from the opposite benches?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I call upon honourable members not to interrupt the Honourable Minister. Will the Honourable Minister please go on?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Is this fair, Sir?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I do not hear any interruption. Will the Honourable Minister please go on with his remarks?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: I am sorry to say that my honourable friends do not want to allow me to proceed. I do not know whether that is a specimen of the Home Rule they will get.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: Perfect order has been restored after you appealed to the House, Sir.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I think the Honourable Minister will be well-advised if he makes a speech on the subject of the motion before the House. Will the Honourable Minister please continue and address himself to the motion before the House?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: One of the honourable members threw out a suggestion that we might do away with two of the Executive Councillors. Suppose that extreme step is taken, what will be the saving? It will bring in only a lakh of rupees or so. That is not going to meet the deficit. Another honourable member suggested that the village panchayats might be given civil and criminal powers so that a reduction could be made in the judicial establishments. This matter is under the consideration of Government; but there is an argument against it. Even village people say that there are factions in villages, and that if they are given criminal power they would exercise it against each other. Finally, we are spending large amounts on the nation-building departments, and I think that consideration should appeal to the House. I therefore trust that the House will at least agree to refer this bill to a select committee.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Sir, I confess I felt a keen sense of disappointment when the amendment of which I had given notice was ruled out of order. I felt that the proper course for me would be to listen to the debate and then make up my mind as regards the question before the House after taking all things into consideration. But I now feel that I shall be failing in my duty, both to this House and to my constituency, and also to the larger interests of the country, if I do not state the attitude which I have, after much serious consideration and good deal of thought, decided to take with regard to this bill.

[Mr. R. G. Pradhan]

Personally, when both these bills were placed before the House, I was very much inclined to agree to the present bill which is under the consideration of the House, provided I was given the assurance in a statutory form that the amount that would be realised by means of the bill was earmarked definitely for the specific purposes for which this additional money was being demanded by the Government, and provided also that a definite, conscientious, honest, straightforward assurance was given to me and to the House that the amount earmarked under the provisions of the bill would be in addition to the sum that was at present spent on education, health and sanitation. Holding as I do this view, I really felt great and bitter disappointment that the Legislative Council Rules, as interpreted in the past, precluded such an amendment. My position is this, and I want to make it as clear as possible. I am an educational enthusiast—fanatic, if this House is pleased to call me so—and having regard to the importance of the educational question and the vast issues which are involved in the rapid promotion of compulsory primary education, my view is that no amount of self-sacrifice and no amount of additional taxation would be too great for compulsory education. I remember, Sir, when I presented my evidence before the Compulsory Primary Education Committee, I said that the rapid promotion of compulsory primary education was a war against illiteracy and darkness, and said also that just as, for the purpose of carrying on a war of national independence or carrying on a war in the interests of constitutional liberties, no sacrifice would be too great, so also no taxation would be too great in the cause of compulsory primary education, and that any taxation that would have to be imposed in the interest of compulsory primary education would and should be cheerfully borne by the people. That has all along been my view. And the honourable House will remember that in my speech on the budget, I specifically suggested to the Honourable Minister that if he decided to levy a special educational cess, the House would give him every support in that respect. But in view of the fact, that a statutory provision for the earmarking of the additional revenue cannot be made and the amount to be realised under the bill cannot be earmarked, I find myself on the horns of a dilemma, as I cannot be sure that this additional amount that will be realised under the provisions of the bill will really be spent on the objects for which it is demanded. Government will pardon me if I and other members like myself feel somewhat inclined to entertain doubts about their intentions. We have had during the last many years bitter experience of that kind, and, therefore mere assurances, unless embodied in a statute, made by honourable members on behalf of Government cannot carry conviction with us. Our experience in that direction has been very bitter; such assurances have proved illusory. Therefore, unless and until such a statutory provision is made that the additional amount that will be realised under the provisions of the bill shall be spent on education, sanitation and medical relief, I feel that I can support the bill only with great reluctance. I fully realise the importance of education. The other arguments that have been advanced by Government in support of the bill do not appeal

[Mr. R. G. Pradhan]

to me. I do not attach much importance to the deficit of 41 lakhs. I do not want to go into those various reasons, and tire the patience of the House with repetition. None of those arguments appeals to me except this, that the money is required for education, for sanitation, and for medical relief, and that, money for these purposes cannot, in the present condition of our finances, be realised in other ways. It is this argument, and this alone that appeals to me. I want to make a distinction between this bill and the bill that is to follow. I will give my support to this bill, provided Government are prepared to get over the statutory difficulty which has rendered you, Sir, to rule my amendment out of order, and I have satisfactory assurance, that the amount that will be realised under this bill will be earmarked for the purposes for which it is required.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Mr. President, I entirely sympathise with the remarks of the last speaker indicating his great anxiety that this additional revenue shall be devoted in large part to education and the other departments which are often called the nation-building departments. It is, of course, contrary to financial rules that any particular revenue should be earmarked for any particular purpose. It is the general rule that all revenues should go into the one common fund, out of which should be paid the expenses of the executive government. But I think that in this particular instance my honourable friend will recognise that whatever the rule, the practice will be that these monies will go of necessity, whether we like it or not, to those very departments which he is so anxious should be benefitted by these taxation bills now before this House. If any members have any doubt that that will be the result, let me counsel them to take time to go through this budget once more. If they are in any doubt that this money is really required for these particular departments let them scrutinise the budget once more ; let them see for themselves ; let them remember the figures which I gave them yesterday ; and let them come to the conclusion whether I was right or whether I was wrong in saying that this money is most urgently required for the particular departments in the charge of their Ministers. I submit, Sir, that a very grave responsibility rests on all honourable members of this House, very grave responsibility to see that our efforts to make progress in this presidency are not thwarted by a chance vote on the first reading of a taxation bill. Mr. President, I most earnestly beseech them to look at this bill very carefully, to look at the budget very carefully, and to make up their own minds whether they would be exercising the due responsibility of statesmen, if on the first reading they were to reject these bills. Let them take time ; let them have the days, which will intervene, for the scrutiny of the budget ; let them see what the actual figures are in the budget, what the items are upon which the expenditure is recommended ; and let them do that while this bill is under the consideration of the select committee. And then, I feel confident, Sir, that they will all vote this money for the good of the people. If the Swaraj party will not, they will

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

not and nothing will help them. But I appeal to the ministerial parties, who have really the good of the people of this presidency at their heart, I appeal to them to pass the first reading of this bill, so that we may have the opportunity of providing those funds which are so urgently necessary for the good of the people of this presidency.

I referred in my remarks yesterday to the fact that we cannot reduce the provision for law and order. What does the House wish me to do? Do they wish me to cut down the provision for suburban police? Are we to cut down the provision for police for the city of Bombay? I could do it very easily if they refuse this taxation and want me to do it. Rs. 32 lakhs of money is spent on the city police and we are proposing to increase the suburban police in order to provide necessary protection for the suburbs. But, Sir, I submit that there isn't any possibility of reduction under law and order if I as the responsible Member in charge of these departments do my duty. I do not, Sir, as such propose to make any reduction in these charges. I merely mention the question by way of reply to honourable members who get up and say that we can easily find this money if we reduce the provision for police. Sir, the money cannot be so found. We are on the bed-rock as regards these departments of law and order. If we want to progress, as we all do want to progress, in those other departments of education, of public works, in roads, water-supply, medical relief and sanitation, then, Sir, I submit it is imperative to have this extra taxation. Sir, taxation is a subject which appeals to no one. But, Sir, we who are sitting here have to prove to the world that we are capable of administering the finances of this great province. We have to prove that we are responsible members responsible to our constituents in the districts, in the mofussil, responsible to see that the necessary taxation is provided in order to meet their just claims and requirements. Sir, I submit that to throw out these two most urgent money bills which have been brought before you after very mature consideration by the Ministers in consultation with the Executive Members of Government would be to show that we are not fit for the responsibilities which have been laid upon our shoulders. Sir, I submit that it is our duty at the very least to pass the first reading of both these bills so that we may be in a position after a complete scrutiny of our budget to provide the money which is so necessary for this presidency.

I am surprised, Sir, at the attitude taken up by my honourable friend opposite (Mr. M. R. Jayakar). My honourable friend says that we are trying to divide and rule. Has he omitted to notice that there are these two bills before the House which say: "Divide the burden equally over the whole?" Is he so nervous that the city of Bombay should be made to pay its share? Is it because he is anxious that this city shall escape its share, that he talks about the increase in taxation being 250 per cent. and 300 per cent.? Sir, it is ridiculous. When you have got a very low taxation upon a particular matter, if you have only one anna and you raise it by three annas, then you have truly a rise of 300 per cent. and you may cry out: "It is scandalous to charge three annas more, it is a 300 per cent. increase; we people

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

in Bombay cannot afford to pay three annas more because it is an increase of 300 per cent. ; how possibly can we find the money ?" But, Sir, I submit that is an entirely erroneous way of dealing with the incidence of this taxation. The proper way is that which has been put forward by my honourable friend the Finance Member, namely, to gauge the rise as a moderate rise of 2 per cent. on the value of property. It is the value of property which you have to look to, to judge of the incidence of this taxation. I submit, Sir, that the proposed increase is only a reasonable increase to meet the great wants of the presidency and to meet the great requirements of this city of Bombay. There are numerous calls from this great city upon the revenues of the presidency. I submit, Sir, that members who represent this city in this House ought to support this measure for the good of their city in order to secure us this extra money to supplement the moneys we have already lavished upon this great town. I do hope, Sir, that both members for the city and members for the mofussil will join to give this money to Government and will not think of this "divide and rule" theory which my honourable friend opposite suggests. He suggests.....

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University) : My honourable friend seems to forget that that expression was raised for the first time by the honourable member for Bombay city. I did not use that expression.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I am glad to hear from my honourable friend that he did not endorse that expression.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : I did not use that expression ; I did endorse it.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I understand that my honourable friend opposite was careful not to use that expression himself, but that he merely endorsed it. I appreciate the distinction, a distinction with which we are well acquainted in the courts of law. Well, Sir, I earnestly appeal to the members for this great city and to the members from the mofussil not to consider that we are attempting to "divide and rule" but to consider and realise that we are endeavouring to put the burden of the necessary taxation evenly over the whole presidency, including this city. This city cannot get on without the mofussil any more than the mofussil can get on without this city. I do appeal to both the honourable members for the city and the honourable members from the mofussil to pass the first reading not only of this bill but also of the other bill which is coming up, so that they may both go to select committee and there the details can be decided, and they can then decide whether the money is or is not required for the good of the people of this presidency or not.

The anxiety of my honourable friend opposite to get rid of this bill, about which he is so nervous, was so great that he even trotted out the Lee Commission proposals. He said 9 lakhs of rupees have been provided this year in connection with the Lee Commission proposals, and because these 9 lakhs have been provided, therefore these bills which are expected to bring in Rs. 42 lakhs ought not to be passed. What have these bills

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

got to do with the very small provision of 9 lakhs made, for the Lee Commission proposals? It is only a small part of the Rs. 42 lakhs and a still smaller part of the 2 crores that we really require for the future progress of the presidency. Sir, let us make this beginning, at all events, to meet our immediate requirements and we will endeavour to see that the money is spent on those departments which are so urgently in need of it. We will try to economise in every way we can to find more money for those departments, so that we may eventually, by hook or by crook, attain to these 2 crores of rupees which the departments eventually want for the progress of this presidency. Sir, I was astonished at the argument of my honourable friend about the Lee Commission. He felt aggrieved that he had no chance of moving his resolution about the Lee Commission proposals at the last session. Sir, my honourable friend granted priority to several other resolutions. Why did he not ask for priority to move his own resolution? Because, Sir, he did not really want to move that resolution; because in fact he had great doubts whether his resolution, if moved, would have any chance of succeeding. That was why he did not ask for priority, and now when the time has passed he comes forward and says that he had no chance of moving that resolution at the last session.....

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: My honourable friend seems to know a great deal more about this matter than I myself do.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I do know a great deal about this particular matter. If I know more than my honourable friend opposite, I am very sorry that he was not fully informed by his party.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA: Is not the Official Secrets Act applicable to this Council, Sir?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I am much obliged to my honourable friend for his suggestion, and I trust this particular matter will not be reported by any honourable member outside this House. I conclude with an appeal to all members on both sides of the House, particularly to the ministerial party, to pass the first reading of these bills for the good of the people of the presidency. I appeal even to the Swaraj party to combine with the ministerial party in passing the first reading of these bills for the good of the people of this presidency.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI: I rise to a point of order. Who are the ministerial party about whom we have been hearing from yesterday?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: That is not a point of order.

The Council will now adjourn till 2 p.m. on Friday the 27th February 1925.

Friday, the 27th February 1925.

The Council re-assembled at the Town Hall, Bombay, on Friday, the 27th February, 1925, at 2 p.m., the Honourable the President, Sir IBRAHIM RAHIMTOOLA, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
ABDULPURKAR, Mr. N. A.
ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
ANGADI, Mr. S. N.
BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
BHURGRI, Mr. J. M.
BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
BIJARANI, Khan Saheb SHER MAHOMED KHAN
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
BUNTER, Mr. J. P.
CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
DADACHANJI, Dr. K. F.
DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
FERNANDES, Dr. COSMAS
FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
GHOSAL, Mr. J.
GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH
GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
HUDSON, Mr. L. S.
JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
JATOI, Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
JOG, Mr. V. N.
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.
KARKI, Mr. M. D.
KAY, Mr. J. A.
KAZI INAYTULLAKHAN

KOKANI, Mr. G. J.
 KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
 LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
 LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.
 LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 LINFORD, Mr. J. W.
 MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUERO, Mr.
 MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
 MAVALANKAR, Mr. G. K.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
 MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
 NANAL, Mr. B. R.
 NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
 NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
 NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
 OWEN, Mr. A. C.
 PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
 PATEL, Mr. A. E.
 PATEL, Mr. D. N.
 PATEL, Mr. G. I.
 PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED KHAN
 PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
 PATIL, Mr. D. R.
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 PIR RASULBAKSH SHAH
 POWAR, Mr. M. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 PRATT, Mr. F. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSENALLY M.
 SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
 SAPTARSHI, Mr. C. M.
 SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH
 SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 SHIVDASANI, Mr. H. B.
 SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
 SURVE, Mr. A. N.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.
 SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI

THAKOR OF AMOD, the
THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
VELKAR, Dr. M. B.
WADIA, Mr. C. N.
WILES, Mr. G.
WOODS, Mr. E. E.

(Further discussion on Stamp Act Amendment Bill resumed.)

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Further discussion on the Stamp Act Amendment Bill.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South) : Mr. President, I must congratulate the honourable members on the opposite side in having been able to drag on the discussion up to to-day, so that a further opportunity may be given to honourable members to discuss the bill. It reminds me of a cricket match when, if the atmosphere and the circumstances are unfavourable, the players try to carry the game on to the next day by blocking, so that the atmosphere and circumstances may change. The plodding speech of the Honourable the Home Member yesterday, was like the effort of the blocking batsman gaining time, waiting for a change in the circumstances. I welcome this opportunity, otherwise many of the honourable members would have missed the chance of addressing the House on this important question. Further, Sir, I would even have forfeited my right of speaking on this bill, had not the Honourable the Home Member almost provoked not only myself but certain other members on this side to give a reply—and a fitting reply—to the most provoking speech that I have listened to in this session.

Now, Sir, to begin with, I must frankly admit that it comes with ill-grace from the honourable members on the opposite side, when they plead for mercy on behalf of the teeming millions of this presidency. It comes with ill-grace, because it is all lip-sympathy, which is not accompanied by any solid action on their part, which goes to show that they have nothing but lip-sympathy to offer for the sufferings of the people. I could have understood and appreciated their special pleading on behalf of the poor people, if at the termination of his speech the Honourable the Home Member had concluded by saying that considering the stringent financial circumstances of this presidency, considering the great sufferings from which the masses are suffering, considering that several nation-building departments are starved—there is no money for education, there is no money for medical relief—as an act of self-sacrifice, he was prepared to devote a part of his salary for the well-being of the people, and that he was going to advise his honourable colleagues sitting by his side to give a part of their salaries and a very large part of their superfluous allowances—particularly one honourable member sitting behind him who gets the fattest salary—for the relief of distress in the presidency. In that case, I would have understood his sympathy and

[Mr. K. F. Nariman.]

joined in the applause. As it is well said, hot words do not injure anybody, so kind words do not cost anything and benefit nobody. What is the use of mere lip-sympathy to the House? It looks extraordinarily strange, and I am reminded of one occasion when, near a Hindu temple, I saw a butcher coming straight from the slaughter-house and pleading for cow protection. It created the greatest sensation and caused much amusement. I do not want to carry the analogy too far, but to come here from the most expensive Secretariat, which is the slaughter-house of national finance in this presidency, and to remind us of our responsibility towards the suffering masses, and plead mercy for their benefit, has no sense and has no meaning. I could understand it if it had been accompanied by some act of grace. I appeal to them once again, in the name of the suffering humanity of this presidency, to consider our proposals for retrenchment. We cannot believe when they say that there is no scope for retrenchment. As I said we are not supposed to be capable of pointing out avenues of retrenchment;—we can only discuss and debate,—but I can point out several instances here wherein there is not only extravagance but waste. I would point out to the House one instance. I know that the members on the opposite bench are great experts in giving plausible explanations about various items, and I should like to have some explanation about the item which I am going to point out, and I should like to see what the explanation is. In this book there is an item of Rs. 26 lakhs and odd for the building of the gateway of India. I would draw the attention of this House to that item, the expenditure on which is met entirely from the revenues of this presidency. On page 10 of the Public Works Department budget, there is put down an expenditure of Rs. 26,50,605 for the Gateway of India at Apollo Bunder. Now, I ask with all the earnestness that I can command, is this the occasion to waste public funds over such a structure as the Gateway of India? I would ask the Honourable the Home Member how many patients that are dying in the streets of this city for want of hospital accommodation are going to be accommodated in this structure, or how many children, rambling in the streets of the city without schools, are going to be put there? This structure, it is stated, is intended to commemorate the arrival and the visit of His Majesty the King Emperor to this land. Could they not have built a hospital, could they not have put up some schools, to commemorate that visit? If it is intended to hold official *tamashas*, could they not do it in a *pandal* or a *shamiana* as they have been doing for the last 150 years? Twenty-six lakhs is gone. Does he maintain that that was for the nation-building departments? The Gateway of India—the entrance leading to the largest prison-house in the world, leading to the land where 30 million slaves are misruled, and are struggling for liberty. I do not know of what use this structure is to the country, except as an achievement of the British Government and to perpetuate the humiliation and disgrace of the people. That may be the entrance to the country, but where is the way out of the country? We are prepared to spend 30 lakhs or even more for a Gateway for these gentlemen out of the country. Unfortunately, once they have found their way in, they do not seem to be in a hurry in

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

finding a way out. Some of these visitors stay here too long to the detriment of the finances of this country. Sir, I do not want to indulge in any joke or humour, but this is a matter which I wish to urge on this side of the House. After indulging in such extravagant expenditure, I wonder how they have the courage to come forward and say to us "Be responsible men; we ask you to give money for nation-building departments; we have got enough money to waste after these useless structures."

I would now like to point out another instance where Government have wasted away Rs. 13 lakhs. If they had not done that, there would have been no necessity for them to ask us to sanction these money bills. The people must pay for the extravagance and folly of the rulers. Why should it be so? On the same page, there is an item of Rs. 13 lakhs as a contribution for the cost of constructing the Kasheli bridge. The honourable member (Mr. Hooseinbhoy Lalljee) has partially explained the circumstances, but I would explain them in greater detail, as on this occasion I have greater liberty, and I am not restricted by the time limit. I would therefore ask for the indulgence of the House when I explain the irresponsible manner in which the finances of this presidency are being conducted. This amount of Rs. 13 lakhs we have to pay to the Bombay municipality, as I have already said, as part of the expenditure on the Kasheli bridge. The original estimate of the work was about Rs. 10 lakhs, but on account of the bungling of a European Engineer of the Bombay municipality, the estimate has now gone up to Rs. 65 lakhs. On the original estimate Government agreed to contribute Rs. 4 lakhs to Rs. 5 lakhs. But when the estimate exceeded Rs. 60 lakhs, the question came whether the Government also should not be made to contribute a larger share of the expenditure, about Rs. 12 to 13 lakhs. The Municipal Commissioner was questioned about it, and in the course of the debate, to the surprise of all the members, he informed them that he had telephoned, and on the phone he was informed by a responsible Member of Government that the Government had agreed to contribute more, although they had originally agreed to contribute Rs. 5 lakhs. It was not the Minister in charge of the Transferred Departments, although this was a subject belonging to the Transferred Departments, and a member not in charge of any of the Transferred Departments, and a responsible Member of the Executive Government, agreed to pay on behalf of the Honourable Minister and the Government excess charges of Rs. 6 to 7 lakhs more than the original figure, all for the bungling of a European Engineer. Could irresponsibility go any further? I do not know whether the Honourable Minister was absent, or whether he was consulted before the offer was made, but from the manner in which this question was tackled by the Minister in charge of this department, it was clear that he knew nothing about it till the matter was struck in this House, and probably he knows by this time everything about it. That is not my business. I am simply pointing out that 26 lakhs for the Gateway and 13 lakhs for the bungling of a European officer have been wasted. I find another item in the Public Works Department for the arsenal at Karachi. This item is found on page 10 under the Civil

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

Works budget. Probably that is an item for military expenditure. I do not understand why 10 lakhs should be devoted in the Civil Works budget for the erection of an arsenal at Karachi? Really speaking that item should be transferred to the military budget of the Central Government. These are the questions for the House to consider before it is asked to give its support to the money bill. The Honourable the Home Member was so excited, which is rather unusual with him, that it caused me some apprehension about the personal safety of the honourable leader of the Swaraj party. Where was the necessity for all this excitement? The Honourable the Home Member protests that we have been stating that the policy of Government is divide and rule. I do not know whether the honourable leader of the Swaraj party gave an explanation, but I maintain that it is the policy of the Government as disclosed in this money bill. What is the meaning of the Honourable the Home Member appealing to the ministerial party on this side of the House? I want to know which is the ministerial party. Is there any party set up by the Honourable the Home Member to fight the Swaraj party? If that is so, is it not the policy of divide and rule that the Government have been pursuing? There might have been disagreements on certain points. But on a question affecting the common good of the country, there is no party as either the Mahomedan party, ministerial party or non-Brahmin party, there is only one party, that is the people's party opposing the Government for the common good. I am very glad that my honourable friend, the leader of the non-Brahmin party, which perhaps the Honourable the Home Member described as the ministerial party, gave a fitting reply. There may be difference of opinion among members on this side of the House as regards questions of policy. For instance, the non-Brahmin party voted against the resolution regarding the return of Mr. Horniman. We do not find fault with them. But when it is a question of bleeding the country more white there are only two parties—the people's party and the Government party. If they think that there is a third party who will stand by the Government then they will be sorely disappointed. I appeal to honourable members of all parties to remember that so long as the present Government do not effect retrenchment and so long as the present Government are extravagant, it will be a crime against your constitution and country to vote for a single pie of additional taxation, until they reform themselves and respond to our wishes.

After this general remark I wish to refer to another matter. That is the policy of divide and rule. In this matter it is not a division of classes. As pointed out by the honourable member Mr. Baptista, it is not that we are complaining against the policy of divide and rule. If it is a policy of divide and good rule, we will not have much to complain; but it is a policy of divide and misrule. That is our complaint. In this particular case there is a further policy of division. Hitherto they were pursuing the policy of dividing classes and communities. Now, they want to divide territories. In this bill they want to set the city of Bombay against the mofussil. I warn honourable members

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

from the moffussil that to-day they are set against the city members and are asked to vote for this bill and when in future taxation the question of land revenue comes in, it will be their turn and the city members will be asked to vote for it. We must stand together when we are asked to vote upon a money bill, without any reference to the party to which we belong.

Now, coming to the bill itself, there is a provision that this Act will be extended to any other municipal area to which the Government may, by notification in the *Bombay Government Gazette*, extend. Apart from the main objection that it is a money bill, I want to bring to the notice of honourable members one important point. This bill has a constitutional objection. We are all interested in the welfare of the local bodies of this province. This bill not only asks for more provision of money, but it encroaches on the rights and privileges of the municipalities. In this case it has affected the city of Bombay and in the near future it will affect all the moffussil local bodies. The point is whether it is a tax on land revenue, or whether it is a tax on stamps. They call it stamp duty in order to twist the words, and remove it from one schedule to another. It is a land tax; it is an encumbrance on the land; it is an imposition on the transfer of land. Under the schedule of the new Act it is within the purview of the municipality. The Bombay municipality first raised this point and asked the permission of the Bombay Government to levy a tax of this nature. Instead of giving permission to levy the tax, Government thought that there was a good opportunity to levy this tax and get money into their hands. There has been an interesting correspondence on this subject between the Bombay Government and the Bombay municipality. When this correspondence is proceeding, the Government steal a march over the municipality and levy this taxation.

This leads me on to another point. The Taxation Enquiry Committee is expected to arrive in Bombay in August. It is a committee that has been appointed to enquire into the taxable capacity of the people of this country, not alone with regard to this province. Is it fair now for the Government to snatch away from that committee whose legitimate province it is to enquire into the subject of this taxation? It consists of certain members who command greater respect and greater confidence of the people than the present members constituting this Government. This is an ideal matter in which there is a dispute between the local bodies and Government for the consideration of that committee. The question is whether it should be a duty on land or a duty on stamp. That is a point, Sir, on which we want a decision not from the Honourable Members of Government, because they are an interested party, but from an independent party like the Taxation Enquiry Committee. But before the committee comes here and before their enquiry begins, Government want to hurry on the bill because they think that their finances are in such a condition that unless they get this

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

additional 16 or 18 lakhs probably there would be a financial disaster in the province.

Now, Sir, coming to the original point, the Legal Remembrancer, who is considered a legal authority on all these matters, has given his opinion on the subject, an opinion which is against the present position of the Government. He says that it should be considered a tax on land values and therefore within the province of the municipality. In the year 1921, the Legal Remembrancer was approached for an opinion on the subject, when a tax of this nature was sought to be imposed in Ahmedabad, and he said :

“If it is intended to levy the tax otherwise than by a stamp duty, as for instance, by ordering the sub-registrar to levy it in cash, this can legally be done by executive order without legislation, provided that the tax is imposed by the municipality in due form and with Government sanction.”

Here, Sir, is the express opinion of the legal authority of the Government on a similar circumstance, that the municipality can levy such a tax provided it observes all the legal technicalities. The Government can take the incidental charges of collection of that tax, the establishment charges they may desire for the collection, but it is the privilege of the municipality to utilise the tax for the local area. And, Sir, I was surprised at the honourable member the Finance Secretary maintaining the position of Government by quoting the instances of Madras and Bengal, because I was going to quote those instances for supporting my case. As far as the imposition of these taxes in Bengal and Madras is concerned, the legal aspect of it cannot be made to apply to this case because those taxes were levied before the Reforms Act came into force. The point of importance in connection with those taxes is this : that they were levied in Bengal and Madras and the collections were utilised exclusively for the local areas wherefrom they were levied and not for the provincial purposes. That is the point to be noted. Looking into all the circumstances, the imposition of the tax in Madras and Bengal and their utilisation, and also the opinion of the Legal Remembrancer of Government, the fight that the municipality has been putting up on this question is a fair and just one. Government is trying to steal a march over the municipality by putting a tax which the municipality is exerting itself to collect in another form, and Government is doing this at a time when the Taxation Enquiry Committee is expected here shortly. I am sure that the House will not countenance a measure of this nature and help the Government in what I consider to be a sort of tactics on their part to snatch a revenue from their local bodies, when that revenue is the legitimate due of the local bodies.

Now, Sir, my last appeal will be that so far as this taxation bill is concerned, whatever the appeals from the other side may be, however pathetic they may be, however earnest they may seem, if the members on the other side do not give us actual proof of their real sympathy, and not merely lip sympathy, by agreeing to retrench partly from their salaries and allowances, members on this side should turn a deaf ear to those appeals. There is no meaning in them. I was surprised to see

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

the Honourable the Home Member ridiculing the Swaraj party and attempting to ridicule the honourable the leader of the Swaraj party. I say, Sir, I was surprised, because instead of emulating the example that the Swaraj party has put forward, instead of emulating the example of the leader of the Swaraj party, who after sacrificing all that he possessed—consider what was the position of the honourable leader of the Swaraj party in the bar; he was in a position to earn much more than any honourable member on the other side—after sacrificing all that he possessed, came to the rescue of the people—instead of emulating his example, the Honourable the Leader of the House was attempting to ridicule us. Unless they agree to retrench and agree to sacrifice a part of their own salaries and allowances, their appeal will fall, so far as this side of the House is concerned, on deaf ears. I hope the House will rise to the occasion and act as one man and one body and oppose this demand as illegitimate, unjust and unfair.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North): Sir, will you allow me to rise to a point of personal explanation? Reference was made to the term "ministerial party" by the Honourable the Leader of the House yesterday and the honourable member for Bombay (south), has connected that term some how with the non-Brahmin party. Sir, I conceive it to be a very deplorable thing that the Leader of the House in an unlucky moment, probably unguardedly, used that term. I, for one, know that in this House the term "ministerial party" is an unreal and unmeaning term. Sir, it is not necessary for me to go into the constitutional history and implication of that term. Suffice it to say that that term is not in existence in any of the provincial councils. When the word was used yesterday, it did take me by surprise, and I wondered to whom that particular term was applied. But taking into account that there are only two—there may be more; I do not know that; but so far as I am aware there are only two—organised parties in this House, the Swaraj party and the non-Brahmin party, and that the term, ministerial party, is not applicable to the Swaraj party, by exclusion it must apply to the non-Brahmin party. If that is the case, let me give this explanation to this House. Sir, the country is divided into two sections, the section which holds politically advanced views and the section containing those whose political ideals are not advanced.

MOULVI RAFTUDDIN AHMAD: I rise, Sir, to a point of order. Is this a personal explanation or a theory of his own on Government?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I think the honourable member is going a little too far in offering his personal explanation. If he wishes to enlarge upon the whole aspect of that word it would take considerable time. A personal explanation would have been enough that the words used did not apply to the party which he represents. That would be quite an adequate correction and a personal explanation.

Mr. A. N. SURVE: Sir, so far as it refers to us, I can only assure the House that since we found by a providential situation that the non-Brahmin party had the deciding voice

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I do not think that is a personal explanation. You can say that you do not represent the ministerial party, that your party is independent of being classified as the ministerial party, if that is your object. You can simply say that and resume your seat.

Mr. A. N. SURVE : Sir, we do not represent any ministerial party in that sense.

Mr. D. R. PATIL (East Khandesh District) : Mr. President, when I made my budget speech I stated that all of us were here for the welfare of the country and therefore our deliberations ought to be based upon mutual good will, toleration, responsive co-operation and compromising tendency. Many of the non-official members have made their speeches about this taxation bill. I think they were very moderate in their considerations. They have placed their views before the official members. Now, I say this is the time for official members to adopt a compromising tendency. If they do not adopt that, I think they would not be acting properly.

Now, Sir, before Government propose any taxation Government have to fulfil certain conditions and according to me they are four in number. First, Government must effect strict economy in the various departments, whether transferred or reserved. The second condition is that more than the necessary money should not be spent over buildings; the third condition is that there must be urgency of taxation; and the fourth condition is that people must have the capacity to bear the burden of taxation. Now, Sir, when we come to the question of strict economy in the various departments, both the books, Blue as well as White, did not satisfy me that the strictest possible economy is being observed by Government. Now, as regards, the second point, we know very well, Sir, that huge amounts are spent on buildings. The buildings are not merely buildings but they are of a palatial type. We can say that very properly, if we look at the various buildings constructed by Government. Therefore, I have no hesitation in saying that more money than is necessary is spent by Government on buildings. Now, Sir, let us come to the urgency of taxation. It is true that unless Government have got sufficient money they cannot spend money for hospitals, medical relief, education and so on. I can understand that. But is there no solution with the Government? There is a solution, and what is that? They have got a balance of nearly 2,11 lakhs, leaving aside the amount of the famine insurance fund which amounts to about Rs. 48 lakhs. Now, Sir, if the non-official members say "For God's sake don't tax us further, as we are overburdened with taxation", I think they are perfectly right in saying so. I ask the Honourable the Finance member, why don't you draw upon that amount—I mean the large balances—which is in your hands? I think if the Government is pleased to do that, the whole thing will be solved in a proper way.

Now, Sir, there is, again, that mischievous Weston Settlement policy. Of course, Government have admitted—official members have admitted—that they are doing their level best to get the Government of India to change that policy. We thank them for that. But we say that unless

[Mr. D. R. Patil]

the Government of Bombay compel the Government of India to give the just share of the income tax which they get from us for the use of the provincial purposes we have a right to refuse any proposal of taxation. We say that with the best of intentions, because I have already stated, Sir, that we want to act in a spirit of responsive co-operation. I say that the Honourable the Finance Member is not only a great asset to this Government, but he is a great asset to this House as well. Let us request him, Sir, earnestly that he should use his head to the best advantage towards employing the pruning knife to the expenditure in the various departments. If he does that, I think we shall be able to save a lot. When the people are willing to co-operate with Government, and fortunately I am so very glad to know that the Swaraj party is to co-operate with Government—they are not following the policy which is followed by the Swaraj party at Nagpur—as long as they are willing to co-operate with Government, let us see whether they are correct or not, and I entirely agree with the Swaraj party that there is no ground whatsoever at present for the Government to propose any sort of taxation.

Now, Sir, I would say a few words about the expression “ministerial party.” The Honourable the Leader of the House did not, I think, mean any bad thing when he used that expression. What he said was this to my mind: members of the non-Brahmin party have got the Education Minister who is a non-Brahmin, they want money for education; well if they supply him, *i.e.*, the Education Minister with money, that will be used for purposes of education and such objects. I do not put any other interpretation on that except this.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Sir, the Honourable the Finance Member has moved a money bill and the honourable members from both the sides of the House have placed their reasons for the levy of this taxation and the opinions of those who are against that. But I think the tone of the House is summed up in the words of the honourable member for Nasik (Mr. Pradhan) that if it is absolutely necessary for the advancement of the province and for the advancement of the nation-building departments, this presidency is ready to allow additional taxation (Some Honourable Members: Certainly not; no, no). But he felt some doubt as to the utilisation of the money that was received from the levy of the entertainments tax, and if he is convinced that the Government have kept their promise—not only kept it in the spirit but also in the letter—and that Government have been trying their best to advance the interests of the transferred departments, then, he said that he would be prepared, for the good of the province, even to allow additional taxation. Sir, with your permission I would like to read what was said on the former occasion when the entertainments tax was sanctioned by this very House. The Honourable the Finance Member (Mr. Lawrence) then said:

“In regard to the suggestion that the money obtained from this tax should be earmarked for primary education, I can only say once more what I have said before on various occasions that to earmark a particular source for a particular subject is contrary to the financial system of this Government. We have previously stated that the amount realised from this source will be devoted for primary education. The House has its

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

Minister charged with the care of education ; and Dr. Paranjpye will see that the amount obtained from this source is not devoted to any other purpose, I think it would be wise for the House to leave the matter in the hands of the Honourable Minister for Education. It has already been stated that there is no objection to maintain a *pro forma* account so that at any time members of this House can see how much money has been obtained from this source. The House, I am sure, does not regard Government with so much suspicion as to insert a special provision in the Act which is contrary to the whole system of Government."

The Honourable the President then said :

"Do you give an undertaking that the money received from this source will be spent on primary education, although there is no statutory provision ?"

The Honourable Mr. Lawrence replied : "Yes, Sir."

The Honourable the President then said :

"I think I have already given a ruling that an undertaking given by Government through any of its members is binding on the Government in the sense that, if it is broken, the House may pass a vote of censure and oust the Minister."

The undertaking on that occasion was given that the proceeds of the entertainments tax would be utilised for the advancement of primary education and I am here prepared to show you by figures, Sir, that Government have kept their promise, more than their promise. In 1921-22 the basic expenditure on primary education was Rs. 1,01,79,000 and this bill was passed in 1922-23 in December 1922. Then, in 1922-23 the basic expenditure on primary education was.....

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : On a point of order, I would like to know what is the relevance of all this reference to any undertaking that may have been given in connection with the Entertainments Tax Bill, except that the Honourable Minister wishes to suggest that Government are willing to give such an undertaking in connection with this bill now under consideration. I should like to know what is the relevance of all this unless it is coupled with the assurance with reference to this taxation that Government is prepared to give such an undertaking on this question.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Government have been charged with breaking their promise and inducing this House to grant taxation on false promises, and I want to show that Government have never meant any such thing, and further I want also to indicate my position and the position of my predecessor, because the Honourable the Finance Member said that the Minister of Education, Dr. Paranjpye, was there as a watch-dog of the Council to see that undertakings given by Government to the Council were carried out, and I am here to see that and to discharge the very function.

Then there was a cut of about 10 per cent., and the department had to accept that. As regards the receipts from the Entertainment Tax it was only 2 lakhs 70 thousand in the year 1922.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : The Entertainments Duty Bill was brought into force on the first of February 1923 and the Honourable Minister is not correct when he says that it was passed in 1922.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I do not think that such a point of order need be raised. Honourable members may not be aware of the

[The President]

fact that no bill passed in this Council becomes law without the assent of the Governor-General and that assent must take some time. There is hardly much interval between December 1922 and February 1923.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : It came into operation in that year and 2 lakhs and 70 thousand were collected. So the proceeds in that year were only 2 lakhs 70 thousand, and the total of columns 2 and 3 comes to 194 lakhs and odd, and expenditure on primary education that year was 199 lakhs, that is 5 lakhs 23 thousand more. In the following year, 1923-24 the receipts from the Entertainment Tax were 9 lakhs 40 thousand and total of the columns 1 to 3 was 1,05,70,000, but Government spent 1 crore 15 lakhs on primary education alone, that is 9 lakhs 49 thousand more than the proceeds of the entertainment tax.

So Government not only kept their promise of utilising the proceeds of the entertainment tax on primary education but they spent an additional amount equal to that of the tax, from their other revenues. In 1924-25 the same thing is carried on. The proceeds of the entertainment tax are not doubling or trebling every year. It is almost a fixed amount. Sir, you will see that Government have never gone back on their promise but that they have been loyally carrying out what was promised in this House and spending the proceeds of the entertainment tax for the advancement of primary education. Primary education and medical relief and public health and public works are such subjects, Sir, that they demand larger and larger expenditure and Government have to provide larger and larger amounts if these really nation—building departments are to expand. There has been a good deal of awakening among the people which is a matter for congratulation and they are demanding more schools, more dispensaries and they are demanding more amenities of life. This House, Sir, has passed a resolution that the tolls on all provincial roads should be abolished and a resolution is tabled that tolls on local fund roads should also be abolished and the local boards should be compensated for the loss of their revenue. Well if the levy of tolls is to be abolished then more money will be required, and I think Government will be justified in asking more taxes to produce more revenue. In the matter of education, Sir, Government have accepted and this House has accepted a statutory liability of helping the district local boards for advancing primary education. Government is bound to provide two-thirds of the additional revenue and in municipal areas revenue to the extent of 50 per cent. of the additional expenditure. The municipality of the city of Bombay, Sir, has recently passed and submitted a scheme for the introduction of primary education in F and G wards and the department of education has sanctioned that scheme. It will soon be put into operation and Government will be called upon to pay their half share.

Then at the same time it has been brought to the notice of the public and the public have recognised and cries have been heard even in this hall that the hospital accommodation of the Bombay city is not adequate, and the honourable member from Bombay city who just spoke said that diseased people were dying in the streets for want of

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

accommodation in the hospitals. Sir, a committee has been appointed to advise Government how to provide this additional hospital accommodation and Government will require a large sum of money to spend on that account. The provision is in the interests of the poor people no doubt.

These and other expenses are to be incurred in addition to the expenditure of the last year, and it is reasonable to expect that these additional sums should come from economy or should come from additional revenue.

Some of the honourable members opposite suggested economy. But I beg to suggest that these suggestions if translated into action may perhaps effect a little saving but will not yield a large amount.

One honourable member suggested that half the posts of officers should be abolished. I do not think that this is a practical thing. You cannot reduce the number of Collectors by half and in that way reduce the number of districts by half. You cannot reduce the police force by half. You cannot reduce the number of judges by half. You cannot do anything of the sort. It is very easy to say that we should reduce our expenditure, that we should reduce our establishments, but I do not think that it is practical politics. I am not saying that there is no possibility of economy (Hear, hear). But I do assert that economies practised will not amount to much and they will not suffice even for the expenses of one-tenth of our present day engagements. To raise taxation is therefore absolutely necessary if the departments are to go on with efficiency and to have a normal expansion.

I may bring to the notice of this House the new demands that are made in the Blue Book and that if taxation is not granted many of those new demands for education and medical relief will have to be relinquished for want of funds. [Interruption.]

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Order, order.

An Honourable MEMBER : But all the items have been provided for in the Blue Book.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : There is a deficit, and if the deficit is to a material extent, then these provisions in the budget even if sanctioned will not be of much avail. [Interruption.]

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Order, order. Honourable members are simply prolonging the debate by these interruptions.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Government has been charged here that they are carrying on a policy of divide and rule, or as the honourable *Kaka* said, divide and misrule.

An Honourable MEMBER : His name is Baptista.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I beg the honourable member's pardon ; Mr. Baptista is popularly known as *Kaka*. If Government misrules, I do not think this House will tolerate that, and inasmuch as this House has been very gracious and kindly listening to all that has been said, it goes without saying that this wing of the administrative Government is not going to misrule. I do not think the charge of divide

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

and rule can be brought age off ^{the} measure. The tax is to be levied from the city of Bombay ^{in the} first place. As I told you the demands from the city of Bombay are very heavy, in the first place. We have to make provision for compulsory education for the city of Bombay, and it will require lakhs and lakhs of rupees to satisfy that demand. The ultimate grant to the city of Bombay will amount to Rs. 25 lakhs every year. Then, in the matter of medical relief, too, Government has to provide a large amount. Government is spending about Rs. 5 lakhs every year, over and above the grant received from the municipality, and as days go on, and more hospital accommodation is required, I think Rs. 3 to 4 lakhs more will have to be spent on medical relief in the city of Bombay alone. Then you will see that in the mill area there is a very great need for maternity hospitals. A generous and benevolent millowner has come forward, as I told you the other day, with an offer of Rs. 16 lakhs.....

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN : Sir, I rise to a point of order. The Honourable Minister is addressing us across the table by the use of the word 'you' and not addressing the Chair ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I have occasionally drawn the attention of honourable members to it, but I take it that it is unconsciously done. There is no intention of not addressing the Chair.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I am very much obliged to my honourable friend from Nasik for calling my attention to the slip. Sir, a very generous Parsi gentleman has come forward with the promise of Rs. 16 lakhs to build a maternity hospital in the Parel locality and to endow 120 beds, 60 of which will be reserved for the labouring classes in the mills. But the acceptance of this offer will require Rs. 3 to 4 lakhs and that will be an additional sum to be spent on the city of Bombay. With all these heavy demands from the city of Bombay, if the Government proposes to levy a tax from that city and from other big cities, I do not think the House will consider it as an unjust policy, or a policy for the purpose of dividing and ruling.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : I rise to a point of order. Is the Honourable Minister right in referring to the policy of divide and rule again and again ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : There is no time limit in this discussion. I have myself felt that this discussion cannot go on interminably. We have got two days fixed by Government for three bills. The first bill, I recognise, is an important taxation bill, and therefore I said, and I hope the Council agreed with me, that any premature application of the closure was undesirable, and I did not accept it when it was moved. But to-day, we have had two very long speeches, on both sides of the House, and if honourable members will not be brief and express their views as shortly as possible, this debate will prolong unnecessarily, and I may have to accept the closure a little later on.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I am very sorry that I have taken much of the time of the House, but I.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT, in making no comments, I merely stated a fact. It is done by both members of the House.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I think I shall be able to finish within two to three minutes. Something has been said about that Meston Settlement. The Meston Settlement is not a creature of this Government and this Government is not responsible for it. The Government of Bombay have more than once raised their voice against it. This Government has always been complaining and bringing to the notice of the Government of India the injustice of the Meston award, but I do not think the rejection of this bill will in any way convince the Government of India of the injustice. If the Government of India is going to be convinced, it is by sound arguments, and not by this policy of non-co-operation. If this House, in a fit of humour, say "Unless and until the Government of India revises the Meston Settlement, we are not going to sanction any new taxation, then I think it amounts to the spirit of non-co-operation, and that is not a thing which will appeal to any one. I therefore beseech that this sort of argument should not be brought forward in this House any further, because it does not help anybody.

I, therefore, lay before this House Sir, that, for the advancement of the Transferred Departments, it is absolutely necessary that more money should be provided, and unless this deficit of Rs. 41 lakhs is materially decreased, the Transferred Departments cannot hope to get any money for expansion. Even if the House will be good enough to sanction all the demands made on behalf of the departments in my charge and the departments in charge of my honourable colleagues the Ministers, still, if there be a deficit in the treasury, it goes without saying that the paper sanctions of this House will not help the Transferred Departments much further because many of the demands will have to be relinquished.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI (Indian Merchants Chamber): Sir, I heard the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member in introducing this Bill No. II of 1925, with great interest, and from his speech I could make out that he has dispassionately placed before the House the facts that he has got demands from certain departments to the extent of so many crores and that he has got so much revenue; and now it is for this House to consider whether they wish to sanction the extra amount of money that is required, either by taxation, or by the omission of certain grants that will hereafter come before the House, or in any other way. But, Sir, when I heard the speech of the Honourable the Home Member yesterday, I could never explain to myself the dictatorial attitude he assumed in demanding the money in the way in which he did so yesterday. Money has to be demanded for the administration; there may be differences of opinion as to whether the demand is justified or not; but the way in which this demand was made was rather unusual to my mind.

After having said so much, I would like to come to the subject of the bill, and put before the House certain figures and actually show whether these Rs. 42 lakhs are required or not required. I find from the note of the Finance Secretary, on page 69 of the Blue Book, there is the head

[Mr. Lalji Narauji]

of Reduction or Avoidance of Debt, and there are two entries there, one for Rs. 5,57 and the other for Rs. 10,48, which comes to Rs. 16,05. That amount of Rs. 16,05 is merely a paper deficit in my opinion. The Bombay presidency has to pay customs duty which is credited to the avoidance of debt which was not provided for in the previous budgets. Out of the 42 lakhs, I find there is a deficit of 16 lakhs which is purely a paper deficit. Then, Sir, there is another deficit of about 9 or 10 lakhs and this deficit is due to the Lee Commission proposals. Referring to this subject, the Honourable the Home Member was very vehement yesterday because he also belongs to that class for whose benefit the Lee Commission has made those proposals. The question of the Lee Commission recommendation, though not discussed in this Council, was fully discussed in the Legislative Assembly and the Honourable the Home Member must have been fully aware of it, irrespective of the fact whether a similar resolution was discussed in this Council or not. If that class to which he belongs is honest, I take the full responsibility for the expression—then I should have thought that the usual practice followed in every financial transaction would have been adopted by Government. There is little difference between a Government budget and public company's budget. What are the rules that guide such transactions in a company? When any money is voted for the man who is one of the directors, he keeps silent and he does not vote. I ask the Honourable the Home Member whether that practice had been followed here? If he had hopes of winning the resolution, he should have brought the matter before this Council for the consideration of the Lee Commission proposals. If those honourable members who have benefitted by the Lee Commission recommendation had followed the just, equitable and legal mercantile practice, then their action would have been justified. Instead of that they have, as they have been doing, deprived this presidency of about 9 or 10 lakhs on the strength of the Government of India Act. That Act was not passed by this country but it was passed by a country to which the Honourable the Home Member belongs, which lays the first claim to domineer over the affairs of this country either by force or by other means. We are quite prepared to complain against all these robberies because we do not like the methods. We have reached the highest level of taxation, and every man in this country whether he lives in rural or urban area is taxed to the highest capacity. It is now very unwise on the part of the Government to bring any proposal for taxation at a time when there are two serious propositions before the country.

The first is the economic wealth of the country. We should first of all know the economic wealth of the country—whether people possess wealth, whether they are taxed to the fullest extent, and whether they are capable of paying more. That will remove the cause for such proposals for taxation. So far as this country is concerned there is no real conflict existing between capital and labour. The object of both capital and labour is to increase the wealth of the country. I do not think that Government would deny that the legitimate claim of the

[Mr. Lalji Naranji]

people of this country is to increase the wealth of the country. I wish now briefly to refer to the factors that go to increase the wealth of a country and to those that tend to decrease the wealth of a country. The wealth of a country can only be increased if proper value is got for the raw materials produced by the people. I shall give some instances of raw materials: jute, cotton, etc. I do not know about the produce in the other provinces; I know that in Bombay we have cotton.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: If the honourable member deals with the whole question of economics it will occupy considerably greater time. I quite realise the importance and relevancy of the subject, but I should like to point out to the honourable member that it is hardly desirable to do so at this stage.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI: I will be very brief, Sir. When the House is asked to tax the people of this presidency they should know whether the people get the true value for their produce and whether the articles manufactured from the raw materials produced in the country are getting their worth. I submit, Sir, that we get neither the one nor the other. They do not get their value because incorrect value is given to our currency. So far as the manufactured articles of this country are concerned they are not allowed to prosper, because there is a clash of different interests.

The Honourable the Minister for Education pointed out that unless the House finds money the Government will not be able to spend money on education. I shall ask him one question: If the people are not able to pay, are you going to bleed the country white? Even by bleeding, will you be able to increase the prosperity of the country? It has been stated times out of number that there is a great depression in the presidency and the leader of the Swaraj party has already pointed out this fact clearly. I would ask Government even in their own interest whether it would not be desirable to abandon their share of the 10 lakhs this year and also utilise the balance of 16 lakhs. After a discussion with the honourable member the Finance Secretary, I am satisfied that, because we depend on land revenue, it is necessary that we should have a balance of 2 crores.

Another point I will mention is about the Bombay city. It was pointed out by the honourable member, Mr. Nariman, that the demands of the city are big. May I ask the Government to produce before this House a statement showing how much Bombay city pays in the shape of taxes, both to this Government and to the Imperial Government? In support of that I would ask the House to refer to page 35 of the Blue Book where the growth of revenue is given from 1910—1921. From that the House will see that the big item of income tax, one-half of which used to be shared by this Government, is now going to the Imperial Government. That item is contributed by Bombay city mainly. We know that the Government are fighting for it, but unless they have succeeded what is the use of voting for further taxation? We know that

[Mr. Lalji Naranji]

this is an asset which Government are getting from Bombay town. If Bombay city is to be taxed further, that tax will not be paid by the people of Bombay city from their own pockets, but the tax will be shifted on to others in the shape of higher prices on articles which Bombay city deals in. So, it will not be fair on any account to sanction any more tax. Therefore, I appeal to the House with all the force that I can command that this House should oppose this tax and vote against the first reading of this bill, and should not sanction any more taxation without first ascertaining the economic wealth of this presidency and before getting the Taxation Committee's report before it.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA (Bombay City, North): Mr. President, I am sorry that Government have introduced this bill. It seems to indicate that the Government is not in touch with the people. They do not realise, or, if they realise, they do not recognise that the times are hard and the burden is heavy. But, Sir, our pilot is an able man and he expects that he will be able to double the Cape of Good Hope and persuade the House to accept it. I hope, Sir, that those silent votes will not be forthcoming, and I trust, Sir, that the answer will be in the negative when he really proposes the question. But, Sir, whatever may be the fate of this bill, one thing is quite clear, that this debate has shown a remarkable contrast between the Finance Member and the Home Member. The Finance Member was cool as a cucumber; the Home Member was furious as a firebrand like a Tilak. His words of thundering sound roused the Tilakites to ranged around. Sir, all I wish to say is that they do not realise the financial position of the city.

This tax, though it is put in the form of a stamp duty, is really a tax on land values. That cannot be disputed. It has been virtually admitted by the Finance Secretary who characterised this tax as a minute share of the unearned increment. Therefore, Sir, this comes under Schedule II—taxation on land values—and Schedule II is intended not for provincial purses, but for municipal and local boards. Therefore, this ought to go into the purses of the local bodies and not into the provincial purse. If at all, this House should authorise the local authorities to levy this tax for the purpose of local use. The view I am suggesting is really confirmed by what has happened in the past. It is well known, Sir, that the Calcutta Improvement Trust Act imposed this stamp duty for the purpose of the improvement of the city. The Madras Municipal Act imposed the stamp duty for the purpose of improving the municipal purse. And both these Acts were passed before the Scheduled Taxes Rules under the Reforms Act came into force. So, when the Government of India prepared this Scheduled Taxes Rules they had these cases before their mind, and in framing the Rules as they did they clearly contemplate that these taxes which are levied in the form of stamp duty are assessed taxes on land values and are intended solely and exclusively for local and municipal purposes. This is quite clear, Sir, and therefore my first comment on this bill is that morally it is poaching on the preserves of the municipalities and the local boards. And this is a view

[Mr. J. Baptista]

which was recognised by the Government of Bombay itself not long ago. You know, Sir, very well that the resources of the Bombay municipality were insufficient for the purpose of meeting the requirements of the Improvement Trust Act, and the corporation of Bombay suggested various sources of revenue, but instead of accepting those suggestions the Government of Bombay proposed that there should be a tax on transfer of property in the same manner as a tax on land for the purpose of the improvement of the city. The corporation of Bombay rejected that view and would not accept it because it was really asking them to pay the land tax double and treble over again. Therefore they rejected it in the hope that trade would contribute something towards it. This was the origin of the cotton cess. But subsequently driven by necessity to explore other sources of revenue, the corporation of Bombay asked the Government to impose this very tax pointing out the analogy of the provisions of the Calcutta and Madras Acts. The Government of Bombay declined to give the benefit of the tax to Bombay arguing that it would be an encroachment on their rights, and that they wished to retain full control of those sources of revenue for provincial purposes. That was the position which they took, and this bill is apparently brought forward for effecting the purpose of retaining full control of this source of revenue. Well, Sir, as I say, this is really an encroachment on the rights of the municipality. But unfortunately, this is not the first time that the Government of Bombay has encroached in that way. You know very well, Sir, that under the Municipal Act a tax is imposed for the purpose of levying a cotton cess. The cess is meant to serve municipal purposes exclusively and yet four-sevenths of that goes to the coffers of Government for the purpose of suburban development and for the purpose of housing in Bombay. Apart from the encroachment this misapplication proves that there can be no difficulty for that cess is clearly earmarking it for educational purposes or any other purpose so far as legislation is concerned. And this House has made it quite clear that if they were to be earmarked for educational purposes, though the tax is bad, though the burden is heavy, still they are prepared to make that self-sacrifice for the purpose of promoting education, because education is the foundation of all our progress in every department of human activities. That is the object.

Now, Sir, the statement shows that the tax is intended to meet the demands of the municipalities and local boards for hospitals, education, etc. So far as hospitals are concerned, this Government contributes nothing to the municipal coffers of Bombay city. On the contrary the municipality contributes 4½ lakhs to them. Therefore the Bombay municipality will get nothing from it. So far as sanitation is concerned it is just the same. So far as the hospitals are concerned we have realised and recognised that Government are in straitened circumstances: they cannot extend their J. J. Hospital and find sufficient beds to give medical instruction, and they are constrained therefore to find more money for it, and His Excellency the Governor is making a very earnest appeal for the purpose of drawing something from the philanthropists of Bombay.

[Mr. J. Baptista]

I wish him all success. But we can get nothing from them so far as the Bombay municipality is concerned. Yet the claim of the Bombay municipality is the strongest. If it were not for the expenditure incurred by the Bombay municipalit, it is quite clear that the revenue from this source would not have been more than 2 lakhs. But now the assessment on land has considerably increased on account of the municipal expenditure on light, water, drainage, sanitation and roads. On roads alone we (the municipality) have spent a crore of rupees and therefore the revenue from this tax ought legitimately to go to them. If the intention is really that these receipts should go to the municipalities and local boards as assessed, then the best way of achieving the object is to authorise the local boards and municipalities to levy this taxation and not for Government to appropriate it and then give them out as doles. If that were done, then I could understand the *bona fides* of Government's intentions, but until they do that, they will pardon us if we think that they may use it for other purposes than those which we contemplate. If they mean to give it to us why not earmark it, as there is no difficulty in law to earmark any revenue for any particular purpose. They have done it in Madras ; they have done it in Calcutta ; why should they not do it in the city of Bombay ? Therefore, I say, Sir, that on all these grounds we ought not to allow this taxation.

The next point is the question of necessity. Is there really any necessity for this ? No doubt there is an apparent deficit of 41 lakhs and the Minister for Education says that if this new revenue is not obtained, many of the provisions made in the budget will have to be abandoned. Why ; why should they be abandoned ? He has evidently not understood the budget, and does not realise that full provision has been made from the balances. Every pie of the 41 lakhs has been fully met from the balances. I wish this was more clearly expressed in the speech of the Finance Member, for it has obscured the truth and misled some. There is absolutely no doubt that the deficit has been fully met from the balances, and that the money bill is superfluous for this purpose in the budget year. In fact the Minister of Education could have got 49 lakhs more if he wanted. But he did not want any more, and 49 lakhs from the balances have been dedicated to public works, contrary to the principle which was recently accepted by the Government of not using revenues for the purpose of building buildings which benefit posterity. Now, Sir, only last year Mr. Cadell said that it was a vicious principle to use the revenue for the purpose of building these buildings and he attributed it to a member of this House who originally suggested it. I find it was the Honourable Mr. Cowasji Jehangir who suggested it before he took office and he defended it after taking office. Therefore, Sir, the practice has been not to use capital funds for the purpose of those buildings which used to be met formerly from revenues. Why was it not done now ? Why can you not continue the old loan fund ? It could be easily done, and therefore 49 lakhs more would have been available for the purposes of education and sanitation. If they have not done so, it must be presumed that they did not want more money and were

[Mr. J. Baptista]

satisfied with the provisions made. It is therefore misleading and absurd to declare that provisions for education would have to be abandoned if this bill does not become law. Now, Sir, the last point that I wish to urge is, as I have said before, that it is a great mistake to move this bill and that those who are pressing it forward are doing a great disservice to this province, because they are thereby delaying the only remedy that can be effectively applied in the matter, and that remedy is the restoration of our share in the income tax. This has been translated or interpreted into a sort of attitude of non-co-operation that we shall not tax ourselves until we get our share in the income tax. Nothing of the kind. What I meant to suggest is that our taxes are heavy; we are overburdened with taxes; and it is a great mistake for Government to bring this money bill and thereby create the false impression that our taxing capacity is not exhausted. I want the Government to understand that if you give the impression to the world at large that our taxing capacity is not reached, that our balances are overflowing, and concealing the fact that our nation-building departments are starved, then neither the other provinces nor the Government of India would look with sympathy upon us. I have not suggested skulking. I would be ashamed of it. I would feel ashamed of the attitude that we should not tax ourselves although we can easily do so, until our share of the income tax is restored to us. I would not starve education or sanitation for the purpose of escaping taxation that could be borne without breaking down. I want the Government to realise that our burden is heavy, and that we cannot afford to pay further taxes, that our taxing capacity is reached and exhausted. Do not mislead the provinces, and do not mislead the Government of India that we are able to tax ourselves, even though we do not get our share in the income tax revenue. That is my attitude. I hope, Sir, no patriotic citizen will allow himself to be misled in this matter or will allow this taxation. I am not skulking. I have tried to show and impress on Government benches that they do not realise that the present taxation is heavy, that we are overburdened with taxes, that our taxing capacity is reached. I hope, therefore, that this House will reject this bill.

An Honourable MEMBER: I move the closure.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I accept it. The Honourable the Finance Member will reply.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Mr. President, I think the corporation of Bombay has to be congratulated on having such an eloquent advocate of their interests as the honourable member who has just sat down. I do not think that his arguments are quite equal in value to the delightful manner in which he presents them. He has made certain somewhat serious errors, misunderstandings of course, when he tells us that the Government pay nothing for hospitals in Bombay.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA: Nothing to the corporation.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : Nothing to the corporation. Many years ago there was an agreement made between the Bombay Government and the Bombay corporation by which the Bombay Government took over certain payments which had formerly been made by the Bombay corporation and undertook to maintain the hospitals as they were then existing and received from the corporation a sum of $3\frac{1}{2}$ or 4 lakhs towards maintenance of those hospitals.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA : $4\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : $4\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs ; thank you. Now, Sir, these hospitals used to cost Government 4 lakhs. Now they are costing 14 lakhs, that is, the special expenditure of Government on hospitals in Bombay has increased in these years, from 4 to 14 lakhs. The whole responsibility of medical relief apart from these hospitals was at that time and is now in charge of the municipality.

Then, Sir, the honourable member makes a great point of the rules regarding taxes which are allotted to Government and to municipalities. Now in these rules the very first tax allotted to the provincial Government is a tax on land put to uses other than agricultural. That he omitted to notice or to mention. The other items allotted to provincial Government include stamp duties, so that this particular duty is allotted to the Government whether you regard it as stamp duty, as it technically is; or as a land tax on land used for purposes other than agricultural as the honourable member suggested that it may be regarded. In either case it is a due apportionment to the provincial exchequer.

I turn now, Sir, to the remarks of the honourable member for Bombay city, Mr. Lalji Naranji. He makes a great point of an entry in our budget of 16 lakhs 5 thousand for avoidance of debt. Now the honourable member has failed to note that there is a corresponding entry on the receipt side, and that of these 16 lakhs, 12 lakhs are due to the payment of customs duty. This is a new item and has been the subject of discussion with the Government of India during the last few months. Under the law recently passed, the Government of Bombay have to pay customs duty on material that they import which was formerly free of duty. This measure has been taken for the promotion of trade and industries in India. But the Government of India have agreed to restore to the Government of Bombay a corresponding amount on condition that that is allotted to the avoidance of debt. It is a *pro forma* account. The money is received on the one hand and is paid out on the other; and it is not therefore a sum on which we can draw for ordinary expenditure.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI : I have noticed that. What I wanted to point out was that it is a profit entry, and I suggested that it is better as a surplus as we had not actually parted with the money.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : I have no quarrel with the honourable member. I only thought that probably other honourable members understood him as I understood him to say that this money was available from our balances and could be utilized and made

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

available for additional expenditure. I wished to suggest to the House that that impression is wholly incorrect.

Then another speech which attacked this side of the House is the speech of the honourable member for Bombay City, South, advocating the claims of Bombay and running tilt at the Government generally. That honourable member used very extravagant language with remarkable inaccuracy. With regard to the Gateway of India on which he charged the Government with having squandered 26 lakhs of rupees, the honourable member did not mention (quite naturally, because it is no part of his case), that this work had begun in 1914, and what the present Government has done was to bring to completion a work that was handed down to us by successive Governments. Further he charges us with squandering 26 lakhs of public money on that work. It is true that the work has cost 26 lakhs, but the honourable member did not mention (it was no part of his case to do so) that of that sum more than 5 lakhs have been contributed by a private munificent donor, 2 lakhs contributed by the municipality and another sum by the Port Trust and 3 lakhs or more by the Government of India; so the balance which we had to pay was about two-thirds of 26 lakhs.

He further attacked us with reference to the Kasheli bridge and suggested that Government had been guilty of grave impropriety in undertaking an expenditure without the approval of this House. On that point, Sir, the honourable member is mis-informed. Amongst the supplementary estimates you will find a full statement of the cost regarding that bridge. So the honourable member is not, as he has claimed to be, revealing to this House secret negotiations which we were ashamed to mention to this House. The real facts are there and are open to any honourable member who studies the supplementary statements and when Government undertook to pay this sum to the Bombay municipality, they made it subject to the proviso that the sum should be approved by the Legislative Council. I suggest, Sir, that that statement completely disposes of any grievance that the honourable member has attempted to build upon the Kasheli bridge.

Now, Sir, I regret I am somewhat long in my reply but the matter is of some importance. There is still an undercurrent of belief that the Bombay Government spends money somewhat freely, and there is a reluctance to recognise that the people of Bombay get good value for the money that is spent. Sir, I have here a note which has been prepared which compares the expenditure of the Government of Bombay with the expenditure in other provinces, and I shall be very glad to place this note on the table of this House for honourable members to study at leisure, but I will just give the principal figures of this note.

If we take the average annual expenditure of the five years ending 1921-22 on education from provincial revenues, we find that Bombay spent 127 lakhs a year (and we are now a crore ahead of this figure), Madras which has twice the population of Bombay spends 121 lakhs, United Provinces 104, Bengal 99, and Punjab which has the same population as we have, spends just half that amount, 63 lakhs. If we

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

take this expenditure per million of the population, we find that in Bombay we spend 6·5 lakhs per annum, while in Madras they spend less than half, 2·9, and Bengal 2·2, United Provinces 2·2, Punjab 3·1. If we examine the question as to how much of the total grant on education is spent on primary education, we find that in Bombay we spend 58 per cent., in Madras 35 per cent., in United Provinces 28 per cent., in the Punjab 22 per cent., in Bengal 14 per cent. Throughout this very elaborate statement we find that Bombay in the matter of education, primary education in particular, is doing more for the people than any other Government in India. Turning to medical relief we find that per million of the people Bombay spends 1 lakh 70 thousand, Madras 92, Bengal 78, United Provinces 41, Punjab 88. Expenditure in Bombay is twice that of Madras, Bengal, and Punjab and more than four times the expenditure in the United Provinces. If we take the number of hospitals and dispensaries in various provinces, we have a larger number than Madras, United Provinces, or the Punjab. We have a larger number of beds available than any other province except Madras which beats us by 60 out of 9,000. If we take public health, we find that Bombay spends 77 thousands per million of population, Madras 50, Bengal 27, United Provinces 47, Punjab 46. On agriculture, too, we spend more in proportion than any other Government, by a very great deal, Rs. 1,10,000 per million as compared with Rs. 46,000 in Madras, Rs. 35,000 in Bengal, Rs. 43,000 in the United Provinces, and the Punjab comes nearest to us with Rs. 1,06,000. If you turn to communications, which are of special value to the rural areas, we find that the provincial expenditure during the last five years in Bombay was 38 lakhs, Madras 7 lakhs, Bengal 21 lakhs the United Provinces 30 lakhs and the Punjab 37 lakhs; per million of the population we spent far more than any other province, except the Punjab. In the matter of roads, the Bombay Government maintains 7,000 miles of metalled roads, while Madras have 400 and odd, Bengal 700, and the Punjab 1,200. I mention these facts to indicate that, while it is true that the Bombay Government do take more money per head of the population than any other Government, we do infinitely more in return. It is an example of what I was mentioning a day or two ago of the combined social effort of the people of Bombay, which has reached a far higher standard than is possessed in any other province in India.

Now, Sir, there has been a point mentioned by several speakers, which has aroused the anxiety of certain members in regard to the wording of this bill, and that is the power taken in the bill to extend this Act to municipal areas other than Bombay. Now, Sir, if this bill goes into select committee, we shall be only too glad to discuss that point with the select committee, and to settle what is the best way of restricting that power. We recognise that the Legislative Council has a right to be consulted before any such extension takes place. We recognise, further, that they have a right not merely to be consulted, but to give their definite approval before any extension of the Act is made to any other municipality.

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

We are quite prepared to add in the select committee a proviso to this effect, so that no city may be included and brought within the scope of this bill without the definite approval of this Legislative Council. The honourable member from Nasik further expressed his wish that there should be a statutory provision to bind Government to spend the revenue derived from this bill on education, public health and sanitation. Sir, those are the purposes mentioned in the statement of objects and reasons of the bill. He then stated that bitter experience has led him to distrust Government, but he gave no instances by which we could ascertain what he had in mind. The only case within my knowledge and experience is the Primary Education Bill, and the Honourable Minister has put before the House the figures which show conclusively that Government have not only fulfilled their undertaking in regard to that bill, but have provided far more revenue for primary education than they ever undertook to do. The excess revenue there provided is Rs. 10 lakhs in these three years; and in the budget the provision for next year is greater than the normal increase that all the other departments have had, together with the receipts from the Entertainment Tax. Take all those sums together, and you will find that what we have spent on primary education is Rs. 10 lakhs more than we undertook to do. We intend to spend the money derivable from this bill in a similar manner on education, sanitation and public health, and we are quite prepared to give any such guarantee as we gave before in this House, or to support it in any other manner of guarantee which this House may think fit. Any proposal for making that undertaking good will be very thoroughly examined and thankfully received by the Government.

Now, Sir, the issue before this House is quite clearly put. That issue is whether the House will follow the dictation of the Swaraj party and refuse to Government those funds which are by common admission urgently necessary for the advance of the presidency in every branch of the administration. The House has the assurance of the Honourable Ministers, not merely that these funds are necessary for the working of their departments, but also that they have received from Government generous assistance from the funds hitherto available. Honourable members can, by a study of the budget and of the graphs and statements that have been specially provided in this year's Blue Book, ascertain for themselves the genuine character of the vast advance that has been made in the Transferred Departments in recent years. But if they are diffident of their own capacity to understand these figures, if they suspect that these financial statements have been prepared for the bewilderment and deception of honest men, still, they have the guarantee of their Ministers in the matter. Do they propose to reject these guarantees, their assurances, in favour of those spurious and plausible arguments of the honourable member who leads the Swarajist party? Sir, the honourable member who leads that party has a very high reputation for clever advocacy at the Bombay Bar, but never, I think, has he had a worse case to argue than the present one, and never, perhaps, did he rise so greatly to the occasion and make so specious a representation so utterly

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

at variance with the real facts of the case. We, Sir, have no highly trained advocates to represent our point of view. We do not need any, for the strength of our case lies entirely in its patent justice. It is the function of a Government to hold the scales of justice even, in the matter of taxation, to see that the burdens of taxation do not press more heavily on one section of the population than on another. It is their duty to make all classes contribute to the State so far as is possible, in proportion to their capacity to bear the burden. Now, in this case, Government have come to the conclusion that in great cities, and particularly in the city of Bombay, there is a class of men who have benefited largely and grown rich by the labours of other men. This class has acquired possession of land which has increased in value manifold, not through their own efforts and exertions, but through the growth of the prosperity of the country and by the concentration, for the purposes of industry, of large masses of people in small areas of land. It is on behalf of such men, who reckon their wealth now by thousands, but in a former generation reckoned it by hundreds, who reckon their wealth now by lakhs but in a former generation reckoned it by thousands, it is on behalf of this fortunate but small class of land owners that the honourable member puts forward his plea that the levy of a 2 per cent. tax on the value of land transferred is a crushing and iniquitous burden. Sir, on behalf of his clients, he, like a well trained advocate as he is, has put forward the plea that the increase of tax to the extent of 200 per cent. is crushing and iniquitous. But what has he to say in regard to the growth of the wealth of his clients? Figures are fascinating things to play with, as the honourable member so rightly appreciates. To raise a tax from one rupee to three rupee would increase it by 200 per cent. and that is, so he tells us, an injustice and an iniquity. If the man had one lakh of rupees and made it into 10 lakhs, what percentage is that? In either case, it is a larger percentage, a thousand per cent. some people call it, 900 per cent. more correctly, than the increase on which the honourable member bases his plea. These are the honourable member's clients, on behalf of whom he employs the eloquence of his trained advocacy in this House. The honourable member is spurred to greater vehemence by his political ambition which coincides with these economic interests. A year ago the honourable member told this House that his party had entered this House for the purpose of putting an end to this system of Government. Now, Sir, in doing so the honourable member held views entirely different from those held by the majority of this House. But any plea which he can recommend to the other sections of this House as an obstacle to the policy of Government is good enough for him. With the narrow creed of the Swarajists, with the blinded vision of that party he thinks he can serve his country by every obstacle which he can oppose to the policy of Government. The fact that that policy means relief from sufferings for the poor or that policy.....

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: Is this material, Sir? What has the policy of the Swaraj party got to do with the merits of this measure?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : It has a great deal to do with it. It overclouds the question entirely.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI : Do these remarks arise from the debate ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I think the reply should be confined to the points raised in the debate. The honourable member the leader of the Swaraj party stated in the course of his speech that he and his party stand for certain principles and therefore this reply arises from that remark.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : I stated that my party stood for strict retrenchment and economy in the administration. That is an answer to the Honourable the Finance Member. The policy of the Swaraj party has nothing to do with this.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : It is most unfair not to allow every party to say what it has got to say.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : This is a very technical point as to whether in reply you should restrict yourself to the very point that has been raised in the debate. Technically it is perfectly true. If any reference has been made to the principles of that party in the course of the debate, the reply is perfectly relevant. If no reference to its principles has been made, then it will be irrelevant.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA : Sir, the Honourable the Finance Member stated that the other parties are acting under the dictates of the Swaraj party. That is a misrepresentation.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : To say that any member is acting under the dictates of another member would be to attribute motives. I did not catch those words.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : I did not state that honourable members were acting under dictation ; but on the contrary I begged of them not to follow the dictation of that party.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I do not think that it makes any difference. That is playing with words.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : I withdraw the remark, Sir, if it caused annoyance to any members.

I was saying that the policy which the Government desire to follow is the policy of giving relief to the poor and particularly the ryot. These considerations have not weighed with the honourable member who urges the rejection of this bill. He shuts his eyes and his ears, steels his heart and drugs his conscience. Those members of the ministerial party to whom the Leader of the House appealed yesterday are those who have not subscribed to the wrecking policy of the Swarajists. To them these considerations must appeal strongly.

I pointed out in my opening address yesterday some of the many works of benefit to the poor, and the ryot in particular, which are dependent on the passing of this bill. There was one scheme in particular which came too late for inclusion in the budget. But we hope at a later period, if funds are made available, to obtain the approval of the House

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

to that scheme: and that is very typical of this general category. I refer to it again in particular. This is the maternity hospital for women in the Parel area of Bombay and chiefly for women of mill-hands. Sir, when we remember the terrible mortality of infant children and of women in child birth; when we remember the terrible condition in which these women suffer in slums in Bombay, one can wonder at, but not admire, the philosophic calm with which the advocates of wealth and prosperity can dismiss such a problem. Sir, the honourable member is a philosopher of repute and no doubt is free from all belief in the legends and traditions of the country-side. But to less enlightened men there is something which touches the deepest chords of sympathy in the village legend of the *Churel* or *Dakin*: the woman who dies in child birth and whose wraith appears at night to haunt the wakeful hours of the man who caused her sufferings. Sir, the honourable member and his followers can no doubt afford to jeer at such sentiments. But I have a robust faith in the genuine good feeling of the constituents who have sent members to this House. I have little doubt that a revulsion of feeling will shortly arise, of which we see signs daily throughout India, against men who have shown by their actions that they are incapable to distinguish between right and wrong, between good and evil, and that these men will have to meet the day of reckoning in the end.

I appeal therefore to those honourable members who hold the balance between the Swaraj party on the one side and Government on the other. I appeal to those honourable members not to be misled by the specious pleadings of the leader of the Swaraj party and the able advocates of the Bombay municipal corporation but to give us the first reading of the bill and to send it for further discussion in the select committee.

Question put: House divided: Ayes 43; Noes 44. Motion rejected.

Division No. 1.

Ayes.

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
AHMAD, MOULVI RAFI UDDIN
ANGADI, Mr. S. N.
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
BUNTEE, Mr. J. P.
DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
FRANJI, Mr. K. S.
GHOSAL, Mr. J.
GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable
Khan Bahadur SHAIKH
GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir
MAURICE
HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
HUDSON, Mr. L. S.

JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.
KAY, Mr. J. A.
KAZI INAITULLAKHAN
KOKANI, Mr. G. J.
LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
LINFORD, Mr. J. W.
MANSURI, Khan Sahab A. M.
MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
OWEN, Mr. A. C.
PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
PRATT, Mr. F. G.
SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR
SAHEB.
SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
THAKOR OF AMOD, the

Ayes—*contd.*

THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.

WILES, Mr. G.
WOODS, Mr. E. E.

Tellers for the Ayes: Mr. J. W. LINFORD and Mr. J. ADDYMAN.

Noes.

ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JOG, Mr. V. N.
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
KARKI, Mr. M. D.
KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.
MAVALANKAR, Mr. G. K.
MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMPAS
NANAL, Mr. B. R.
NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.

NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
PATEL, Mr. A. E.
PATEL, Mr. D. N.
PATEL, Mr. G. I.
PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
PATIL, Mr. D. R.
POWAR, Mr. M. B.
PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOUSENALLY M.
SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
SAPTARSHI, Mr. C. M.
SARDESAI, Mr. S. A.
SHIVDASANI, Mr. H. B.
SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
SURVE, Mr. A. N.
SURVE, Mr. V. A.
SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
VELKAR, Dr. M. B.
WADIA, Mr. C. N.

Tellers for the Noes: Mr. D. R. PATIL and Mr. G. B. PRADHAN.

(*After recess.*)

BILL No. III OF 1925 (A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE COURT-FEES ACT, 1870).

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Mr. President, I rise to ask the first reading of Bill No. III of 1925, (a Bill * further to amend the Court fees Act, 1870). This bill, Sir, as stated in the statement of objects and reasons, is to enhance the court-fees in certain cases for the purpose of increasing the revenue of Government. Now, Sir, we have had so much debate in the last few days on the question both of the revenue and the expenditure of Government that I do not think it is necessary for me to labour that subject any further.

This bill is the same bill that was proposed to this House and rejected by them on the first reading on the 23rd February 1924, and I have no doubt that some members of this House will denounce this action of Government in bringing it forward again with righteous indignation and with contemptuous scorn. Nevertheless, we think it right to ask the House to reconsider their decision of a year ago in the light of their experience of this year's administration. We have every hope that members who were brought into touch with the working of Government during this year will appreciate the necessity of the provision of these revenues to enable Government to continue and expand their various activities.

Now, there is a distinction between this bill and the bill on which we had the voting half an hour ago. That bill was intended to produce revenue specially for expenditure in regard to the demands of the great

* *Vide Appendix D.*

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence.]

cities. This bill is intended to produce revenue for expenditure particularly in regard to rural areas. It is not possible to earmark particular parts of revenue and to assert that the benefits from a particular parcel of revenue will be conferred in a particular area. But we can only proceed on the general principle of stating that we hope to expand the work of the Government in regard to public health, roads and such beneficent activities throughout the rural districts. As an illustration, I may mention the number of bridges and causeways which have been constructed throughout the presidency in recent years to the very great benefit of the humble wayfarer and for the protection of his cattle from damage and loss. In the list of works that are proposed for the next year members will no doubt have noted items of interest to their particular locality or neighbourhood. I remember in particular there is one causeway of importance over the river Tapti which is to cost a good deal of money. That causeway we will certainly not be able to construct if the House does not give us the money proposed in this bill. There are similar improvements to roads; certain provincial roads are proposed in remote parts of the Khandesh district. Those will have to be foregone if we do not get this money. I will not go through the whole list, for I have mentioned them in a former speech. I merely give these particular illustrations as they occur to my mind at the moment.

Now, Sir, in regard to this particular bill, it is worth while to remember that these fees have not been enhanced since 1870, except for a period of two years when this House granted a temporary enhancement in 1922. We have reason to believe that that temporary enhancement was not felt as a hardship in any part of the country except in this manner: we had one complaint that the result of the enhancement was that the party engaged in litigation reduced the fees of their pleaders by an equivalent amount. Now, Sir, that is no doubt an unpleasant aspect of the case for the pleaders, but this Council as a whole is not concerned with the emolument of pleaders but with the benefit of the masses of the people. It may be of interest to the House, Sir, to be informed or reminded that after this House accepted that enhancement bill 3 years ago, other provinces in India followed our example, and adopted almost exactly the same rate of fees that we had adopted. Most of them, however, made it a permanent Act. So that at the present moment most of the other provinces of India are charging on their court-fees the sum that we are now asking in this present bill. The theory that finds so much favour with some honourable members in this House that Bombay is more heavily taxed than any other province does not hold good in this particular respect with regard to the taxation on litigants by means of court-fees. In Bombay our litigants pay considerably less than they do in any province in India, and they pay on a scale or schedule fixed over 50 years ago. Then, Sir, some honourable members have been distressed by the fear that this bill will press hardly on the poor cultivator. We have a minimum fixed in this bill of five hundred rupees. As a matter of fact when we produced our original bill we had a higher minimum and the select committee reduced this figure to

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

five hundred. We have now retained it in the bill as it stands at the figure that was approved by the select committee two years ago, but we are quite prepared to raise that minimum. If honourable members will send this bill to the select committee to consider, we shall be glad to fix the minimum below which there shall be no enhancement of court-fees at such sum as may be agreed so as to exempt all ordinary cases of litigation by agriculturists.

Well, Sir, I think that those arguments are sufficient to commend this bill to all those who are interested in the progress of our rural areas in regard to education, sanitation, and public health, for it is expressly for these purposes that this revenue is required. We have been accused quite recently with bringing in a bill on the principle of divide and rule. Any less appropriate charge cannot be conceived, for we introduced one bill to touch the urban dwellers and the other bill the rural dwellers. One is a corollary to the other. This bill can, however, be considered entirely on its own merits, for while the resources available for the benefits of cities have been curtailed by the refusal of the first bill, resources for the benefits of the rural areas may yet be granted by the acceptance of this bill. Sir, I commend the bill for the acceptance of this House.

Question proposed.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order, there are several amendments of which the honourable member, Mr. Bhopatkar, has given notice.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR: Sir, I do not wish to move any of them.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: Sir, I rise to a point of order. I want to know whether this is a tax which can be imposed without the previous sanction of the Governor General, because I find in the preamble of all the other bills the words that the previous sanction of the Governor General has been obtained to those bills. It is not stated in the preamble of this bill that the sanction of the Government of India has been obtained to this bill. Under the rules under the Government of India Act there are certain taxations which can be levied without the sanction of the Governor General and I should like to know whether this is one of them.

Mr. P. E. PERCIVAL: The Government of India have been addressed on the subject and they say that sanction is not necessary.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The point is whether the sanction of the Governor General is necessary. The Governor General may have come to that decision but if the Remembrancer of Legal Affairs will be good enough to point out why sanction is not necessary, it will effectively meet the point of order. I should like him to explain why it is not necessary. If the House will allow a minute's delay, the law officer of Government will explain why no sanction is necessary to this bill.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMED: May I ask a question to the Honourable the Leader of the House whether the sanction of the Government of India was obtained to the last bill.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : It was obtained.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : It does not necessarily follow that because sanction was taken last year, it is not necessary this year. What is required is that the law officer of Government should satisfy me to enable me to give my ruling and should also satisfy the House that no sanction is necessary.

Order, order. The clause that appears to me to apply to this case is clause (a) of sub-section (3) of section 80A of the Government of India Act, which reads as follows :

"Imposing or authorising the imposition of any new tax unless the tax is a tax scheduled as exempted from this provision by rules made under this Act."

If such rules have been made, and this tax has been exempted, then no sanction of the Government of India is necessary. If the honourable member Mr. Nariman does not mind, I should like to give the law officers of Government some time to look up the authorities and produce them. In the meantime, the discussion may proceed.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : I have no objection.

Mr. P. E. PERCIVAL : In the bill, as originally drafted, such a provision was made, and the bill was sent to the Government of India for sanction ; but they wrote back and said that sanction was unnecessary.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I will give him time to look up the authorities. In the meantime, the discussion on the first reading will proceed.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI (Ahmednagar District) : Sir, I rise to oppose the first reading of this bill. You are aware, Sir, of the history of this piece of legislation. In the year 1922, the present Government obtained the sanction of this House for additional taxation. Even at that time, when the House did not consist of unreasonable men with a policy of obstruction, but of sweet, reasonable men, even at that time the non-official members opposed the tax, and it was with very great difficulty that the Government succeeded in obtaining the consent of the House to impose the tax for two years, after a cut of Rs. 60 lakhs was agreed to by Government. We know, Sir, the subsequent history of this tax, because, as I have already stated in my budget speech the expenditure has again gone up to what it was before the year 1921-22. That being the position of affairs, we are again bound to oppose this taxation bill. I simply wonder at the temerity of Government in again trying to introduce this measure when, in this very House, last year, they were not successful in obtaining its consent to it. The Honourable Mr. Lawrence, who was unfortunately absent at that time and whose speech was delivered by the Honourable Mr. Cadell, had also raised certain arguments with regard to this bill at the time, and I find that those very arguments are again repeated in the present speech of the Honourable the Finance Member. Now, I wish first to refer to his argument regarding the Court-fees Bill in paragraph 19 of his speech. My honourable friend, the Finance Member complimented the leader of the Swaraj party on his able advocacy and dwelt on the weakness of his case. I may

[Mr. C. M. Saptarshi].

exchange that compliment, and I may again say that the Honourable the Finance Member, though he has not been an advocate all his life shows capacity of a very high order in that particular respect. I may also return the same compliment and say that he would never have had a weaker case than the one which he wants to present to this House with regard to his taxation proposal. What do we find him saying in paragraph 19 of his speech? He says :

“ During the year 1922-23 these fees were raised by legislation sanctioned by this House in March 1922 representing an average increase of some 25 per cent. No indications have come to the notice of this Government that the pressure of these enhanced fees was seriously felt in any quarter. It certainly did not lead to any decrease in litigation or other transactions which were taxed by means of these stamps. The people are not usually reluctant to draw attention to any financial burdens that may appear to be oppressive. But when we enquired of district officers the reports were to the effect that no complaints had been received.”

I say, Sir, that the ways of our bureaucratic Government are very curious. When a particular tax is oppressive, and when we organise an agitation or public meetings in protest of the tax, we are called political agitators, as persons who want to create an unpleasant atmosphere for the administration of our benign Government. If we do not protest, then we are supposed to give our tacit consent to these taxation proposals. The Honourable the Finance Member wants to put the poor ryot on the horns of a dilemma. They cannot keep silent, they cannot protest, because if they protest he condemns them as agitators, and if they do not protest then he presumes that they tacitly consent to the fresh taxation proposals. Now, Sir, what more effective form of protest does my honourable friend the Finance Member require than the protest made by the elected representatives of those ryots in this House? I think in all democratically constituted governments, the greatest protest that could be afforded to Government is the protest made by the people's legally constituted representatives, and I presume that the Honourable Mr. Lawrence has read the debates of last year and of the year 1922. He has not considered those protests incorporated in the statements made by those honourable members who represented the mofussil. Does he not think those protests sufficient? Does he presume that the capacity to understand the condition and the difficulties of the poor agriculturists is given to the I. C. S. only and not to the people who represent them here? I tell him that we understand the capacity and the grievances of the people far better than any other people of his cult can do.

I come now to the most inaccurate statement contained in the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member. The honourable member for West Khandesh made some inaccurate statement in his speech and the Honourable Mr. Lawrence while correcting that inaccuracy was rather very impatient. There is an inaccuracy in the statement of the Honourable the Finance Member which one would not have expected from a responsible officer of his type.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Has it any relevancy to the subject before the House ?

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI: It is absolutely relevant. I refer to paragraph 20 of his speech. He says:

"Now it is worth while to enquire when are Court-fees payable. They are paid for the most part by persons who have recourse to law courts for the institution of suits. And I believe that it will be generally agreed that these gentlemen who receive the assistance of the State for the recovery of their debts are people who do not ordinarily contribute to the support of the State either by payment of land revenue or perhaps still less by payment of excise revenue. These are some of our most worthy and esteemed citizens. They derive perhaps the largest share of benefit from the protection accorded by our police forces and our Courts of Justice. They take their full share of benefit of our roads and hospitals and other public activities but I think it is correct to state that they do not pay any large share to the support of these institutions."

There he refers to court-fees. I request the Honourable the Finance Member to consider that I claim to possess a greater knowledge of litigants than himself. I request him that he should place all the figures on the table to refute this most inaccurate and irresponsible statement he has made. I know that 90 per cent. of the litigants are paying either income tax or land revenue. They also pay municipal charges or district board charges. These gentlemen do contribute to the revenues of the presidency. I am surprised to find this argument contained in the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member.

After referring to this inaccuracy, I come now to the statement he made with regard to this bill. The honourable the Finance Member says that the money that will be derived from this taxation will be devoted for certain purposes. I need not dwell upon that, because I know that the Honourable the Finance Member has in his very eloquent and very brilliant concluding portion of his speech on the Stamp Bill shown very great solicitude and generosity for the poor people of this country. It is good to have in the Government such generous and liberal men. But I am sorry that the Honourable the Finance Member wishes to be liberal and generous at others' expense. His generosity would have been more justified, if he had dropped from the budget 9 lakhs this year and 10 lakhs next year as a result of the recommendation of the Lee Commission, and then come before this House and said: "We have paid that amount to the public exchequer: We want more money. Therefore give us." Then his generosity would have appealed to us far more. It is very easy to be liberal at the expense of others. You never submitted the Lee Commission proposals to the Legislative Council. It is true that we did not take advantage of asking for priority as has been pointed out by the Honourable the Home Member. Was it not your duty as well to take the consent of this House for the money which you propose to spend for the Lee Commission allowances? (A voice: No, no.) If they had obtained the consent of the House, which the honourable member says he had every hope to obtain, it would have been far more creditable. Instead of doing so, in years of financial stringency when every single pie is most important to the public exchequer, you take away this amount of 10 lakhs. It is not a joke to spend 10 lakhs in these days when it is very difficult to find money by means of taxation.

The Honourable the Finance Member while concluding his speech on the Stamp Bill advised people who do not belong to the Swaraj party not to act up to the advice of that party. I am quite sure that every member

[Mr. C. M. Saptarshi]

be he a non-Brahmin, or Mussalman, or Independent, or Liberal, who has come to this House has come here with the object of doing good to his constituents. Every one is doing his level best whatever be the differences with regard to voting. If that is so, it is absolutely useless to appeal to those members who do not belong to the Swaraj party not to follow the principles or the tactics of that party. Sir, the Honourable the Finance Member says that our policy is one of wrecking. Sir, I am proud to say that I am a wrecker. (Honourable Members : Hear, hear.) I want to wreck this system of diarchy. I have come here with the express purpose of wrecking diarchy (An Honourable Member : Now, we know.) You ought have known it long ago [Interruption].

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Order, order.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI : We have never concealed the fact. We are not ashamed of it. On the other hand we are proud of it. We know what a mess you have made of the finances of this presidency. With the aid of diarchy you want to pocket to yourself the money and put forward the plea that there are no funds for the Honourable Ministers for administering the transferred departments because the Council did not give money and throw the blame on the Ministers. We want to wreck this diarchy—this double form of Government. We want a Government fully responsible to this House. That is our ideal, but it is not possible for us now, because we have not got a majority. We are trying to do our level best under the circumstances being in a minority. It is on account of this that we do not act up to our policy of obstruction. There is no use therefore appealing to other members not to act up to the dictates of the Swaraj party. It is no use having cheap gibes at us or at our leader. We know what you are ; and you know what we are. Every one of us is trying to do what he can in the interests of the country as a whole. So far as the Stamp Bill was concerned we opposed it not because we wanted to wreck Government, but because we knew that the ryot could not pay the tax ; and the non-Brahmin party opposed it because they felt that their constituency was so poor that they could not pay the tax. As I have already said, we are not afraid of being called wreckers. You have bled the country white.....

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT : The honourable member should not address the opposite side as " You ". The honourable member should address the chair.

: Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI ; The Government benches, Sir, ought to know that we oppose this bill not because we want to wreck, but because we know that our constituency is so poor that they are not in a position to pay the money, and we also know that the Government at present in authority are so inefficient and have made such a mess of the financial affairs of the presidency that whatever money you may put into their pockets they will again ask for more like Oliver Twist. It is on these grounds, Sir, that I rise to oppose the present bill.

Mr. H. B. SHIVDASANI (Surat District) : Sir, I rise to oppose the first reading of this bill. The figures placed before us by Government in

[Mr. H. B. Shivdasani]

the White Book go to show completely that it is not necessary for Government to impose a tax of this kind. On page 3 of the Civil Estimates we find that the income from Judicial Stamps is Rs. 79,60,000 ; and on page 5 of the Civil Estimates we find that the income from Administration of Justice comes to Rs. 16,12,000. So in all, the income from Judicial Stamps and Administration of Justice comes to Rs. 95,72,000. Then, on page 9 of the Civil Estimates we find that the expenditure on Administration of Justice comes to Rs. 76,38,000. There is a net surplus of Rs. 19,34,000 under Justice. Now, therefore, I ask is it fair or is it proper for Government to make administration of justice dear to the people. The British people pride themselves on the law and order that they maintain and always say that they have introduced British justice in India. Now, on the one hand they want to establish the rule of law and order and justice, and on the other hand they go and try to make justice dear. Now, if you increase the court-fees you will deter people from having resort to the law courts. Is it the object of Government to deny justice to the people ? What is the meaning of imposing such a tax ? Whatever might have been said in favour of the tax that has been thrown out, there is no justification for imposing a tax of this sort. If Government want more money the right course is not to impose a tax of this kind. It is not proper to make the administration of justice dear. The Honourable the Finance Member in his speech has not tried to show that the cost of establishment for Administration of Justice is more than the receipts of Government from that source. It may be contended that under Judicial Stamps there is an income from such sources as Probate, Letters of Administration and Succession. But then we have no separate figures to show what are the receipts from these stamps. But so far as the figures given are concerned they go to show that Government is making a net profit of Rs. 19,34,000 from Administration of Justice and Judicial Stamps. It seems to me hardly right or proper to impose a tax of this sort and make the administration of justice dear. We want justice and we want it to be cheap. It is not a good move on the part of Government to suggest a tax of this sort. If their object is only to increase revenue they must have recourse to other forms of taxation which will be free from serious objections.

Mr. N. E. NAVLE (Ahmednagar District): Sir, as a member of the non-Brahmin party I rise to oppose this bill. Sir, the case of this bill is different from that of the bill which was defeated some time back. This bill directly affects the agriculturists, and as a member returned by the Deccan agriculturists I think it is my duty to stand by the side of the agriculturists and to oppose this bill. The argument that is advanced on behalf of Government is this : that this additional taxation will fall on those who will have recourse to law courts. But it has been amply shown and proved that it will not affect the men who have recourse to the law courts in the first instance, but will indirectly and ultimately affect the agriculturists who in 99 cases out of 100 are defendants in the courts. As it will fall on the agriculturists we are against it. It will be seen from the figures for Judicial administration that Government

[Mr. N. E. Navle]

are actually carrying on a profiteering business out of this administration. Where are the profits coming from? At present they are coming from the pockets of the agriculturists. And still Government want to extend their profiteering and want more money from the agriculturists. We want Government not to do this, and therefore we are against the bill and we will oppose it.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts): Mr. President, I am standing to oppose this bill. In doing so I want to put forward certain considerations for both sides of the House. I have got some figures as regards the non-judicial stamps and judicial stamps, and I find that the law of diminishing returns is being proved to the hilt. The figures I have collected relate to the years commencing from 1919-20. What I find is that the revenue from judicial and non-judicial stamps was Rs. 1,58,12,000 in 1919-20; it went up to Rs. 1,77,29,000 in 1920-21, and in 1921-22 it was Rs. 1,64,36,000. Now, out of these years, the year 1921-22 was a lean year. Now, up to the year 1921-22 neither the Court-fees Amending Act nor the Stamp Act Amending Act were in operation. Both those amending Acts came into operation from 1st April 1922. Then I have got the figures for 1922-23, and I have also taken the average for the previous three years. What I find is that the average for non-judicial stamps for the previous three years was Rs. 93,56,000, and as a matter of fact in 1921-22 it was Rs. 94,85,000; but in 1922-23, though the Stamp Act was in operation, it went down to Rs. 91,20,000. Similarly, there was a slight rise in the court-fees by about 2 lakhs in 1922-23 and a further rise of about 7 lakhs in 1923-24. But owing to the non-passing of the Court-fees Act last year Government expected that the court-fees revenue would come down and in the budget which they made for 1924-25 they put down the judicial revenue as Rs. 73,00 thousand. But what is the result? The revised estimate shows the revenue to be Rs. 80,85 thousand. That means, in spite of our throwing out the Court-fees Bill there has been an improvement of nearly Rs. 7,55 thousand. So, though we rejected the Court-fees Bill, though there was depression of trade,—it is admitted on all hands that there was depression of trade and there is depression in trade, and the non-selling of the Development Department's plots, etc., conclusively proves that there is depression in trade—yet in spite of the throwing out of this Court-fees Bill, the revenue has improved by 17 lakhs. So that shows that is the normal rise. When you increased the court-fees stamp, the result was that your expectations were never realised and there was a retrograde motion, and when you did not increase the court-fees stamp, you found there was an increase in the revenue. That conclusively proves that as soon as you cross the border of normal rise, instead of getting more revenue there is a fall in the revenue. So I wish to point out to this House that though we threw out the bill last year, there was no loss of revenue and there was, on the other hand, an improvement of 16 lakhs and more. Now, if you will please turn to the Blue Book, you will find at page 73 the heading "Administration of Justice". Now, the budget estimate as regards the court-fees realised in cash shows that it was 90 lakhs; the

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

revised estimate is Rs. 1,20 thousand. That means that as a matter of fact there was an increase. It was more than the actual receipts in the year 1923-24, which amounted to Rs. 1,15 thousand. The Court-fees Act was in existence in the year 1923-24. Yet it was not such a lean year or there was not that depression. The revenues that were realised, merely the court-fees realised in cash, showed an increase, and in spite of our throwing out the bill, the revised estimate is Rs. 1,20 thousand. So my submission to this House is that this conclusively proves that if you go on increasing the court-fees, then there is a diminishing return. Of course, a case is tried to be made out that the Court-fees Act has not been revised since the year 1780. No doubt it is not, but then the original court-fee that was levied upon the value of land was five times the assessment. Originally you fixed a certain assessment in 1865 or so; then you revised it in 1893 or so. You again want to revise it because you say that lands are going up in value. So as the assessment goes up, you are charging five times on the increased assessment for court-fee. So, as the lands increase in value you increase the assessment, and when the scale is the same, namely, five times the assessment of the land revenue it means an increase in the court-fee. And it is not merely the court-fee that the litigants have got to pay, but there is an increase in the process fees which is nearly fourfold. There is such a thing as poundage fee and other fees. All these things have to be taken into consideration—the poundage fee which the judgment-debtor has got to pay and so on. They have also to pay increased process fee on attachment warrants which is increased nearly fourfold. We have also got to look to the other fees you are charging the litigants, and I find that the fact that the litigants will not be able to pay the enhanced fees is conclusively proved by your own figures.

Then, a point that was tried to be made was that it is not the poor man who has got to pay this enhanced fee. But that point has been replied to by my honourable friend Mr. Navle. So my submission to this House is that this Court-fees Bill should not be accepted, because as a matter of fact litigation has become specially costly and we have been complaining to the High Court Judges who visit the courts about the increase in the process fees and the levying of the poundage fee and we have also complained as regards the enhancement of the court-fees. If the honourable members on the Government benches do not know of these complaints, we cannot help it. But it is not correct to say that there has been no cry as regards the increase in these fees. If they will consider these figures, they will find that the normal figures—the normal fees—give them the revenue according to their expectations, but if they wish to increase the court-fees, then there will be diminishing returns. Therefore, it is not good policy to increase the fees.

Mr. F. G. PRATT: Mr. President, I rise to support the first reading of this money bill. I will not waste much time in arguing and discussing the question whether this money is really wanted for the needs of the Presidency. I cannot imagine that anybody who has listened to the long discussions on the bill which engaged our attention this morning,

[Mr. F. G. Pratt]

anybody who listened with an open mind to those discussions and speeches on this side, could have any doubt as to the urgent and pressing requirements of the administration which still remain unattended to for want of a surplus in our budget after the current expenditure has been met out of the current income. But I may perhaps give the House from my own experience a few further illustrations of the needs which have to be supplied. The first instance that comes to my mind is a matter that was brought to my knowledge and complained about while this Council was sitting—a matter connected with revenue which is derived from tolls on provincial roads and which, as we could afford it, we would like to reduce or to abolish if we can get the income from other sources. Anybody who is familiar with rural conditions will know what a nuisance, what a burden, what an obstruction, such tolls on roads often are. We cannot do without them now, because there is no money. District local boards have to resort to the same source of income because there is no money, unless there is money provided by taxation which is now being recommended to this House. Need I point to the provision which has been made in this budget, a provision which I for one was exceedingly glad to see because it represented to my mind the first movement for supplying the needs which we all know in the northern division have been great and pressing needs,—needs in those villages in the northern division which are particularly liable to scanty rainfall, the need of such a necessity of life as drinking water. For supplying that need a beginning has been made by a provision on the expenditure side of this budget. That I hope is the step in the right direction of providing funds for a policy of the rural development, a policy of spending more money for the benefit of rural areas. Now, Sir, what are the arguments which we have listened to against this tax. I will leave the financial arguments to some other honourable member of these benches to tackle, but I will ask the House to consider what is the honourable member Mr. Navle's objection that this tax would fall heavily upon the litigating peasant about whom the honourable member, the leader of the Swaraj party spoke. Now, as to that a clear promise was given to the House by the Honourable the Finance Member half an hour ago that objection is one which would be carefully considered when this bill came to be discussed in select committee and that the bottom limit of Rs. 500 which now stands would as the result of such discussion be considered, and re-adjusted in such a way as to do away with any possibility of the poor agriculturist having to bear any part of the burden of this taxation. The honourable member Mr. Navle used a curious expression in talking of the revenue which might be derived from this source. He said that Government would profiteer. Now, profiteering is an operation which as I understand the word can only be conducted by a capitalist who is filling his pockets with private gains of which he grudges a single half penny towards anybody's satisfaction except his own, of which he grudges a single half penny for the very need of public interest. The Bombay capitalist who finds say a rate of 2 or 3 per cent. on probate too heavy a burden for his back to bear may perhaps the more justly be charged with

[Mr. F. G. Pratt]

that accusation than Government which seeks a revenue to be devoted towards development and improvement of the rural areas of the presidency in their charge.

Now, Sir, I will come to an examination of the sale as it stands now in the Court-fees Act and ask the House to realise exactly what the effect will be of the changes which are proposed. At present up to the value of one thousand rupees, the existing scale of taxation represents $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. And from 1 thousand up to 5 thousand it represents 5 per cent. and when you get values in excess of 5 thousand, the rate of taxation again drops steadily, the higher the value smaller becomes the rate until when you get up to values of half a lakh when the rate of taxation drops further from the top rate of $7\frac{1}{2}$ rupees per cent. to a bottom rate of something like 9 annas per cent. Now the effect of what we are proposing to do is this that while leaving the values at the lower end of the scale untouched we will increase the value in the upper end of the scale, so that they will more nearly approach the high rate which is put upon the bottom head. The present scale is, to put it plainly, at a heavier rate on the poor than on the rich, and we propose that the rich should pay a somewhat increased rate which will still be lower than the rate which we levy on the bottom values—in fact we are engaged in introducing the principles of 1925 into a scale of taxation which was originated 55 years ago, in 1870.

Now, Sir, there have been great changes in the world since 1870 in the direction of progress towards democratic ideals and principles foremost among which is the principle that the wealthy should contribute to public needs in a larger proportion out of their superfluity of wealth. Now, Sir, may I invite honourable members on the opposite side of the House to reflect on the great gulf which separates the England of 1870 from the England of 1925, and to consider whether it is not time that India and Bombay should make some advance towards reaching and realising those democratic ideals and principles in which at present we are so far behind the rest of the world. In 1870 in England there was no labour party and no labour members. A Trade Union in the England of 1870 was still a criminal conspiracy. Free and compulsory education were still in the womb of the future and such things as national insurance against sickness, accidents and unemployment had not even been thought of. How have all these benefits, all this progress been achieved except by taxation and additional taxation? And what does taxation mean? Taxation means sacrifice—sacrifice, willingly and cheerfully incurred by those who have that privilege of wealth, in order that they may contribute towards the necessities of their poorer neighbours, in order that they may contribute towards the advancement and progress of the country as a whole. I appeal to this House whether it is not time for the Bombay Presidency, which may fairly claim to lead India as an example of political democracy, of progress towards political democracy, to show that they have a feeling for another kind of democracy, a democracy which consists not merely of political forms and machinery and franchises, but a democracy which means an organisation of political power for applying the great principles of justice and freedom for the social and economic improvement of the community.

[Mr. F. G. Pratt]

Sir, I have shown that this tax will fall upon shoulders which are well able to bear it. I have shown that there is urgent need for the money which this taxation will produce. I hope that the Council, by its vote, will show that the wealthier classes of this presidency are capable of some little advance, some little self-sacrifice, in order to set an example to the rest of the other provinces in India.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): Sir, I do not wish to indulge in any compliments or recriminations, but I wish to consider the bill in a dispassionate spirit. The House knows that, last year, it rejected a similar bill, and the question, to my mind, in its plainest manner, is whether the Government has made out a case for again attempting to restore this bill on the statute book.

Now, considering this question somewhat more closely, we find that one of the fundamental principles of a civilised Government is the administration of cheap justice, and we have to see whether the effect of the bill will be to mete out justice to the parties cheaply. In this connection, I would only take two figures. We find that in 1923-24, the expenditure for the administration of justice was about Rs. 68 lakhs, and it was only after one year that it at once mounted up to the large figure of Rs. 76,38,000. If we take the figures for the last five years, we clearly discern a growing tendency for the expenditure on this department to increase to an abnormal extent. Surely, this tendency on the part of this department seriously conflicts with the elementary principle of any civilised government in this behalf; and if the Government, in the face of that principle, is coming before the House with a proposal which, instead of making the judicial machinery cheap makes it more costly, then it is something which certainly cannot be countenanced by any reasonable House. Now, taking the way in which justice is administered at present, entirely and exclusively from the point of view of its costliness, I can say, as a matter of personal experience, that in order to realise Rs. 100, the plaintiff, in the first instance, is required to spend from Rs. 30 to Rs. 35. Any one who has had to do with law courts will bear testimony to the fact that on account of the enhancement of the process fees and the thousand and one other fees, the total expenditure for the plaintiff comes roughly to from Rs. 30 to Rs. 35. In the first instance, it is the plaintiff that is required to pay; but in 99 cases out of 100 it is the defendant, who is generally an agriculturist, upon whose shoulders the burden ultimately falls; and, as a previous speaker has said, the question does not really reduce itself as to whether the wealthier classes are to pay the fees or not, but whether the agriculturist is to be further saddled with the increased costs of the suit or not. I do not know how far the previous speaker is experienced in the administration of justice. He may have had experience in the administration of criminal justice; but I do not know what experience he has had, so far as the administration of civil justice, wherein exactly the question of court-fees crops up, is concerned.

Secondly, if we look to the statement of objects and reasons of this bill and the bill that was thrown out by this House only an hour back,

[Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar]

we notice in the former an omission, which may be deliberate or otherwise, of the beneficent objects and the various schemes for the promotion of the interests of the poorer classes in this presidency, which the Government profess to have in view. I do not know whether the want of any reference to these objects is deliberate or not, but certainly it is a circumstance which cannot fail to strike the eye of any one.

I do not propose to enter into the merits, necessity, or urgency of the nation-building departments, as this point has been debated threadbare during the last four days. The Honourable Minister for Local Self-government twitted the other day this side of the House with the failure on its part as regards the making of any constructive proposals. He said that during the whole of the discussion on the budget, and during the whole of the discussion on the last bill, excepting one single constructive proposal, namely, about the reduction by half of the whole establishment of the Government, no other constructive proposal had been made. In this connection, I wish to place before the House, and especially the opposite side of the House, some very constructive proposals; and I should really like to ask the official benches as to whether they are prepared to accept those proposals. I shall take first the head, General Administration. The official benches have waxed eloquent over their keen anxiety and solicitude about the promotion of the interests of the masses of the people. I do not desire to question the honesty of those statements. But in order to enable them to give an earnest, so to say, of their anxiety, I take some items from the general administration department. Looking over that department, I find certain figures, which certainly do not and cannot reflect any credit on the person who may be responsible therefor. Take, for instance, the band establishment at the Government House. I have totalled the items on this establishment, and I find that they come to the abnormally large figure of Rs. 63,592. Let us take another instance. There is a demand for grant of Rs. 57,470 for the purchase of new furniture, and for the repair and restoration of old furniture. Rs. 33,300 are budgetted to be spent for the upkeep and maintenance of the Government House garden. Then, we have got the bodyguards for whose sake the sum of Rs. 78,787 is proposed to be spent. If we total up these four items they come up to Rs. 2,31,228. Not even the Moghul Emperors, in their palmyest days, might have been spending such huge sums for these purposes. I would ask the Honourable the Home Member whether he would be prepared to cut down this demand by half....

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: That is not my grant.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR: Whoever the member concerned may be, I still ask of him whether he is prepared to reduce his demand by half, and thereby give the House a proof of the *bona fides* of the official professions regarding the promotion of the welfare of the masses of the presidency. The second item is about the hill journey allowances. I have calculated the total of these allowances only in the general administration department, and I find it comes up to Rs. 68,398. The hill journey allowances include the allowances in Poona which I understand

[Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar]

is brought under the category of hill stations. A large part of this sum is generally spent on the exodus to Mahabaleshwar. Are Government officers prepared to abandon the practice of going to Mahabaleshwar and enjoying themselves at the cost of the poor agriculturist? I now come to the third item. I can understand buildings being constructed for housing the nurses. But I cannot understand constructing a recreation room for them at Karachi at a cost of Rs. 28,000. Honestly enough, I do not think it to be one of the functions of the Government to provide recreation rooms for their nurses. There is also a very large sum provided for the construction of a building at a cost of about fifteen lakhs for the Government press and stationery office, and this year it is proposed to spend 4 lakhs. I may at once say that this building can well be postponed for some time, if the Government find that their hands are strained so far as the finances are concerned. I wish to refer to one more item. If my recollection is correct, during the last budget discussion we asked for a retrenchment of about 2 crores of rupees from the expenditure on the Bombay Development Scheme, and the Honourable the General Member promised to effect a cut of Rs. 30 lakhs. When I refer to the figures in the budget I find that not only he has not effected any retrenchment but as a matter of fact he has spent over and above the budget estimate....

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : I wish to correct the honourable member that a retrenchment to the extent of nearly 60 lakhs has been effected in the current year and there is a reduction by over one crore in the coming year. The whole thing is explained in the Blue Book if the honourable member will only read it. I wanted to correct him in time, Sir, before he proceeds further.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : Referring to the Bombay development budget I find that it is proposed to spend about 17 lakhs on works not commenced and Rs. 5,50,000 for acquisitions. It is an open secret that the suburban scheme has proved to be a total failure; and it is not shown that the works not commenced require to be taken up in hand at once. I want to ascertain from the Honourable the General Member whether he could not postpone all these items for some time to come, if the next year is expected to be a lean year?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I do not know whether the honourable member need go into such elaborate details.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : I only want to show, Sir, that we on this side of the House are capable of making some very constructive proposals, if only we are allowed to do so, and if only we are given the assurance that our suggestions would be acted upon by Government. Our complaint is that our proposals either for reductions or omissions of items relating to different departments are not given effect to by the Government; and consequently the non-official benches are generally reluctant to make any constructive suggestions.

I do not propose to speak about the Meston settlement as it has already been sufficiently commented upon by the previous speakers. There is one

[Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar]

thing which has not attracted the notice of the House, so far as the present bill is concerned ; and it is that on the Original Side of the High Court no court-fee is charged. Instead of placing an additional burden on the poor ryot by passing this bill, I suggest that it would be more desirable and advisable on the part of the Government to move the proper authorities concerned to enable them to impose fees on suits filed on the Original Side of the High Court. I am not myself practising at the High Court bar ; but a leading advocate practising on the Original Side of the High Court has told me that the Government would be able to get at least 10 lakhs from this single source.

Sir, the point that I have been making out all this while is that the eighteen lakhs of rupees which the Honourable the Finance Member needs are easily available, and can be secured partly by the reduction or omission of certain budgeted items and partly by tapping sources which could be justifiably tapped. I do not think that the proposals contained in this bill can commend themselves to the acceptance of this House. For reasons given above I oppose the first reading of this bill, and I request the non-official benches to unanimously reject it.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I should like to deal with the point of order now. I take it that the Legal Remembrancer is prepared to meet it now.

Mr. P. E. PERCIVAL : I regret, Mr. President, that the papers were not with me : they were at the Secretariat. The fact is that no reason was given by the Government of India. I have been able to find what was proposed by the Legal Remembrancer at that time. He wrote :—

“As the increase of the court-fees will probably be considered by the Government of India to be a new tax, and under the Scheduled Taxes Rules a stamp duty may only be imposed by the Local Government without the previous sanction of the Governor General if it is not a duty fixed by Indian legislation, the previous sanction of the Governor General should be obtained under section 80A (3) (a) of the Government of India Act by the Finance Department.”

A letter was sent to the Government of India accordingly ; and their reply was received in 1922 when the bill was first introduced. The reply was from the Legislative Department of the Government of India, in the shape of a telegram ; namely :—

“Court-fees and Presidency Small Causes Courts Bombay Amendment Bill does not require previous sanction of the Governor General under section 80A (3) of Government of India Act and may be proceeded with.”

On the strength of that telegram no action was subsequently taken in respect of sanction in connection with this bill. I may mention, Sir, that it is laid down in Rule 19 (3) of the Legislative Council Rules :—

“If any question arises whether a Bill is or is not a Bill which requires sanction under the Government of India Act, the question shall be referred to the authority which would have power to grant the sanction if it were necessary, and the decision of that authority on the question shall be final.”

For this reason no further action was taken in the matter.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind) : Sir, the rule referred to by the honourable the Legal Remembrancer relates to the introduction

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

of private bills. The marginal note is "Notice of motion for leave to introduce bills". Government bills are never introduced: they are first published and then come in for first reading. In the case of private bills if the Governor General decides that the sanction is necessary, this Council has no power to proceed with them until that sanction is given. But so far as Government bills are concerned, they are sent by Government direct for sanction. The rule that applies to private bills should not be quoted in relation to Government bills. The whole rule and the marginal note may be read in this connexion.

Mr. P. E. PERCIVAL : Sir, it is difficult to appreciate the alleged distinction between Government and private bills. It is not stated in the rules that Government cannot possibly introduce bills. Sometimes they do introduce them while sometimes they publish the bill beforehand. The marginal note refers to "leave to introduce bills," meaning all bills.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South) : I submit, Sir, that according to what the Legal Remembrancer has stated, although I was not able to hear all that he stated, if there is a dispute as to whether a particular measure requires the sanction of the Governor General, the proper authority to settle that dispute is the authority that has the power to give sanction, that is the Governor General. I say, Sir, such a dispute has arisen in the present case, and the point is certainly not free from doubt. The instance given by the honourable the Legal Remembrancer does not apply to the present case, because that refers to the Small Causes Courts which have only local jurisdiction, and this is a measure which affects the whole province. There is a difference between that and this measure. There is a doubt upon this point, and, therefore, I submit, Sir, that under the rules there should be a reference in this matter to the Governor General, and pending an answer to that reference I do not think the discussion could be proceeded with.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University) : Sir, with regard to the rule which the honourable the Legal Remembrancer has just quoted, it is quite clear, apart from the marginal note, that that rule cannot apply to the present case. I will refer to the wording—not merely the marginal note—and the wording is :

"Any member, other than a member of the Government, desiring to move for leave to introduce a Bill....."

It is perfectly clear, therefore, that it cannot apply to any bill which is introduced by a member of Government.

Then clause (2) :

"If the Bill is a Bill which under the Government of India Act requires sanction, the member shall annex to the notice a copy of such sanction, and the notice shall not be valid until this requirement is complied with."

Then comes clause (3) :

"If any question arises whether a Bill is or is not a Bill which requires sanction under the Government of India Act, the question shall be referred to the authority which would have power to grant the sanction if it were necessary, and the decision of that authority on the question shall be final."

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

Having regard to the wording, Sir, I submit that the rule cannot refer to any bill which is in the charge of a member of Government. It refers to a bill which is in charge of a private member. Therefore, I submit that it does not govern the present case.

As regards the question whether the authority of the Governor General is necessary in a case of this kind, I ask your attention, Sir, to section 80A, (3). It is stated there :

"The local legislature of any province may not, without the previous sanction of the Governor General, make or take into consideration any law—

(a) imposing or authorising the imposition of any new tax unless the tax is a tax scheduled as exempted from this provision by rules made under this Act."

And the rules made under the Act are at page 131 of the Manual. Rule 3 says :

"The Legislative Council of a province may, without the previous sanction of the Governor-General, make and take into consideration any law imposing, or authorising any local authority to impose, for the purposes of such local authority, any tax included in Schedule II to these rules."

And schedule II is found in the same page, and the heading No. 8 covers the present case. The heading is "A stamp duty other than duties of which the amount is fixed by Indian legislation". Here, the duty in this case is a stamp duty, and its amount was fixed by Indian legislation, because the schedule under the original Court-fees Act, 1870, was passed by Indian legislation. Therefore the tax proposed in the bill does not fall under the Scheduled Taxes Rules, and it therefore requires the sanction of the Governor General. Accordingly, I find, Sir, that when the bill was introduced last year it was clearly stated in the draft,

"Whereas the previous sanction of the Governor General required under section 80A (3) of the Government of India Act has been obtained."

I submit, therefore, Sir, that the bill requires the sanction of the Governor General.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I might explain, Sir. The question is perfectly plain. The authority which has to sanction the bill is the authority which has got to decide whether sanction is required or not for the bill. That is the principle laid down with regard to private bills, and that must be the same principle which has to be applied with regard to Government bills. Now, the question has been specifically referred as to whether this sanction is required or not, and the authority which has the right to say whether it should be sanctioned or not has stated that no sanction is required and that we can proceed with this bill without the sanction of the Governor General. That intimation has been received here in a letter signed by the Secretary to the Government of India. That is the ordinary method in which the views of the Governor General are intimated by the Government of India. I would point out further, Sir, that it is really a matter of no material importance, because the proviso to section 80A provides that

"An Act or a provision of an Act made by a local legislature, and subsequently assented to by the Governor General in pursuance of this Act, shall not be deemed invalid by reason only of its requiring the previous sanction of the Governor General under this Act."

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

So it does not make any material difference whatever. If we choose to pass this Act and send it up to the Governor General and then the Governor General sanctions it, then it does not matter at all whether there has been previous sanction or there has not been previous sanction. Therefore, it seems to me, Sir, in these circumstances, it would be proper and justifiable if you were to accept the views of the Governor General as intimated by the Government of India. If you desire me to go any further in this matter and explain, I would point out that the view of the Government of India that sanction is not required is correct.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Will the Honourable the Leader of the House kindly explain—why sanction is not required?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Now, if you read sub-section (3) (a) of section 80A, you will find it runs thus:

“The local legislature of any province may not, without the previous sanction of the Governor General, make or take into consideration any law imposing or authorising the imposition of any new tax”

and so on.

Now, Sir, this tax has been in force since 1870. I do not see how anybody can call this a new tax; it is over 50 years old. It is modifying an old tax, I submit the word is important. It was not intended that this should apply to the modifications of an old tax which under sub-section (3) (e) might be within the jurisdiction of the Legislative Council. I would point out in this connection this question of judicial stamps is specifically placed under the Devolution Rules within the jurisdiction of the provincial Government. I would refer you, Sir, to page 120 of Volume I of the Bombay Legislative Council Manual, Devolution Rule No. 20 of *Part II—Provincial Subjects*, which runs thus:

“Judicial stamps (subject to legislation by the Indian Legislature as regards amount of court fees levied in relation to suits and proceedings in the High Courts).”

That means that judicial stamps not levied in suits and proceedings in the High Courts are subject to the jurisdiction of the provincial legislature and are not subject to the legislature of the Government of India. I think, Sir, that it is conclusive that this is a subject which is within the control of the provincial legislature as stated by the Government.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangir: I believe, Mr. President, there is a ruling by yourself in which you said that in such cases the previous sanction of the Governor General is not necessary.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The Honourable the General Member is dealing with an entirely different set of circumstances although it has some bearing on the present point. The question originally arose on the issue whether amendments to legislation which required previous sanction could be moved in this House, and the view of one side of the House was that no amendment which required the previous sanction of the Governor General could be moved in this Council. The view on the other side was that it could be done, and I remember distinctly Mr. Baptista quoting the same proviso to section 80A on that issue which the Honourable the Leader of the House has quoted to-day. I held that

[The President]

once legislation was submitted to the jurisdiction of the Legislative Council it was perfectly entitled to move amendments without obtaining the previous sanction of the Governor General. That was a distinct issue. On the present point the issue is whether a legislative enactment which is before the House can be considered by the House without obtaining the previous sanction of the Governor General. The issue is whether such sanction is necessary or is not necessary. It appears from the statement made on the Government benches that the Government of Bombay applied for sanction to the Governor General for the introduction of this bill. The power to sanction is vested by the Act in the Governor General, and the Government of India has intimated to the Government of Bombay that no sanction is necessary. I am merely stating the facts as they have been brought to my notice. Relying upon that, the bill is placed before the House. I see the force of the argument which has been urged by the honourable the Deputy President and the honourable member for Bombay University (Mr. Jayakar) that rule 19 does not apply. But it appears to me that a practical view has to be taken on this issue. The issue is purely a technical one. I do not think it is believed by any one here that the sanction of the Governor General would be withheld to any measure which is submitted to him by the Bombay Government. The Bombay Government had submitted this legislation to the Government of India for sanction and it was quite simple for them to sanction it instead of saying that their sanction was not necessary. They interpreted the Act in that way and the result is that this bill is now before the House, without any previous sanction.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: May I bring to your notice, Sir, that this is a different bill ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: It is the same identical bill. I mean no change of principle as regards the bill has arisen. Therefore, the Government of India stated that no sanction was necessary. The sanction asked for was to the bill for enhancement of court-fees; the bill was placed before the House last year and it was rejected.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA: May I say a few words, Sir, in regard to this point ? I understand the honourable member to say that the Government of India's sanction was not necessary. If the sanction was not necessary to this bill, it was not necessary in reference to the bill last year. Last year the bill was brought when the original bill (Act) was still in force. Therefore, it was a bill for the purpose of continuing an Act that was in force. That was not intended, therefore, to make any amendments so far as the court-fees were concerned. It was only intended to make a temporary measure. To that extent it was different, but no amendment was intended. If the matter was prior to 1922 when the bill was brought for the first time in this Council, then I think it would be relevant, but so far as I can see, then the Government benches stated that sanction was obtained, and Rao Bahadur Kale pointed out that the sanction which was obtained under clause (3) (a) of section 80A was not proper, and the Honourable

[Mr. J. Baptista]

Sir Chimanlal Setalvad then said he would consider that technical point and investigate the matter. Of course, we do not know what happened thereafter. If the matter was investigated, we do not know what happened to it. That seems wonderful.

Mr. P. E. PERCIVAL : It was in 1922.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : As regards what has been stated by the honourable member Mr. Baptista I will draw his attention to the report of the select committee on the bill further to amend the Court-fees Act, 1870. The first signature on it is that of the Honourable Sir Chimanlal Setalvad, and it is also signed by a large number of other members of this House. The part of the report to which I should like to draw the attention of honourable members reads as follows :

“As the Government of India consider that the bill requires no previous sanction we have made the necessary alteration in the preamble”

The preamble was altered by the select committee and those words to which reference is being made were deleted. I have got the report of the select committee in my hands and I am quoting from it and it bears the signatures of something like 15 or 17 members many of them belonging to the learned profession of law.

There are occasions when the result of the President's ruling leads to a state of affairs which deprives the House of expressing their definite decision in regard to important matters, and it is in the discretion of the Chair to leave the decision to the House itself. I am inclined on this occasion to leave the issue to be decided by the House on the strength of the proviso to section 80A. It is desirable to quote the proviso. It is obvious that the law empowers the Council to consider any law without the previous sanction of the Governor General in certain circumstances, and I am inclined to think on the consideration of all the facts of the case which have been brought to my notice that this is such a case in which the House should be left to decide for itself whether they will pass or reject the measure.

I want honourable members clearly to realise that this is merely a technical objection. Such objections do not as a general rule appeal to me. When such a technical objection was raised by members on Government benches against the House being allowed to discuss amendments on bills proposed by non-official members, I overruled the objection on the strength of the proviso to section 80A of the Government of India Act and allowed the amendments to be considered by the House. On the same grounds I disallow the technical objection now raised against the House considering this taxation Bill. It is open to the House to decide whether they will sanction the taxation proposed or whether they will reject it. I will not stand in the way of such decision by my ruling but will leave the House itself to decide the issue.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City) : Mr. President, I do not wish to follow the example of the Honourable the Finance Member in lowering the standard of debate in the manner he has done by making ungenerous and undignified reference to the honourable member the leader of the Swaraj party, but I wish to say, to use his own words, that language of

[Mr. D. B. Adwani]

exaggeration and vituperation is welcome to this side of the House for the reason that it only serves to weaken the cause which the honourable member seeks to advocate. He attacked the Swaraj party and wanted to remind it that the day of reckoning for it was approaching, but let me tell him in his own language that this is one of those flights of fancy with which prophets of evil seek to disturb the public mind. He must remember that the Swaraj party will come with flying colours and will be returned in still larger numbers at the next elections.

Mr. President, the honourable the Finance Member compared some of the services rendered by this Government in providing roads and other amenities of life with similar services rendered by the other, provincial Governments, but he very cleverly omitted to compare the cost of civil administration per million of population; and I can assure him that if he were to compare the cost of civil administration of this province with that of the other provinces per million of population, it will come to twice as much as in the other provinces.

Then, Sir, I am not a practising lawyer, but I have come across cases in which several people have been quite unable to pay the present court-fees in order to get their dues from some rich people who owe them some money. Even the present tax falls heavily on the poor and therefore from the practical point of view any additional tax will be totally objectionable and will act harshly on the ordinary litigant.

Coming to the question of retrenchment, it is wrong to say that further retrenchment is not possible. I am of the opinion that there is a great margin for retrenchment. The Retrenchment Committee's proposals have been shelved. I will only refer to some items. If honourable members would refer to 41, Civil Works, the separate White Book for this item, it will appear that, whereas under the discretionary grants the provision for the current year was 10 lakhs, for the ensuing year it is 11 lakhs and 25 thousand; whereas for the repairs under the revised estimates it was 47 lakhs 99 thousand in the current year, it is 50 lakhs for the ensuing year. It goes on increasing without rhyme or reason. Provision for total works for the current year under the revised estimate is 72 lakhs, and for the ensuing year it is 76 lakhs. 4 lakhs have been increased under total works. Then in order to carry out works to the extent of 76 lakhs of rupees we require an establishment costing 34 lakhs of rupees which is nearly 45 per cent. or so. It is too heavy. Under the head of establishment, the increases are very abnormal during the last few years. In the year 1923-24 the establishment under 41 Civil Works was only 15 lakhs of rupees while in 1924-25 the budget shows 21 lakhs but the revised estimate 25 lakhs, and this year from 25 lakhs we have got a jump of 9 lakhs making the total of 34 lakhs. That is to say from the year 1923-24 the cost of establishment has gone up from 15 lakhs and 84 thousand to 34 lakhs 40 thousand, which means an increase of much more than 100 per cent. Then, Sir, while considering the actual cost of establishment I would remind honourable members of this House that the Retrenchment Committee has stated that the post of Chief Engineer in Sind

[Mr. D. B. Adwani]

should be abolished. Now, I think, Sir, this is a very necessary change. There are two Superintending Engineers already for Sind and these Superintending Engineers can correspond directly with Government. I do not wish to dilate at length on this point, because it will come up for discussion later on, but I wish to point out that the Chief Engineer is absolutely unnecessary for Sind. It was created in order to provide for.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I do not know whether the honourable member is going into the justification of the appointment. His reference to the fact that the post is not required is quite enough. He need not go into the merits of that one appointment on this bill. He can refer to the amount of saving that could be effected, instead of going into the merits of the appointment. The honourable member can express his opinion that the appointment is not necessary. If each item of the budget is to be dilated upon to contend that there is no necessity for this bill, it would be an unending speech. I merely want to say that he can refer to them, but he need not dilate and elaborate them.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: I was just ending, Sir. There are similar other examples of retrenchment which can be effected, for instance the amalgamation of the irrigation districts in the Jamrao. And even under 41, Civil Works a great deal of saving can be effected. I think we can make a saving of Rs. 15 lakhs if we make judicious arrangements. Similar remarks will apply to several other departments, but I will not refer to them.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I did not want the honourable member not to refer to them. He can refer to them in regard to the question of saving, but he need not take one appointment, and go on elaborating whether it is necessary or not.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: I will follow your advice, Sir. Under 60, Civil Works also a great deal of saving can be effected, and though I shall probably be told in reply that 60, Civil Works are from capital account, we must remember that even the cost of 60, Civil Works comes ultimately to be provided from the ordinary revenue, because we have to meet the sinking fund and interest charges. I might remind honourable members that we are already paying a heavy amount of interest, that is to say Rs. 77 lakhs and odd for the bombay development alone, as will be seen from page 130 of the Blue Book. An amount of Rs. 48,14,000 has been shown under development as the revenue for next year. But this is misleading, because Rs. 48 lakhs is what we receive from the public bodies, to whom we have lent money which we have obtained from the Government of India. But we are paying an interest of Rs. 77 lakhs on account of the bombay development, which shows the manner in which the cost of these developments under 60, Civil Works, and under 55, Works charged to Capital falls heavily on the taxpayer. Therefore, Sir, there is every reason for us to throw out this bill.

Mr. A. MONTGOMERIE: Sir, I do not desire to follow the last speaker into his suggestions; I am afraid I could not follow his figures, and I do not know enough about Sind to criticise in any way his suggestions for retrenchment. But I should like to make a few remarks about the eminently practical suggestions made by the honourable member for Poona (Mr. Bhopatkar). He has assured us himself that they are practical suggestions, and I dare say he knows. But it is possible that other people might have some slight differences with him. He proposes, in the most genial fashion, having thrown out the bill for the taxation of landlords in Bombay, to impose additional taxation on Bombay of a sum which he modestly estimates at Rs. 10 lakhs. He is assured by some eminent practitioner in the High Court that it is perfectly simple to do it; nothing would be simpler than to take a further Rs. 10 lakhs out of the litigants in the Bombay High Court on the Original side. The justification for that appears to be that the Court-fees Bill does not apply to the High Court. As a matter of fact, litigation in the High Court is not, I believe, in any way less costly than litigation in the mofussil. There may be differences in the scale. At some points of the scale, litigation in the Bombay High Court is comparatively cheap; at other points of the scale it is dear, but the general effect on suits, taking all suits, works out at very much the same thing. The only thing is that the High Court has a different system of collecting their fees. This suggestion of his that the litigants in Bombay city should be imposed a double taxation will not, I am quite sure, commend itself to any of the honourable members from Bombay.

His other suggestion dealt with cutting down the allowances for hill journeys to Poona and Mahableshtar—these amounts by which the officers of Government swell their already fat emoluments. But, unfortunately for his purposes, these hill journey allowances are entirely for the clerks and peons who accompany Government to Poona, and I should like to see the honourable member appear before his constituents, or put forward a solid proposal before the majority of the mofussil members that Government should sit all the time in Bombay and not go to Poona. That particular proposal would, I am sure, receive very short shrift from the members for the Deccan or even for Gujarat.

An Honourable MEMBER: What about Mahableshtar?

Mr. A. MONTGOMERIE: We know about Mahableshtar. It was approved, I think, by the Council, who turned down with very great emphasis the proposal that Government should not go to Mahableshtar; for they realised that the proposal was merely the thin end of the wedge which was intended to prize Government out of Poona and reduce Poona from its position as the seat of Government and fix Government down firmly in Bombay, where the honourable members of this House would have to spend all their time at all the sessions of the Legislative Council. I do not think any of them would agree with that.

[Mr. A. Montgomerie]

His other constructive suggestion was that we may save money by cutting out Rs. 28,000 for a recreation room for nurses in a large hospital. I think any of us who have had the misfortune of having had anything to do with hospitals in our life and any of us who know anything about hospitals will repudiate any such suggestion. I gather that the money is for recreation room and quarters.

Then, Sir, his other suggestion was with regard to the Governor's band. I do not want to say anything about it. I doubt whether the honourable member's excursions into historical detail are perfectly correct. I do not know how much history he knows, or what details he has of the amount which the Moghul emperors spent on their bands and other amusements. I should imagine that a lakh of rupees would go very little way with Babar or even with the philosophic Akbar in supplying bands or other entertainments.

I turn now from those constructive suggestions to the merits of the bill. May I put it quite frankly to my honourable friends the members from the mofussil that what they are wanting to get in their opposition to this bill is something for nothing? They do not want to tax their constituents, or to have their constituents know that they voted for taxation. At the same time, they do want money for education, for roads and everything else. The only difficulty they meet with is about paying for these things. I dare say a good many of them will be cheerfully ready to pay for them. You must realise that if you want to do anything beneficial to the people you will have to pay for it. If you want to keep the presidency progressing there is no other way than to increase the revenues. Otherwise we have to be content to remain stationary. As has been pointed out by the Honourable the Finance Member we are in advance of the rest of India in the amenities we offer to the citizens of this presidency. Do we want to be in advance or are we prepared to remain stationary till Bombay will no longer be the first city, the first presidency, of India? I sincerely hope not.

As regards the merits of this form of taxation, I think there are a few subjects that will lend themselves so readily as a proper field for taxation as litigation. The honourable member for Surat told us about the drain on the country involved in the liquor traffic, and its demoralising effect on the people. I consider that the dram-drinking of litigation is almost as big a vice in this presidency. With the amount of money lavished on litigation in this presidency many students can be educated and all the roads can be repaired. Much of the money that is spent on litigation is absolutely uselessly wasted. Those of us who are acquainted with courts know full well the very great volume of litigation in this presidency which is utterly unnecessary. I am afraid a great deal of that would remain untouched by the concession which the Honourable the Finance Member has suggested with regard to the limit of taxation. Many of us know the nature of suits that come from Kanara and Ratnagiri. Suits come from Kanara and Ratnagiri up to the High Court that relate to the produce of two cocoanut trees. They are fought determinedly

[Mr. A. Montgomerie]

through all the stages, even to the second appeal. There are more second appeals lodged in the Bombay High Court than in all the courts put together in England.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : There is the jury.

Mr. A. MONTGOMERIE : That has very little to do with it.

Even if the law of diminishing returns does come into operation, as the honourable member for Thana pointed out—I was not able to follow his figures—and the increase of taxation tended to stop litigation, I hope my honourable lawyer friends will agree with me that it would be a very good thing for the presidency. Litigation is indulged in as an amusement and it would be correct to classify it as an amusement tax. Take a district like Ratnagiri or Kanara. The inhabitants of these districts do not consider themselves men till they have a good-going suit in a court of law.

One minor point was referred to by the honourable member for Poona. He informed us that owing to the imposition of poundage fees, a suitor has to pay out a sum of Rs. 30 by the time he has filed the suit. I was under the impression, possibly mistaken, that these charges the High Court has imposed on the sale of the land when the suit reaches the final stage of execution, and I fail to see how the honourable member can say that they must be paid before a suit can be lodged.

Mr. S. N. ANGADI (Belgaum District) : Sir, after the defeat which the Government sustained a couple of hours ago in regard to the Stamp Bill, I should have thought that Government would not have introduced this bill in this House. I do not wish to go into the question whether there is any necessity existing for fresh taxation. It may, or may not exist. The question is whether people are willing to pay or even if willing whether they are able to bear the burden of taxation that is proposed. My answer is they are poor and they cannot pay a pie more by way of taxation. It was suggested by the honourable member Mr. Pratt that taxation is a sacrifice cheerfully and pleasantly incurred in the interests of the nation. I do not deny that. The question is, what sort of sacrifice are we expected to make, when it has become difficult for the people even to live a hand-to-mouth existence? Coming as I do from Karnatak, I do not know the other parts of the presidency, I can very well say that the whole of Karnatak is so poor that a multi-millionaire or two of Bombay can easily purchase it. Under these circumstances it would be extremely undesirable to ask for further taxation on the flimsy ground that money is wanted for this purpose or that purpose. It was suggested yesterday by the Honourable the Home Member that there is an increase in the present year's budget of 25 lakhs for expenditure on education and another 17 lakhs on Civil Works and that in order to meet this demand these taxation proposals have been introduced. We are told by the Government rather in boastful spirit that they have undertaken to bear two-thirds of the total expenditure that may be incurred in connection with compulsory primary education. My answer to that is that in every civilised country the primary education is considered

[Mr. S. N. Algaḍi]

to be the most paramount obligation of the Government which must be discharged at any cost. Further, Sir, it is considered the first charge on the state exchequer. Here what have the Government done? They have undertaken to bear two-thirds of the burden only and have sifted a part of the expenditure to the local bodies, whose resources are very slender. It is true that under the new Act, certain powers of taxation are given to local bodies. In my own district, the district local board under the new Act has doubled the local fund cess in order to provide funds for primary education. The result is that a big howl has been raised against the members and it is very doubtful that the present elected members will be returned at the next election. So even this increase of one anna in the local fund cess has been keenly felt by the people. Wherever I went—I had to go to several places—I was told that they would be very thankful to the board if that increase was modified so as not to put any further burden on the shoulders of the people.

And one more reason why I stand to oppose the first reading of the bill is that it is a bill primarily affecting the agriculturists who are extremely poor. It is sought to be proved that it does not affect the agriculturists, but that argument has been sufficiently disproved by the popular side of the House. Again, Sir, a comparison is sought to be drawn between the incidence of taxation here in India and the incidence of taxation in England. But unfortunately, those who drew that comparison have not given us any figures as to the average wealth of an Indian and his average income as compared with the average wealth of an Englishman and his average income. If those figures were given, certainly the honourable members who drew the comparison would have disillusioned themselves quite sufficiently. So, these misleading figures won't convince us in any way. The main question is whether the people are able to pay the tax. If it is not a fact that the people are able to bear this taxation, Government should not have brought this bill. My submission is, that the Government know that the people are too poor to bear even this small tax. It appears that if we do not give this additional money to Government the nation-building departments would be starved. Well, the condition of the poor people is such that they would rather starve education, medical relief, etc., rather than submit themselves to this taxation. When there is nothing to eat, what is the use of education to the poor? So, Sir, I strongly oppose the first reading of the bill.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I should like to know what the intentions of Government are with regard to the programme for the further discussion of this bill. According to the programme originally published Government Bills and Supplementary Grants were to be taken on the 26th and 27th of February; and Demands for Grants were put down for consideration from Saturday the 28th February to Saturday the 14th March; Monday and Tuesday, the 16th and 17th March were provided for Government Bills and Supplementary Grants. I should like to know from the Honourable the Leader of the House what the intentions of Government are in regard to this programme.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, we propose to proceed to-morrow according to programme with Demands for Grants. The Government Bills will be taken up again on the dates put down on the programme.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Further consideration of the first reading of the Court-fees Enhancement Bill will be taken up on the 16th March.

The Council is adjourned to 2 o'clock to-morrow Saturday, the 28th February 1925, when we will proceed with Demands for Grants.

28 FEB. 1925]

Saturday, the 28th February 1925.

The Council re-assembled at the Town Hall, Bombay, on Saturday, the 28th February 1925, at 2 p.m., the Honourable the President, Sir IBRAHIM RAHIMTOOLA, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
 ABDULPURKAR, Mr. N. A.
 ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
 ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
 AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
 ANGADI, Mr. S. N.
 BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
 BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
 BHURGRI, Mr. J. M.
 BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
 BIJARANI, Khan Saheb SHER MAHOMED KHAN
 BOLE, Mr. S. K.
 CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
 CLAYTON, Mr. F.
 DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
 DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
 DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
 DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
 DEV, Mr. S. S.
 FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
 FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
 GHOSAL, Mr. J.
 GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH
 GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
 GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
 GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
 HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
 HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
 HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
 HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
 JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
 JATOI, Khan Saheb HAJI SERAI IMAMBAKSH
 JATOI, Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH
 JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
 JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
 JOG, Mr. V. N.
 JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
 KALBHOR, Mr. G. M.
 KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.
 KARKI, Mr. M. D.
 KAY, Mr. J. A.

KAZI INAITULLAKHAN
 KOKANI, Mr. G. J.
 KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
 LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
 LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.
 LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MOHOMED KHUHRO, Mr.
 MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
 MAVALANKAR, Mr. G. K.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
 NANAL, Mr. B. R.
 NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
 NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
 NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
 OWEN, Mr. A. C.
 PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
 PATEL, Mr. A. E.
 PATEL, Mr. D. N.
 PATEL, Mr. G. I.
 PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED KHAN
 PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
 PATIL, Mr. D. R.
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 PIR RASULBAKSH SHAH
 POWAR, Mr. M. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 PRATT, Mr. F. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSENALLY M.
 SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
 SARDESAL, Mr. S. A.
 SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH
 SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
 SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO, Mr.
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
 SURVE, Mr. A. N.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.
 SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
 THAKOR OF AMOD, the
 THOMAS, Mr. G. A.

TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
 VELKAR, Dr. M. B.
 WILES, Mr. G.
 WOODS, Mr. E. E.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Demands for grants.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : Mr. President, I rise to move the grant which is shown on page 23 of the Blue Book as item No. 44 "Loans and Advances bearing interest"—Rs. 3,90,10 thousand. This is shown also in the Civil Estimates on page 254 and in the Blue Book the details are given on pages 125 to 127. It is for the most part money that we borrow in accordance with a long-standing arrangement on behalf of the Port Trust, the Improvement Trust and the Bombay Municipality. That accounts for Rs. 3,45 lakhs out of Rs. 3,90 lakhs. Then on page 127 there are Rs. 5 lakhs for co-operative societies and Rs. 40,10 thousand for other purposes. Those "other purposes" are shown in the statement in paragraph 234 on page 125. Those other purposes include loans to local bodies and loans to cultivators and to co-operative housing societies.

Now, Sir, there is one correction that I wish to make, namely, that this figure of Rs. 3,90 lakhs shown in the Blue Book should be reduced to Rs. 3,40 lakhs on page 23, item 44. None of these bodies, I may mention, have sent in their definite applications to Government. They send us a preliminary statement of the sums which they expect that their respective committees will authorise them to ask for, and in regard to the Bombay Improvement Trust who sent us a preliminary statement that they would require Rs. 1,20 lakhs, we have just received a subsequent statement that they are reducing the rapidity of their operations and next year propose to spend Rs. 70 lakhs only, a reduction of Rs. 50 lakhs. So, Sir, with your permission, I ask that this item shown as Rs. 3,90,10 thousand may be reduced to Rs. 3,40,10 thousand.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The honourable member wants to ask for a reduced demand ; he may put his demand in that form.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : Yes ; I ask for a demand of Rs. 3,40,10,000.

Question proposed.

Question put and carried.

Purchase of the Coast Guard Fleet Dockyard at Sewri in Bombay for purposes of a country spirit warehouse.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Sir, I move for a demand of Rs. 37,136 under 60A, page 229 of the Blue Book, item 227. That is, Sir, the price of land of a portion of the Salt Department dockyard at Sewri which has been occupied as a temporary warehouse for our liquor. The building was valued at Rs. 60,000 and was provided for in the current year's budget, and this is the land on which the building stands, and that has been valued between the Government of India and the

[Mr. A. M. K. Dehlavi.]

Bombay Government for Rs. 37 thousand and odd. The demand is for Rs. 37,136.

Question proposed.

Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI (Bombay City, South) : Sir, I rise to move an amendment that this item be omitted. Mr. President, when we are going in for the goal of prohibition, why should we have a depôt established permanently there ? Besides the depôt at Sewri is so far off from the place of business that licensees are harassed, they find great hardship to go there and they have to pass their whole day there. Their servants also have to pass sometimes one day or two days there. And when our goal is prohibition, why should we go in for the purchase of land and buildings there ? All the buildings they have, whatever buildings they have, for instance the acetone factory, the Government of India try to foist upon us. In these days of hardship and in view of the goal of prohibition which we are going to have, we ought not to go in for these buildings.

Question proposed : that item 227, on page 229 of the Blue Book, be omitted.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North) : Mr. President, I rise to support the motion. At present this warehouse is situated at Sewri and it is a great nuisance to the licensees. If we buy this land, we will be perpetuating that inconvenience to those licensees who pay us very heavy bids and who are in addition made to pay extra cartage charges and also other charges, *e. g.*, commission to licensed agents through whom only they are compelled to obtain their supplies. Therefore, if we buy this land it would be only perpetuating a bad system and its evil consequences. I therefore support the motion that is before this House.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Sir, the question is whether we need a warehouse or not. The honourable member who has moved this motion thinks that this warehouse is not necessary, because we have launched on a policy of prohibition. I need hardly answer that point, because it will takesome years before we come to a time when we would not need a warehouse. There is therefore absolutely no question that we certainly would need a warehouse for a long time to come, and where is it to be built? If we try to build a warehouse elsewhere, it would mean tremendous cost to the State. This particular warehouse is a very good bargain, because the Government of India, from whom we are going to get it, are going to charge us only to the extent that they are out of pocket for it. The land is 21,000 square yards, and it was valued in March 1916 by the Executive Engineer at Rs. 1,23,000, and in 1917 it was valued again by the Deputy Collector on special duty at Rs. 2,83,000, and the Government of India themselves put the value between Rs. 2 to 3 lakhs. But this Government insisted on their charging us only the price that it cost them for filling in, etc., and that has come to about Rs. 37,000 and odd. I do not think the Government could strike a better bargain, in view of the urgent necessity of a special warehouse

[Mr. A. M. K. Dehlavi]

for the city of Bombay. I therefore submit that the House would be well advised to accept the arrangement and allow the grant.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The question is that the amount of Rs. 37,136 under the head " Other Provincial Expenditure not charged to Revenue " for the purchase of the Coast Guard Fleet Dockyard at Sewri in Bombay for purposes of a country spirit warehouse, be omitted.

In order to remove all possibility of misunderstanding, I should like to point out that Ayes should go to the right and Noes to the left. The motion is for the omission of the demand, and those for the omission will be Ayes, and those against it will be Noes. I want to make the point perfectly clear, so that honourable members may not get into the wrong lobby.

Question put : House divided. Ayes 26 ; Noes 43. Motion lost.

Division No. 2.

Ayes.

ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
BHOPTKAR, Mr. L. B.
DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JOG, Mr. V. N.
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
KARKI, Mr. M. D.
MAVALANKAR, Mr. G. K.
MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
NANAL, Mr. B. R.

NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
PATEL, Mr. D. N.
PATEL, Mr. G. I.
PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
SURVE, Mr. A. N.
SURVE, Mr. V. A.
SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
VELKAR, Dr. M. B.

Tellers for the Ayes : Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI and Mr. R. G. SOMAN.

Noes.

ABDULPURKAR, Mr. N. A.
ANGADI, Mr. S. N.
BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
CLAYTON, Mr. F.
DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
FRANJJI, Mr. K. S.
GHOSAL, Mr. J.
GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH
GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
JATOL, Khan Saheb HAJI SERAI IMAM-BAKSH
JATOL, Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH
JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
KALBHOR, Mr. G. M.
KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.

LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHURRO, Mr.
MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
PATEL, Mr. A. E.
PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED KHAN
PATIL, Mr. D. R.
PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
PIE RASULBAKSH SHAH
PRATT, Mr. F. G.
SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH
SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
THAKOR OF AMOD, the
THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
WILES, Mr. G.
WOODS, Mr. E. E.

Tellers for the Noes : Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON and Mr. R. E. GIBSON.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN :
Sir, I move for a grant of Rs. 69,85,000 under 60, Civil Works not charged

[Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain]

to Revenue, which will be found at page 121 of the Blue Book. I have omitted from this an item of Rs. 14,16,000 for establishment and 4 lakhs for tools and plants, which I will move along with grants under 41, Civil Works.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : Sir, can one head be divided into two even by Government? On page 3 of the budget estimate for 60, Civil Works not charged to revenue (the small White Book) you will find a total demand for 85 lakhs. Now, the Honourable Minister wants to divide it into two as 69 lakhs under 60, Civil Works and 16 lakhs under 41, Civil Works.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The honourable member's point of order is that the demand should be for 85 lakhs. Let me see what the Honourable Minister has got to say.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Sir, we are doing it under the orders of the Accountant General in order to show the establishment charges in a convenient form under one head.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The difficulty pointed out by the honourable member is that they have given notices of motions for reduction and omission on the original budget estimates as supplied to them. All these motions for reduction or omission will get confused if this policy is adopted by Government at the last moment. That is the point of order.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Last year the grant for establishment was moved separately.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : That is not the point. I want to know whether there is any Standing Order or rule which authorises Government to make any alteration in the information they have originally supplied to the House. The Rules and Standing Orders lay down a certain procedure for the consideration of the budget estimates by the Council. The Council is following that procedure. I do not challenge the right of Government to make alterations, but I should like to ask under what authority they are doing so.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : We have been doing it in practice. We have always been doing it.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : There must be some authority under which Government can do this. If it was done on the last occasion, that is not sufficient reason why they should do it again without pointing out the authority empowering them to do so.

Mr. G. WILES : Sir, on pages 22 and 23 of the Blue Book we have explained the demand we intend to make. In the foot-note under demands 25 and 26 and 43, the procedure is exactly laid down which the Honourable Minister is following. In order to make the method of bringing establishments to account quite clear and in order that

[Mr. G. Wiles]

there might be no misunderstanding I have inserted paragraph 176 which explains in greater detail the method we follow. We have carried out the orders of the Auditor General. If honourable members have been misled with regard to their motions for omission or reduction, I suggest that their motions can be made applicable to demands under 41, Civil Works.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: This is a matter of procedure not only for to-day but for the future. I am considering how the matter can be reconciled with the constitution under which we are working.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): Sir, so far as we understand the Blue Book is only explanatory, and we are concerned only with the White Book. If you turn to page 253 of the Civil Estimates you will find that under 60, Civil Works there is a clear provision made for 85 lakhs. That is a clear demand and no other demand can be made.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: There is a note.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: The note says that out of this total demand of 85 lakhs, 15 lakhs or so on account of establishment, tools and plant is included in the demand.....

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: It is included under 41, Civil Works. If you take the demand at 85 lakhs now, you will vote the 15 lakhs twice over.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: Sir, I have seen 41, Civil Works also, and I see there also there are heads about establishment, tools and plant. The charges have been divided and certain charges are debited to 60, Civil Works.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: May I say a word, Sir? The schedule of demands for grants is contained in pages 22 and 23 of the Blue Book, and it says that it is submitted for the vote of the Legislative Council. And, Sir, the demand in item 43, Public Works, is shown only as Rs. 69,85,000. The rest to which my honourable friend has just referred is included in 41, Civil Works. So that, Sir, the honourable House is quite apprised of the fact that the demand under item 43 would be for Rs. 69,85,000.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I do not think I can allow any further discussion on this question. The point appears to be perfectly clear. The one point which required to be elucidated was whether honourable members were being taken unawares when they were considering the budget. I sympathised fully with that aspect of the question. But it has now been pointed out that on page 23 of the Blue Book the demand is clearly indicated as Rs. 69,85,000, and though in the White Book the amount shown is Rs. 85,00,000, it is stated in the foot-note that Rs. 15,15,000 out of it is provided under another head. Now if a demand for 85 lakhs were made on the present occasion and also a demand for 1,68 lakhs is made under 41, Civil Works, it will mean a provision of 15 lakhs twice over. That surely is not what the House desires.

[The President]

In these circumstances, I think the demand made by the Minister is quite in order.

I will add one more remark, and that is that if any honourable member has remained under any misapprehension and has given notice of reduction or omission under the impression that the total demand will be for 85 lakhs, then I will allow him when we take 41, Civil Works (1,68 lakhs) to modify his motion without any fresh notice.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Mr. President, may I point out that the same is the case with 45, Irrigation Works ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The point may be explained at the time that demand is taken up.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI : The point is that we have put in, say, a reduction of the total demand by 10 lakhs or 15 lakhs. We have done so under the impression that the demand is for 85 lakhs. If we move the same reductions on a demand for 69 lakhs, the proportion of reduction would be too large.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I am sorry that Mr. Adwani should have put that forward, because it is clearly evident that it is due to his own mistake. The Blue Book tells him that the amount which Government will demand will be Rs. 69,85,000 ; and the White Book says that Rs. 85,00,000 includes 15 lakhs which will have to be voted for under 41, Civil Works. Surely, that information has been before the House. The figures have not been put before the House in a form which is likely to mislead it. The footnote on the page referred to by the honourable member is perfectly clear, and the demand in the Blue Book is also perfectly clear. If the honourable member has made a mistake and if he wants to correct it, we will consider whether instead of a reduction of 10 lakhs or 15 lakhs, he should not be allowed to move for a corresponding reduction from the total demand. But surely, that cannot affect the demand which the Honourable Minister is making.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Mr. President, out of this demand for Rs. 69,85,000, we propose to spend Rs. 47,16,600 on works in progress, that is works that were sanctioned by this honourable House. The honourable members of this House well know that, if any reductions are made under works in progress, it will be greatly detrimental to the works undertaken. It will be a policy of penny wise and pound foolish, because most of these works have been given to contractors, and if we stop these works the result will be that Government will have to pay heavy compensation to the contractors who have collected materials and employed labour for the purpose. Now, there remains only Rs. 22,68,000 for New Works. Out of this, 7 lakhs are for medical buildings, that is hospitals. Further, Rs. 3,28,000 are for communications. The honourable House will agree that these are absolutely necessary in the interests of the people. Now, out of this total of 69 lakhs, Rs. 17,47,000, or nearly 25 per cent. are being spent on communications ;

[Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain]

about Rs. 9,67,000 on hospitals; 2 lakhs on educational buildings. These are all in the interests of the people.

Now, I come to the various items. The honourable members who are in charge of the various departments will satisfy the House about the various needs of their departments. I, as their agent, have to carry out their orders. Now, honourable members will find there is a provision for judicial buildings. There is a new district court to be opened at Jalgaon. Then there is a sum for a court house for the Sub-Judge, Hyderabad. I am myself particularly acquainted with the court house of this sub-judge. At present the first class subordinate judge holds his court in an old building, which is an old church and which is quite unfit for the purposes of a judicial court, and the accommodation is not sufficient. Then there is also a joint judge who holds his court in a temporary building. In fact, the joint judge and the first class subordinate judge cannot be accommodated properly. I think honourable members of this House will agree with me that it is necessary that we should have a decent court for a first class subordinate judge.

Then as regards jails, a separate jail is going to be built for female prisoners. I think it is not fair that female prisoners, whether Indian or European, should be mixed up with the males. They ought to be segregated and accommodated in a separate jail. That building will also be used partly for the purpose of accommodating juveniles, whom we are going to segregate from habitual and other criminals. I think it is in the interests of the people that females should be kept apart from males and that juveniles should be kept separate from old criminals.

Then there are some items as regards housing police officers which the Honourable the Home Member will justify to you. With these words, Sir, I move the demand for Rs. 69,85,400, partly reserved and partly transferred.

Question proposed that demand for Rs. 69,85,400 partly reserved and partly transferred, capital outlay for Civil Works (P.W.) be granted.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Sir, I move

Omit provision for judicial buildings at Jalgaon—Rs. 5,53,000 (Budget page 235).

Sir, it raises a very large question in which probably I shall have to place before the House a long list of grievances in connection with the division of Khandesh into East and West. This item of having judicial buildings at Jalgaon is connected with item No. 111 in statement D to which also I invite the attention of this Honourable House. That item seeks to make a provision for the creation of a new judicial district for East Khandesh and the establishment of the District Court at Jalgaon.

This question has been before Government since the year 1921. I believe it was in 1921 that the sanction of the Secretary of State was obtained for a judicial district court at Jalgaon, and as it was said in the budget of last year this question had to be postponed year after year, owing to financial stringency. However it is now being taken up in a year which is of all the years the most stringent. I therefore submit that this item be omitted.

[Mr. S. S. Dev]

Before I make this submission it is necessary to apprise this House of certain facts in connection with this. The House may know that before 1906 Khandesh was one entire united district. It was split up into two districts, East and West in 1906. That partition was made for revenue purposes. West Khandesh had been agitating since then that the division had been unequal and ought to be reopened. Till to-day for judicial purposes there is only one district court at Dhulia and judicial administration of both the districts is run by that court. And now it is proposed to divide Khandesh for judicial purposes also. When once this division takes place on the lines on which the revenue division has taken place, then I submit for the serious consideration of the House that West Khandesh will be permanently condemned. As I said, when Khandesh was split up for revenue purposes, into East and West, West Khandesh was in all respects made inferior to East Khandesh. For instance I may tell this House that West Khandesh has a population of 5 lakhs, whereas East Khandesh has that of 10 lakhs. West Khandesh has 8 talukas while East Khandesh has 15, and what will strike this House most is the fact that while West Khandesh has one representative in this House, East Khandesh has three. Even in the matter of partition for revenue purposes, West Khandesh has been treated very unfairly. It is not satisfied with the revenue division and it has been agitating in the public and in this Council ever since. I think it was in the last Council that a resolution was moved by the honourable member representing West Khandesh then urging that a committee might be appointed to readjust that division, to reopen it and to readjust it, and it was I believe, you, Sir, who from your seat in the Government benches said then that there was a *prima facie* case made out, that the division was unequal but that instead of having a committee the question would be inquired into departmentally. For over two years the question was under the consideration of Government. It was only two months back that Government came to a decision that the division for revenue purposes at least should be looked upon as a settled fact. On 1st February 1925 West Khandesh met in a district conference and unanimously passed a resolution that it refused to look upon the present division as a settled fact. West Khandesh has resolved not to allow Government any rest till the partition is reopened and made equal. Now, Sir, you are going to perpetuate that unequal division by having a judicial division on the same lines. The result of it will be that whereas West Khandesh will have three civil courts, East Khandesh will have 6. It is said by Government that East Khandesh will then be by itself a self-contained and a sufficient district for one district judge. In making this admission Government ignores the fact which it implies, namely, that West Khandesh would be a very small district for one district judge. If with a bigger number of courts you think East Khandesh to be a sufficiently strong district then it follows from it that West Khandesh will have a district court with light work and there will probably be posted at Dhulia a judge bordering on retirement who will have very little work to do. Therefore on behalf of the people of West Khandesh I appeal to the Honourable

[Mr. S. S. Dev]

the Home Member that he may be pleased to assure the House that the division of Khandesh will be made equal at least for judicial purposes. I have no grievance against a separate district court being created at Jalgaon for East Khandesh. But if you create that court on the same lines on which revenue division is made, then you will be continuing the injustice done to West Khandesh. I therefore submit that the Honourable the Home Member should extend here the same assurance which he gave in the Finance Committee when the question was discussed there. There he said that Chalisgaon court would be given to West Khandesh. Chalisgaon is in East Khandesh and the Home Member was pleased to assure that it would be assigned to West Khandesh for judicial purposes. But West Khandesh claims that Chalisgaon and Amalner courts from East Khandesh should be transferred to West Khandesh in order to make the judicial division equal in all respects. When I say there are three courts in West Khandesh and six in East Khandesh, I mean also to say that this proportion obtains in the file of work in all the courts together in West and East Khandesh ; for instance, sessions cases, criminal appeals and civil appeals in West and East Khandesh would be in the proportion of one to two. The present division will not also be justified from the administrative point of view, as I have already shown. I therefore urge that Chalisgaon and Amalner courts be transferred for judicial purposes to West Khandesh.

If also self-determination be a factor to be considered in this matter, I may bring to the notice of this House that the people of Amalner and Parola—or let me make my statement more definite one and all the pleaders from Amalner and the majority of the income tax payers from Amalner and almost all the citizens from Parola taluka, which is under the jurisdiction of Amalner court, are all in favour of having their subordinate court at Amalner transferred to West Khandesh. So if you consider the will of the people and their self-determination then I maintain that Amalner and Parola and Chalisgaon should be transferred to West Khandesh. Look at the question from any standpoint, you will be persuaded to believe that I have a just claim to make on behalf of West Khandesh ; I do not oppose a separate court for East Khandesh. I only wish that an assurance may be extended that this matter will be most seriously considered by the Government and the judicial division will be made equal. I may place before this House one more important fact in this connection. It was only on the 12th February that Mr. Justice Kincaid visited Dhulia on the occasion of his inspection tour and an address was given to him by the Dhulia Bar. Mr. Kincaid in reply admitted the justice of the claim and assured the Bar of his full sympathies. He further informed the Bar that the Chief Justice was also in favour of the claim made by the Dhulia Bar. I place all these facts before the Honourable the Home Member so that he may be pleased to consider them and may not perpetuate the injustice done to West Khandesh in matters judicial. I therefore propose that the expenditure contemplated to be made over judicial buildings do stand postponed.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District): Mr President, I oppose the claims forwarded by my honourable friend Mr. Dev who represents West Khandesh. I greatly doubt the sincerity of the claims advanced by the honourable member Mr. Dev in favour of an equal division of East and West Khandesh in judicial matters. I think he has spoken on behalf of the people in West Khandesh and he specially made reference to the citizens and income tax payers of West Khandesh and Amalner and Parola talukas. As a matter of fact I am a resident of Amalner taluka and I sincerely desire that my village should never be included under the jurisdiction of West Khandesh. It is very easy to get a bundle of applications signed by innumerable people by one man in one day if one man goes round in different talukas. But whether it is a real fact, whether those applications have been forwarded with clear consideration in the minds of the people is a matter to be decided by the actual demand from the people's side. This agitation is to a great extent on the part of the pleaders. When East Khandesh will be judicially separated, the class that is likely to suffer is not the income tax payers or the citizens of Parola, Amalner, but the pleader's class mostly. As regards the division of East and West Khandesh in revenue matters, I think that point has been finally settled by Government, by a resolution recently passed some months back. As a matter of fact there is great scope for expansion for West Khandesh because in Nandurbar taluka and Taloda taluka there are vast planes of very rich soil which can be brought under cultivation, and every year thousands of acres are given for cultivation there. That is not the case in East Khandesh, where every year nearly five per cent. of land is annually brought under cultivation anew.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I have allowed certain amount of latitude in the discussion that has gone on so far. The provision before the House is the provision for a judicial court at Jalgaon. Surely honourable members will themselves recognise that they have been traversing far beyond the limits of the real issue before the House.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI: I will conclude, Sir, by saying that I want to support the demand brought forward by the Honourable the Home Member.

Mr. D. R. PATIL (East Khandesh District): Mr. President, the honourable member Mr. Dev has clouded the main issue with a side issue. The only issue before us is whether there is a necessity of a district court at Jalgaon. He has dwelt at great length on the injustice of the division so far as the revenue administration is concerned. That is not the question before us and therefore I do not want to deal with it at all. Now in the honourable member Mr. Dev's speech he has clearly admitted the necessity of a district court at Jalgaon; he does not dispute that. When he does not dispute that what remains? Nothing, except that he must accept the Government's proposal.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Sir, during the last three years which were years of stringency this item had been postponed. If the honourable House admits that the present year is the most stringent

[Mr. S. S. Dev]

of all the past years then surely this item must stand over for some time. In the meanwhile the whole question of partition of Khandesh into East and West for both revenue and judicial purposes may be reopened and considered. Pending that inquiry this item may stand over. At any rate the judicial buildings at Jalgaon should not be undertaken in this year of deficit.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Mr. President, I see there is not really much difference of opinion as to the necessity of this court for East Khandesh and I do not propose to discuss that point further here because that is more properly a subject for discussion on item 111 which makes provision for a District Judge and his establishment for East Khandesh. The point here is rather different. It is this ; whether during this year we should spend money in building a new court and bungalows at Jalgaon in East Khandesh. Now, the position as to that is that a temporary arrangement of a not very satisfactory character would be possible, and therefore it does not necessarily follow that if we did not undertake the buildings this year we should not introduce a judge in East Khandesh. But looking to the fact that we shall have to save every penny we can in view of the recent vote of the House, it is my duty seriously to consider whether it would be right to undertake these buildings which will cost eventually some 5½ lakhs of rupees and will involve us in considerable sinking fund and interest charges, whether it would be right to embark this year on this scheme or whether it would not be more proper with our reduced finances to rely on temporary accommodation for introducing this year the District Judge. This has been considered this morning and we have come to the conclusion that we ought to economise in every way we can, because, as I said to the House the other day, we have not got the money, and if they do not give us the money, we cannot find the funds necessary for many of the important matters which are required in the presidency. Therefore, in view of this fact, I propose to leave aside the question of introducing the District Judge or not this year to item No. 111 to which it more appropriately belongs. But I will certainly not proceed with the buildings this year. So far as this item for a sum of Rs. 66,500 from the loan account to proceed with the buildings is concerned, we have come to the conclusion that it is but right that this item should be withdrawn this year by Government.

Question put and carried.

Mr. D. R. PATIL (East Khandesh District) : Mr. President, I beg to move :

Omit item regarding the provision for demolition of the old stables along north-east boundary of the Head Police Office, Bombay, and construction of a chawl, etc.—Rs. 1 lakh.

We find that in the remarks column it is stated as follows :

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, I should like to shorten matters by making a statement.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Let the honourable member formally move his motion.

Mr. D. R. PATIL : I formally move for the omission of the item.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, I have been looking into these police buildings. In view of the fact that our resources will be limited in the coming year, we have decided to go into the question whether economy cannot be practised in these items, because if we undertake this expense, it means sinking fund and interest charges which it will be difficult to find in a retrenched budget. We have decided, therefore, not to proceed with this work this year.

Question put and carried.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South) : Sir, I beg to move :

“ Omit construction of quarters for 8 inspectors in the compound of Head Police Office Rs. 1,00,000.”

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, I should like to make a similar statement with regard to this item. We have decided to look into this matter further, and in view of the fact that it will be difficult to find the necessary funds for sinking fund charges this year, we do not intend to proceed with the work this year.

Question put and carried.

Mr. D. R. PATIL (East Khandesh District) : Sir, I beg to move the motion which stands in my name, namely :

“ Omit item regarding the provision for construction of quarters for sub-inspector, head constables and constables at Ahmednagar, Rs. 50,000.”

Sir, we find the following remarks made against this item in the Blue Book :

“ The present lines are old and dilapidated and have been declared unfit for human habitation by the Executive Engineer. It is difficult to have suitable houses on hire. The town is an important one and in the interest of control and discipline all the men should be located together. The rate of house-rent sanctioned is Rs. 3 for a head constable, Rs. 2-8-0 for a constable, and Rs. 15 for a sub-inspector.”

Now, if we look to the present state of our finances, we should be spending as little money as possible over any buildings whatsoever. Therefore, without dealing at any great length with the question, I move for the omission of the item.

Question proposed.

Mr. A. MONTGOMERIE : Sir, I oppose the motion on the grounds which the honourable member read out. The present lines are occupied by 81 head constables and constables, and they have been declared unfit for human habitation. It is absolutely essential in a large town like Ahmednagar which is the headquarters of the district that the police force should be housed together in one place. It is not desirable to have the whole of your police force in such a city quartered all over the place. I suggest that merely on the ground that the present lines in which the police are accommodated are unfit for human habitation, it is imperative that the new lines should be constructed.

Mr. D. R. PATIL : Sir, I have nothing further to add. I think the reasons which I have given are quite sufficient to justify the omission of this item.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, I must ask the House to allow this item to stand. We cannot allow the police staff to live in quarters which are unfit for human habitation, quite apart from the administrative necessity of having them all quartered together.

Question put and lost.

Mr. D. R. PATIL (East Khandesh District) : Sir, I beg to move :

"Omit item regarding the provision for improvements and additions to the Mounted Armed Police Lines at Hyderabad, Rs. 1,00,000."

If we read the remarks against this item, we find it stated :

"The existing police lines provide accommodation for 50 married men only. With the exception of 12 married men who are compelled to live in the city for lack of accommodation, the remaining men are herded together in rooms or barracks of varying size. There is considerable over-crowding. The present lines are old and in very poor repair and provision for adequate accommodation is a matter of the utmost urgency. Proposals to relieve the congestion have been discussed and rediscussed since 1912. It is impossible to find accommodation on hire in the city, nor is it feasible for armed police, who must be readily available in any emergency."

Now, Sir, from the remarks it is clear that the matter has been under consideration since 1912 and nothing was done till now. There is no sufficient reason given why we should spend such a big amount of one lakh on this building. The police can find accommodation in the city and I do not see any objection to it. Therefore I say that this amount should not be given.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind) : Sir, I rise to support the motion. I may bring to the notice of the Honourable the Home Member and the Honourable Member the Home Secretary that the police lines are not in such a dangerous condition as they have been conveyed to us to be in this note. The total estimate for the building is Rs. 4,06,940. Out of this amount one-fourth is proposed to be spent as a first instalment. The total number of men to be provided with house accommodation is 52.

Mr. A. MONTGOMERIE : 183.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : So far as the present quarters are concerned, these are not likely to fall as it has been alleged to be in the note. They are in a sufficiently good condition and are built with *pucca* bricks. Therefore this provision is not necessary.

Mr. A. MONTGOMERIE : Sir, I should like to remove a misapprehension in the mind of the honourable the Deputy President which is due to the way in which the note has been written. The paragraph was intended to convey that there are only separate quarters for 50 married men and that there was no accommodation for the remaining 12 married men. Besides these there is no accommodation for 237 men who are herded together in barracks as has been pointed out by the Honourable the Home Member. There is no decent accommodation for single men at all. We have in the course of the retrenchment scheme cut down the number of constabulary in Hyderabad from 237 to 183. I hope it will be possible to complete the buildings with Rs. 3,25,000 instead of Rs. 4,07,000 which was estimated at the time when there were 237 men. In a place like Hyderabad, it is quite essential that these men should be together under the eyes of the police officers. It is quite impossible to

[Mr. A. Montgomerie]

have them outside. It has been reported that 100 of these men are herded together in barracks. This is not a matter which we can delay. As has been pointed out already by the Honourable the Home Member we have cut down various items which are not pressing. I request the House to pass this item so that these men may live in better surroundings.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Mr. President, I can assure honourable members that every care has been taken to see that economy is practised in this matter. The Home Secretary has already stated that the buildings can be completed with a less amount than was originally estimated. I can also reassure my honourable friend that these lines are not really fit for habitation. I was recently on tour and took the opportunity of personally inspecting these lines. There are only 50 separate quarters which are given out to the married men and these too are not really sufficient for married men. Accommodation given to them is far below the accommodation which is required according to the standards of modern requirements. As for the single men, it is absolutely impossible to keep them there. I went into several of the rooms myself. The rooms are very small and dark and were entirely filled by the cots of as many as four men. There was no room left for them to keep their kit. In some of these barracks as many as 20 men are huddled together. It is quite an impossible state of affairs for the constables who are required to live continuously in these rooms. There are no proper verandhas either at the back or in the front. As a consequence they have no protection from the severe hot weather of Hyderabad. The reason for the delay has been that negotiations were going on for purchasing the military lines from the military authorities. Eventually these negotiations have fallen through and it is impossible to keep this matter back further with due regard to humanity. I trust therefore that this grant will be sanctioned by the House.

Question put and lost.

Mr. D. R. PATIL (East Khandesh District) : Mr. President, I beg to move :

Omit item regarding the provision for conversion of existing quarters and construction of new additional ones for head-constables, etc. at Ahmedabad—(Rs. 1,00,000) (Budget page 237)

From the remarks given against this item in the Blue Book, it will appear that for want of sufficient accommodation two or three men have to live in one room and "in the interests of health, discipline and security of the force it is essential that the men should be provided with proper quarters." Now, the reasons which are given in the various remarks are practically the same. Sometimes we find that the scheme is "very urgent"; sometimes we find that it is "absolutely necessary"; sometimes we find that the matter has been under consideration for many months and the construction cannot be further postponed. These are the excuses we find in these remarks. But, I think, we should get away from this idea of spending more money over these buildings. If we look to the amount provided, we see that it is a very huge amount. The building is proposed to provide for 300 men.

[Mr. D. R. Patil]

Sir, I moved this motion only with the object of telling the Government that they should stop their policy of spending more money over these buildings than is necessary. Let them observe economy. I shall be very glad to withdraw my motion if I get an assurance from the Honourable the Leader of the House that he will not spend more money than is necessary. I will ask the Government to look to the houses of the agriculturists in the mofussil. When they are constructing buildings for these constables, I would ask Government for God's sake not to make them palatial but to follow the example of agriculturists. If the necessary assurance comes from the Honourable the Leader of the House, I shall be very glad to withdraw my present motion.

Question proposed.

Mr. G. I. PATEL (Ahmedabad Millowners' Association) : Mr. President, the honourable member Mr. Patil has made some statements without seeing the place actually. I saw those lines personally last year and I was struck with the conditions in which these three hundred men live. The case deserves to be considered on its real merit instead of from the point of view of economy. The reasons given in the remarks are very clear. It is stated that this work is required for accommodating 48 head constables and 263 constables of the Ahmedabad headquarters. This is a matter, therefore, of 300 men living with their families. I claim to know the conditions of these lines in Ahmedabad more than any other member of the House on this side, and from my experience I may be permitted to say that the present conditions in which these people live are most abominable. The quarters in which they live at present were built some 50 years ago. The honourable member Mr. Patil will kindly consider the fact that people who have to live in an advanced industrial city like Ahmedabad require quarters built not half a century back but some 20 or 15 years back. Moreover, this accommodation is required not for high officers, but for the poor people of the police department. It is not a question of highly paid officers, but of the low paid people. It is stated very clearly in the note that the rooms are without any convenience, were built some 50 years ago, and are unfit for married men living with families. I hope that every honourable member of this House will recognise that married men should have some convenience to spend their lives in a social manner. As the big people want some convenience, so also the poor people should have some convenience. The note states : "Moreover for want of sufficient accommodation two or three men have to live in one room". Sir, for a man to live in a small room with two or three children and with a wife, in a room built some 50 years ago, it must be hell. Then, Sir, consider the cost of living in Ahmedabad, which is higher than in Poona or Karachi. Therefore, these men require some consideration from the non-official side of this House, and this amount should therefore be sanctioned by this House. It is stated lastly in the note : "House rent at Rs. 7 for head constables and Rs. 5 for constables is at present paid to the unhoused men". So, the expenditure of this amount is not to remain as dead capital : there will be some kind of saving on the other side. But even

[Mr. G. I. Patel]

if it is going to be a dead loss, in the name of humanity and for the sake of the poor people, we are bound to help them with convenient houses. My honourable friend Mr. Patil stated that the amount is a huge one and in the interests of economy he pleaded that it should be cut down. But for reasons of humanity, for reasons of comfort for these poor people and in the interest of these three hundred families of poor police men, it is imperative, I think, that this amount should be sanctioned. I hope my honourable friend Mr. Patil will kindly now withdraw his motion.

Mr. D. R. PATIL (East Khandesh District): Mr. President, I am very much moved by the passionate pleadings of the honourable member Mr. Patel that these buildings are required for the children and families of the police men.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Are you going to withdraw the motion?

Mr. D. R. PATIL: I am going to withdraw, but I wish to make some remarks. My only object in giving this notice of motion was to tell the Government that they should observe the strictest possible economy over these buildings. Now, I am very glad to withdraw the motion at the suggestion of my honourable friend Mr. Patel. My honourable friend is a representative of the millowners of Ahmedabad, and when he goes to Ahmedabad I hope he will advise the millowners to provide suitable buildings for the poor labourers who work under millowners.

Mr. G. I. PATEL: Mr. President, may I rise to a point of explanation? I would like to draw my honourable friend's attention to the fact that within the last five years the millowners of Ahmedabad have built several chawls for their millhands. Not only have the labourers been housed, but a special fund has been collected which will be utilised for the benefit of their children's education.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I should like to assure the honourable member who has withdrawn the motion that we are anxious to effect economy. As a matter of fact this item was not finally allowed in the budget until my personal inspection of the lines recently at Ahmedabad.

Motion by leave withdrawn.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: That, Sir, finishes the items in my budget: they will be reduced by a sum of Rs. 2,66,500.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The Minister will make a demand for the total sanctioned grant when all the items have been disposed of by the House.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): Sir, I beg to move:

"Delete the item of Rs. 50,000—quarters for nurses, Poona. (Budget Page 239)."

You will see, Sir, that so far as the sub-items (a), (b) and (c) on page 239 are concerned, that is to say, the projects for out-patients department at the

[Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar]

Sassoon Hospital, side-rooms and a new operation theatre are concerned, I have nothing to say. It is only the last item, sub-item (d), i.e., quarters for nurses that I seek to delete, and I do this on the ground that it is a matter of common knowledge at least in Poona that the nurses working at the Sassoon Hospital are far in excess of the needs of the hospital. It is said that additional accommodation is necessary in the nurses' quarters as the present quarters and kitchens, pantries, etc., are quite inadequate to meet the requirements of the nursing staff which has to be increased on account of the new maternity ward. The reason that is given in the remarks column is certainly one that I cannot accept, because the nursing staff of the Sassoon Hospital is far more than its requirements; and even conceding that the nursing staff will have to be increased on account of the increase in the establishment of the operation theatre, I should say, Sir, that in view of the very lean year that we shall have to pass it is advisable not to spend Rs. 50,000 on this item. For these reasons I propose the omission of this item.

Question proposed.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Sir, the Sassoon Hospitals in Poona are very important hospitals and medical teaching is also done there. Nurses are also taught there and although they appear to be numerous to the honourable member for the Poona city their number is not in excess of the actual requirements of the hospitals. I think the honourable member is generally carried away by seeing a large number of nurses. But they include a number of nurses under training and as such they are not expected to do much work. But the permanent staff there is maintained to meet the wants of that hospital. It is not in excess. It is desirable that these nurses ought to have good quarters there. As they have to work on emergencies it is absolutely necessary that they ought to be housed in the premises.

Question put, House divided. Ayes 30; Noes 49. Motion lost.

Division No. 3.

Ayes

ABDULPURKAR, Mr. N. A.
ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JOG, Mr. V. N.
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
KARKI, Mr. M. D.
KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
MAVALANKAR, Mr. G. K.
MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.

NANAL, Mr. B. R.
NARJELVALA, Mr. H. H.
NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
PATEL, Mr. A. E.
PATEL, Mr. D. N.
PATEL, Mr. G. I.
POWAR, Mr. M. B.
PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSENALLY M.
SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
SURVE, Mr. V. A.
SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
VELKAR, Dr. M. B.

Tellers for the Ayes: Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR and Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN.

Noes.

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
 ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
 AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
 ANGADI, Mr. S. N.
 BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
 BOLE, Mr. S. K.
 CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
 CLAYTON, Mr. F.
 DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
 DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
 FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
 FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
 GHOSAL, Mr. J.
 GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan
 Bahadur SHAIKH.
 GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
 HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
 HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
 HEPPEL, Sir LAWLESS
 HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
 JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
 JATOI, Khan Saheb HAJI SEBAI IMAMBAKSH
 JATOI, Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH
 JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
 KALBHOR, Mr. G. M.
 KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.

KAY, Mr. J. A.
 KOKANI, Mr. G. J.
 LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHHO,
 Mr.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED
 KHAN
 PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
 PATIL, Mr. D. R.
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 PIR RASULBAKSH SHAH.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 PRATT, Mr. F. G.
 SARDESAL, Mr. S. A.
 SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 SURVE, Mr. A. N.
 THAKOR of Amod, the
 THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
 TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
 WILES, Mr. G.
 WOODS, Mr. E. E.

Tellers for the Noes: Mr. J. A. KAY and Dr. COSMAS FERNANDEZ.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts):
 Mr. President, I beg to move :

"That the item of Rs. 4,00,000 on page 242 of the Blue Book provided for the construction of a building for the Government Central Press, Stationery Office, etc., be omitted."

My objection is that we are being committed by this sanction of 4 lakhs to the ultimate expenditure of Rs. 15,31,000. I have seen the place where the printing press is now located and I think it can remain there till we see better times. Then my objection is that we may be absolutely laymen, we may know nothing about engineering, but when you ask us to sanction such a huge sum for expenditure you ought at least to give us an idea why so much expenditure is required, how much accommodation is required and why so much accommodation is required, and so on. I raised this question in the Finance Committee and we were told that it was not the practice to show all the details of estimates, and accommodation, etc., to the Finance Committee as they are shown to the Housing Committee, that this building was absolutely necessary, the accommodation was absolutely necessary, and the Honourable the General Member said that he had satisfied himself, but no plans or estimates were produced before the Committee. If that is so, and if Government benches are satisfied that so much accommodation is necessary, that so much money is necessary, and therefore we are merely to nod our assent because we do not know a single particular as regards the accommodation that is really required or as to why such a huge sum is required, then why is our vote at all taken? My objection is that at least the Finance Committee members ought to be taken into the Government's confidence, they ought to be shown why particular accommodation is required for such a building, why such a huge expenditure is required, before sanction is asked

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

for the construction of the building. My submission is that we are not in a position to undertake such a huge expenditure of Rs. 15,31,000, particularly when there is a deficit; and the moment we sanction the Rs. 4,00,000 this year we will be told next year, if we ask that no further expenditure should be incurred, that "this is a work which has already been started, the sanction was given by the House, and we are already committed to it" and so on, as the Honourable the General Member said in another connection. If that is so, I say: "Do not commit yourself; do not start the building at all".

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Mr. President, there seems to be some misunderstanding as to the proceedings in the Finance Committee. My honourable friend has informed the House that Government have refused to show him the plans in the Finance Committee. I must admit that I have not any very clear recollection of whether that statement is absolutely correct or not.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: I can tell my honourable friend that he said that I should go to his room and he would show him all the plans there.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: I would explain, Mr. President that what happened was this: the plans were not actually with us on the day of the Finance Committee, and I told the honourable member who has moved the rejection of this grant that, if he wanted to see the plans I should be very pleased indeed to show them to him at any time, and I gave him an invitation to come to my rooms to see the plans, and I also said that if he could not avail himself of my invitation, at the next Finance Committee meeting, I would have the plans ready to show them to him. As far as I recollect—and I think the Finance Member will bear me out—there was no meeting of the Finance Committee to consider this part of the budget. Therefore, I had not the opportunity of placing the plans before the Finance Committee. But if my honourable friend had come round to my rooms, I assure him I would have given him every detail that he desired to have.

But now allow me to explain the circumstances of this demand. An old godown next to the old Customs House accommodated the Central Press and that went on for years. But unfortunately, in 1914, the roof of that old godown gave way. The P.W.D. were of opinion that the lives of the workmen in the press were in danger. At any rate, Government managed to house the press in that godown by relieving some part of the building of the weight of heavy machinery, and in two months' time a temporary shed was constructed on the Kennedy Sea Face where the Central Press is accommodated till this day. We have been considering the question of the Central Press since that time. In the interval the war broke out, and nothing further could be done. Government first considered the idea of having a Central Press in Poona, in conjunction with their press at Yerayda, but the estimate turned out to be high and Government thought they were not justified in committing the taxpayers of the presidency to so heavy a cost. Then it was decided to consider the question of taking this press to the suburbs; the estimate came to Rs. 36 lakhs, and Government gave up the idea. Then

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

they decided to consider the question of taking it to Dadar on the site of the old distillery, but the objection to that was that if the press were located even so near as Dadar it might as well be hundreds of miles away, as there would have to be a small press in addition to the big Central Press somewhere near the Secretariat ; the scheme turned out to be too expensive. When the Cotton Depot was moved to Sewri, a site became available at Colaba, and the final decision of Government was that the Central Press should be situated on this site. It happens to be near the Secretariat, and a small subsidiary press could then be retrenched. The estimate is Rs. 15 lakhs ; and the site at Colaba is not sufficient for the press, and Government find that they have to acquire some 5,000 square yards of land belonging to the military. Mr. President, Government have also gone very carefully into the question of giving out their printing work on contract to private presses, instead of having a big Central Press of their own, and after tenders had been invited for a certain amount of work, it was found that by doing this work by contract we would be putting the taxpayers of the presidency to a considerable disadvantage, and that it was entirely in the interests of the taxpayer that Government should continue the work of printing themselves. We are not alone in this experience. The Government of Bengal have their own press ; Madras has three presses ; Bihar and Orissa, the United Provinces, the Central Provinces, Assam and Burma, have presses of their own.

An Honourable MEMBER : Are they in their own buildings ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : Yes. In England, I am informed that printing was done by contract. In London there are more facilities for getting printing work done than in Bombay. Nevertheless, the British Government have had to go in for a printing press of their own. The Government of India also tried the experiment of doing their printing work by contract, and they gave a contract for a large number of standard forms. I am afraid that experiment ended disastrously. I am not here to give the details of what happened, but I will content myself by saying that it was an utter failure, and the Government of India have gone back to the old practice of doing all their printing work themselves, and they have got three or four presses in different cities of India. I do not think there can be any doubt that it is a necessity for this presidency to have a big Central Press of their own, both for the sake of convenience and for the sake of economy. The present press is housed in a temporary building, which was intended to last for two years ; we have made it go till to-day. It is now worm-eaten and threatens to come down. The result is that considerable damage is being done to our machinery and the furniture is being worm-eaten. It was not till we got to a stage where we could not postpone this question any longer that I have had the honour to bring it before this honourable House. It is possible the site on which the press at present stands can be made available for another five or six years, but I am afraid the building will not stand that length of time. Already the

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

annual expenditure on repairs and maintenance is getting rather heavy. It was only yesterday that I was informed that a fresh expenditure of Rs. 15,000 on the building was urgent. Another Rs. 10,000 is required for annual repairs. I have also been told that if we go on delaying this matter any longer, we might be in the same position in which we were when the press was situated on the site next to the Old Custom House, and when the roof gave in. I do not think this question brooks any further delay. As to the accommodation provided, I have got the details here, and I have got the plans and if any further information is required after I have finished speaking, the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, will give further technical details that the honourable House may require. There is one block of two-storeyed buildings for the printing and stationery departments, costing Rs. 3,12,000; there is a block of single-storeyed building for the same departments Rs. 5,45,000; there is a block of a three-storeyed building for offices and quarters, Rs. 1,29,000; tiffin rooms and Sanitary tower Rs. 36,000; garage, Rs. 6,000; sanitary and water fittings, Rs. 12,000, and so on; land compensation Rs. 3,40,000; electric installation Rs. 58,000. The rest of the items are small ones under Rs. 20,000. At present our printing is done by the godowns being in one part of the city, the stationery in another part, and the printing press in a third part. One Manager is housed at Colaba.

I will just give the House an idea of what we save. We have had to hire in Poona a book depôt and an office at Rs. 350 a month. There is a godown that we are using under this very hall. The printing department has monopolised it. Government want it for other purposes; it cannot be relinquished. The question was at one time considered of putting up a building simply to house this stationery godown and the offices, and the estimate came to Rs. 2 lakhs; the idea had therefore to be given up. There is a paper stock godown in the Old Custom House, which has caused considerable inconvenience. It cannot be given up till other accommodation is provided. We are occupying a bungalow in Colaba for the Manager which, if replaced, would cost at least, I am told, Rs. 35,000; I consider it as an under-estimate. Then the site on which the old press was situated, after the building was pulled down, was rented to the Government of India during the war, and this Government received rent to the extent of Rs. 1,43,000 for it. Now, that site is available for sale, and is valued at Rs. 4,50,000. It is a very valuable site and it extends to about 2,144 square yards.

An Honourable MEMBER: Why don't you buy it?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: My honourable friend knows why I cannot buy it personally. I do not know why I should be asked these personal questions.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I should like to know whether the Honourable the General Member is likely to take long. In that case I will allow him to continue after tea time.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: I will continue after tea time.

After Recess.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Mr. President, I have not very much more to say. I would only like to impress on honourable members the volume of printing work that has to be done and the number of reports of the several departments that are printed and the volumes of statistics, fairly big volumes, that are printed and circulated to honourable members. It is impossible to do without the Central Press.

One other important point I wish to bring to the notice of honourable members is that we propose to acquire land that belongs to the military and we have not yet fixed the price. People who own land always consider that their land is worth more than what the purchaser considers is the proper value. But honourable members may rest assured that we will do our best to get the land at the cheapest rate possible.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District) : Sir, a motion for the omission of this item stands in my name and when I sent in notice of that motion, it had reached my ears from a reliable source that in Bombay there are so many things which the authorities ought to look into in the matter of improving certain buildings belonging to Government. But unfortunately, the Government choose the wrong department and go on constructing new buildings. So far as this stationery office and printing press is concerned, it may be that the building for the Government Central Press is necessary. It appears to me that just as Government pulled on somehow or other so long, they can do so for some time more under the present arrangement. I got the information from a reliable source—from an elected member of the University Senate who paid a visit to the medical college hostel—that the students' quarters were so bad that there was no proper ventilation and the rooms have got one door and that as soon as these doors were shut they were confined as if in a dungeon. No Government authority looks into these buildings and they go on constructing this new building at a cost of 15 lakhs out of which 4 lakhs are to be spent during the present year. In order to bring this fact to the notice of Government I have given notice of this motion. If the Government can effect any saving in this department they can pay attention to more urgent matters such as the case of the students of the medical college hostel who have been suffering from insanitary residences where there is no proper ventilation. With these remarks I support this motion before the House.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Sir, I support the motion before the House. In the interest of the workmen of the Central Press we are asking the Government to allow those workmen to enjoy the fine sea breeze of the Kennedy Sea Face till the sea goes farther away on account of the reclamation that is going to take place. Let the poor workmen enjoy the cool breeze as they have enjoyed it for 11 years. I have myself visited the Central Press while I was an examiner of the Bombay University. The place is excellent and a very good place. In the new proposed site for the construction of the Central Press the workmen cannot enjoy such fine breezes. Till the reclamation drives the sea farther away let the workmen enjoy and let the construction of the new building be postponed and a saving effected in this year which is a deficit year.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): Sir, a similar motion stands in my name. I desire to oppose this demand on two other grounds than those which have already been dealt with by the mover of the motion. As has been pointed out already, the matter for consideration is, how to cut short expenditure under this head. This sum of 15 lakhs which is proposed to be spent is a large sum of money and the interest on it will roughly amount to Rs. 90,000. I do not know if the Honourable the General Member has taken this factor into consideration in coming to the conclusion that it would be a good economic proposition for the Government to launch on this proposal at the present time. But apart from this consideration we can postpone this work for a year or two and continue in the present temporary building. I have seen that building while passing and it appears it will last some years more. I think it will be an advisable course to postpone this work for a year or two.

The other point to which I wish to refer is that I understand that it is also proposed to acquire land for the construction of quarters for the Manager or Superintendent as the case may be. This is a matter which in my opinion requires consideration. I was told that at present the Superintendent is housed in a fairly good bungalow in Poona. If so would it be advisable to spend more money on building quarters for him? These matters require consideration and it is desirable that we should have during the next budget a revised estimate showing less expenditure; and by that time we will also have found out means to improve our financial position.

Mr. G. I. PATEL (Ahmedabad Millowners' Association): Sir, the Honourable the General Member told us that out of the provision of 15 lakhs, 4 lakhs are proposed to be spent this year. He says that the present building is not spacious enough and that another building should be erected. I may draw his attention to the fact that the interest on this amount will be nearly a lakh. If this fact alone is taken into consideration, I would request him to consider my suggestion whether it would not be a more feasible and economic plan to hire two or three bungalows in some suburban area at a cost of Rs. 3,000 a month and locate the central press temporarily there, if the need for accommodation is so very urgent. I was told that in that event the press will get more distant from the Secretariat, which will be inconvenient. I would suggest to Government to get over this difficulty by appointing two or three motor cyclists for conveying work. Taking into consideration the capital outlay of 15 lakhs and the annual loss of the interest of one lakh, I think my suggestion will be considered by Government to be more practicable.

I beg the pardon of the Honourable the General Member when I say that we have been having bitter experience of the demands made by him. We paid a visit to the tenements built by the Development Department at Worli. We found to our great disappointment that out of the numerous tenements that have been built only 24 per cent. have been occupied and the rest are lying vacant. Now, it is evident that we have not been realising the value for the money we have invested on this work. Further he gave us the example of Madras and Bengal which have got a separate building for their press. These are some of the provinces

[Mr. G. I. Patel]

which sometimes commit default in paying provincial contributions. It ought to be on this ground, namely that their expenditure is very lavish, that they are not able to pay to the Central Government their legitimate provincial contributions. I wish that this presidency should not be reduced to the same position. The Honourable the General Member stated that the old Customs House building which was previously occupied by the press came down. I would suggest to him that he should sell away that land if he could get an offer of about two lakhs. The experiment may be tried of renting a few bungalows in the suburbs at Rs. 30,000 to Rs. 40,000. Or as my honourable friend suggested let them stay at present where they are and spend some moneys on the repair of the present buildings, so that the expenditure proposed will be saved and at the same time the workmen will get cool breeze from the sea.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE (Bombay City): I am sorry, Sir, I must oppose the motion. From the statement that has been made by the Honourable the General Member, I find, Sir, that we have got sufficient grounds to postpone this grant. Sir, the Honourable the General Member stated that the condition of the building is very dangerous. If that is correct, may I ask how long it will take for him to complete the new buildings? He has asked for 4 lakhs of rupees this year, and as the estimates are for 15 lakhs, we may take it that it will take nearly three or four years before the building will be completed. Therefore, the present building is considered to be in a fit condition to be occupied for about three years. If it were in a dangerous condition the Honourable the General Member ought to have come with an urgent demand for the removal of the Press to another building. If it is not in a dangerous condition, I ask the Honourable the General Member why is it that he is hurrying up. We are told, Sir, that we are going to get within the next three or four years, or five years, a large piece of land from the reclamation which will be very near the Secretariat, and that the cost of that land is about 30 to 40 rupees a square yard. We do not know exactly in what year the building is going to be completed, nor do we know whether the estimates prepared have been prepared very recently or some time back. We all know that within the last two years, the cost of materials has been going down and this year it has gone down further still. Therefore until the Honourable the General Member convinces us that the cost of land and the cost of materials has been calculated very recently and that it is really desirable that this work should be taken in hand immediately, and that the development plot which he proposes to sell to the public at a cost of Rs. 30 to Rs. 40 a square yard will not be useful for this building, I think this House should not be prepared to pass this grant of 15 lakhs.

Then, Sir, the cost of the construction is shown to be 15 lakhs, but we do not know whether the cost of land is included or not in that sum. Until we know what the value of that land is we cannot really pass this item.

[Mr. H. A. Lalljee]

As I have stated, it will take three or four years before this building could be raised, and the present building does not seem to be regarded as very dangerous. Therefore I hope the Honourable the General Member will agree to postpone the new construction. In the meanwhile, if a portion of that building is considered dangerous he can repair it and ask for some small grant of a few thousand rupees.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): Sir, a similar motion stands in my name, and I willingly support this motion. In this connection I wish to bring one fact to the notice of the House. I find, Sir, that this item and many other items have been included in the budget without taking the advice of the Finance Committee in the matter. (Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad: How do you know?). I know it: I am going to show it. We have been told, Sir, in the proceedings of the meetings of the Finance Committee in December 1924 at page 14:

"Mr. Shivdasani demanded a ruling that the committee should know whether there was a deficit or balance before passing opinion about the items.

"The Chairman pointed out that the purpose of discussing the new items was to ascertain the opinion of the committee whether they were proper objects for public expenditure. Their inclusion or not in the budget was a matter for Government."

My point, therefore, is that the Finance Committee's advice was not taken by Government before they included this particular item in the budget. Now, Sir, the Honourable the Finance Member is reported to have stated (Vol. III, page 1047, of the Council Proceedings) that the duties and functions of the Finance Committee were to assist Government in framing their next budget. There is also, I find, a communication dated 6th July 1921 and addressed to all members of this Council which states that the duties of the Finance Committee were to examine and advise on such budget materials that the Finance Department of Government placed at their disposal and thus assist Government in framing the budget. I feel, Sir, that particularly during this year, the advice of the Finance Committee should have been taken as to the inclusion of these items in the budget and they should have been given information as regards the financial position of the presidency before taking their advice on these particular matters.

Then, Sir, I want to bring to the notice of this Council one thing more. It seems from the statement of the Honourable the General Member that the roofs of Government institutions are going to come down. I do not know whether that is a fact. My honourable friend here suggests that the upper stories are going to come down, and I do not know whether that is true or false. With these words I support the motion.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South): I am glad, Sir, that the previous speaker has touched the real point of the debate. I understand from my honourable friend that his grievance is that he called for particular details in the Finance Committee; those details were not given to him. Before he could ask the House to give sanction he wanted the details. Now, that is an important point in which an important principle is involved. Very often the House has got to decide

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

the necessity or otherwise of items involving 4 lakhs and 5 lakhs. My experience in the Bombay Corporation is that before we sanction even Rs. 10,000 or Rs. 15,000, all the several materials and details are placed before us. The estimate concerning each and every item is placed before us. In this case the responsibility for the sanction is thrown upon us, but the particulars and details are not given to us. I say that is not treating the House fairly. When Government want our sanction we should be given all details and particulars. I particularly protest here against the procedure that is followed by the Honourable the General Member here. When any honourable member asks for any information either in the Honourable House or in a committee, he invites him to his private room and promises to give him all the information there. I say, Sir, that the procedure is objectionable. It is not that the honourable member wanted the information for his private purposes but that it was needed for the committee and for the debate in committee. If it is not supplied of what use is it to ask us to look at this and that statement. I hope that this procedure will be discontinued henceforth as it is objectionable.

Coming to the details given by the Honourable the General Member, he has read out certain figures and he expects us to compare them and consider whether they are fair. That is asking too much even from expert economists and financiers. We are not experts; no honourable member can say at once whether 4 lakhs or 16 lakhs or 20 lakhs are necessary. The first point to consider is whether this estimate is considered according to the present prices. It was made three or four years ago and the most material point is as to when these estimates were prepared, what were the rates at the time of estimates. We find in the municipal corporation that estimates prepared a year ago make a difference of 10 to 15 thousand. We do not know when this estimate was prepared. It must have been prepared some time ago. If they have to spend to-day less what becomes of the surplus money?

Another point which is made by one of my honourable friends is whether there is any necessity of having this press in the close vicinity of the Secretariat when there are so many means of transport available. Can we not go to the Development Department lands for which they cannot find purchasers notwithstanding their advertisements? When Government require this land for their own purpose why not make use of that land? I am sure, Sir, in that way there will be a saving of at least 4 or 5 lakhs if they transfer this institution to such places as Matunga or Chembur. The land manager has advertised that there are plots of land available there and so why not remove this institution to those distant places? It may be a little inconvenient, but considering the saving that would be made I think the inconvenience is nothing. It is not a question of having the Government Press or not. Probably the Honourable the General Member has made a good case for a separate press, but the question is whether the urgency is so great as to sanction 15 or 20 lakhs, and whether the estimates are correct and whether there

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

is not a difference in the prices of materials. These are points principally to be considered.

Mr. K. S. FRAMJI : Sir, we have been considering this question of the site for the press building for the last 3 or 4 years, and after several schemes were investigated, the present one has been adopted. The temporary building is standing on the present site for the last 8 years ; it was intended to stand for only 2 or 3 years, and now the time has come when we must provide a permanent building for the press. The present temporary building is in a bad condition ; the wooden posts are worm-eaten, and some are out of plumb. It costs a considerable sum to keep the building going due to weakness caused by vibrations. There is also great want of space. Those honourable gentlemen who know the working of the press would realise how the working of a press suffers for want of adequate space. The Back Bay Reclamation site, referred to by some honourable members will not be available for another 3 or 4 years. It will take about 3 years to build the new building if we spend 4 lakhs a year. The present building will not stand for 6 or 7 years.

One honourable gentleman said that we may remove the press to some 2 or 3 bungalows close to Bombay. But I do not think he has considered the fact whether suitable bungalows would be available and what would be the cost of bungalows suitable to accommodate a press. We cannot get ready made bungalows suitable for a press where there should be ample means for lighting and ventilation, and which should be sufficiently commodious for a large press. A point was raised regarding the estimates. I can assure the Honourable House that the estimates are very low and have been carefully prepared and scrutinized. The estimated cube rates for the Press Building, the Stationery Building and the block of quarters are very fair and reasonable. I have the plans and estimates with me here and shall be glad to show them to any honourable members. I do not think that it would be justifiable or wise to omit this item.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind) : Sir, I rise to oppose the grant of this item and support the motion. The note that has been placed before the Council is such that this Council ought to pause before sanctioning this item at the present stage. The Honourable the Home Member on behalf of Government began well by telling the House that Government was moved to-day to economise and to save sinking charges. So far as this item is concerned it is an item of 4 lakhs of rupees, not only that but that it is an item which commits the House by their vote without due consideration to an expenditure of over 15 lakhs 8 thousand. There was a time in 1922 when at the Finance Committee's meeting for the budget the honourable chairman of the finance committee refused to give us details, refused to give us assistance as regards the details of the items in the budget, when the Council met there was an uproar and protest against his having refused us that aid, and the result was that on that ground and chiefly on that ground the Entertainments Duty Bill was thrown out because the finance committee was not taken

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

in his confidence. The House asserted its self-respect then. This is another occasion when my honourable friend from Thana, Mr. Pradhan, wishes this Council to assert its dignity and self-respect and wishes the Council to state whether its elected representatives of the Finance Committee are entitled to respect or not. This is a motion apart from the committal in which we have to determine once for all, every honourable member of the non-official side has to determine once for all, whether they have a right to call upon Government across the table of the Finance Committee all the details they want. The passage read out by the honourable member Mr. Joshi from the proceedings distinctly shows the attitude of the Government and its representatives towards the members of the finance committee. I will put it therefore to every honourable member on the non-official side whether in rejecting this item honourable members should not assert their absolute right to claim all information from the Government, and whether not only the finance committee but whether other honourable members of this Council sitting on this side are not entitled to the information, specially the money information that they demand. Now, Sir, that is one thing. Another question of very serious import that appears to me is this, that we are now asked to commit ourselves to an expenditure of 15 lakhs and a quarter explained in a duration of 15 minutes which my honourable friend the General Member took to place complicated figures before this House in order to come to a determination. Does the Honourable the General Member wish this Council to come to a determination to commit itself to an expenditure of over 15 lakhs of rupees by quoting figures in 5 minutes? Does he expect the House to digest all these figures in 10 minutes and come to a definite decision that 15 lakhs shall be spent on a house which, according to him, has waited 11 years to be built? If that is the situation, we have to take into consideration the further words that we have got here :

“The Government Central Press is at present located in a temporary building” page 242 of the Blue Book.

It was located there in 1914 ; it is still located in that building in 1925—11 years after. “The accommodation available therein is found to be insufficient.” When? Was it found insufficient to-day, or on the 1st of January 1925, or was this accommodation found insufficient on the 1st of January 1915 or the end of 1914 when it just began to be located there? Reading on :

“The temporary structure also is in a very precarious condition. The necessity for providing a permanent building for the Press has been felt for a long time but nothing in this direction could be done up to now owing to financial stringency.”

I will put it to you, Sir, I will put it to this House, that there has been no financial stringency for the last two years. Look at the budget, look at the excesses of income over expenditure in the most lean year, 1922, when this House compelled a cut of Rs. 60 lakhs, and the very next year the Honourable the Finance Member (present Finance Member) announced in this Council that there was an excess of 56 lakhs of rupees. Was that a stringent year? Was 1923-24 a stringent year, or was 1924-25 a stringent year? I respectfully beg to lay before the House that these

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

three years were not stringent years, and in fact there was also a saving. These were the years in which the building ought to have been built. We are now in 1925-26, when a deficit is found and the Honourable the Home Member assures us that Government will make every economy and the Honourable the Finance Member assures us that he will try his best to see that strict economy is observed. And yet this extravagant item of 4 lakhs, which is equivalent to a payment of Rs. 26,000 for interest alone at 6½ per cent. is proposed. Is this a year in which this item of 4 lakhs ought to be spent? The item of 15 lakhs, which is the total expenditure, involves Rs. 96,000 as the interest on the outlay after the building is built. That is to say, an outlay, a burden, of Rs. 96,000 on this Council, on this presidency, a permanent burden until it is discharged! What is the justification for incurring this expenditure at 10 minutes' notice, that being the time taken by the Honourable the General Member to explain the figures? Will this Council be justified in voting away a further 15 lakhs on the information that the Honourable the General Member has to place before us to-day only, and not before? The statement that Government had to wait on account of financial stringency still applies. If financial stringency is now greater, the greater is the need, therefore, for waiting; the only point that was laid before this Council was this that the roof was coming down and perhaps there are white ants. When did these white ants enter the building, was not mentioned to us either by the General Member or the P. W. D. Secretary. We have not read of them in any of the papers supplied to us. If the white ants entered there 8 years ago, I think they might as well continue to remain there hereafter. But I do not think, Sir, that white ants really exist there except in the imagination of those people who reported to the Government the erection of a new house for the purpose of erection. The honourable member the P. W. D. Secretary tells us that though the white ants appear and though the house will take 7 or 8 years to build, yet the house would not be fit to live after 8 years. That is a very serious admission, I think. If the house would be fit to live in for only 8 years and next year we have a plethora of money, if the Honourable the Finance Member with his usual keenness for economy as he has done for the last three years will be able to bring his next budget with a surplus, in spite of his complaint yesterday that he would not be able to do so, then it will be time enough for us to see whether 15 lakhs or half that amount cannot be sanctioned. But when this year there is a declared deficit, I respectfully lay before the House that the very note which is here tells against the Government. We are not given the date of the plans and estimates; we are not given the dates on which these reports have been made or on which these plans and estimates were prepared; we are not given the dates, Sir, on which the house first began to fail in order to determine the exact position in which that house stands. And if the house is in that condition even up to this time, with an expenditure of Rs. 26,000, in order to save the interest on capital of Rs. 26,000, I do not think we should commit ourselves to an expenditure of a lakh of rupees by way of interest on these buildings. I therefore

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

submit that the Honourable the General Member, with the same intention towards economy (as the other Members of Government I have mentioned), will withdraw the item as the Honourable the Home Member did.

Mr. C. W. A. TURNER : I think, Sir, in asking that the Central Press should be allowed to be located where it is at present, honourable members on the other side of the House do not know the previous history of this building. When the roof of the old building which accommodated the Central Press gave way in 1914 and Government proposed to build this temporary structure for the press on the Kennedy Sea Face, there was a howl of protest, so far as I remember, from the municipality of Bombay, the public of Bombay, and other bodies, and a very strong complaint by the Education Department that we were robbing the Elphinstone College boys of their tennis court. It is rather surprising, therefore, that honourable members should now wish to have this temporary press still on the Kennedy Sea Face, on one of the finest sites in Bombay—I mean the Back Bay, which is one of the finest sites in Bombay. Further, it has been suggested by one honourable member that it is not necessary to have the press near the Secretariat. I would just ask the House to consider what a very large amount of printing is involved in the Blue Book, the White Book, the question lists, and things of that sort ; they have to be printed at very very short notice, and they have got to be ready by a certain time. That is the sort of work which the press is called upon to do at a moment's notice. No other private press in Bombay could do it. It would be extremely inconvenient, if the press were situated at Dadar or anywhere else in the suburbs, to get the copies down to Bombay by motor lorries.

One honourable member urged that this question is not really urgent, because though the present press was erected long ago, no attempt has been made to replace it so far. I must say that that is absolutely a fallacious argument. The present temporary press was erected against strong protest, and it was intended to stand there for two years only. It has been kept up with considerable difficulty by the Public Works Department. It was never intended to be kept any longer than two years, and had it not been for the war, it would certainly never have been allowed to be there. From that very date, new schemes have been considered right up to 1922-23. There was a scheme for removing the press to Poona ; that had to be abandoned in view of the inconvenience and expense. There was a scheme for putting up the press at Dadar ; that again had to be given up as it was found to be extremely inconvenient. There was a further scheme for putting up the press at Sewri ; that, again, proved to be inconvenient and expensive. There was also a proposal to put up a new press at Ghatkopar on the developed area. That, as the Honourable the General Member pointed out, was estimated to cost Rs. 30 lakhs. Government are now asking for Rs. 15 lakhs.

There was also the further argument advanced that it was not necessary to have a new press, as the present building will go on at least for a year, and therefore this expenditure should not be incurred. The present

[Mr. C. W. A. Turner]

building may last a year, but it will not last very much longer, and the very fact that it will take two years to build the new press makes it most essential that we should start at once. The longer it is delayed, the greater will be the risk of the present building falling down, and the more difficult will it be to carry on the press. The Honourable the General Member has already pointed out that we are already being asked for Rs. 15,000 for extension, and the annual repairs amount to an exorbitant figure, in order to keep the press going. It is therefore an uneconomic proposition not to have a new building.

I may add one thing. I think the honourable member from Sukkur (Mr. Pahalajani) made a very unfair attack on the Government, when he said that the dangers of continuing the press in its present building owing to the attacks of white ants existed only in the imagination of Government.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : Those who reported to you.

Mr. C. W. A. TURNER : I think that is also equally unfair.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD (Central Division) : Sir, I had no desire to take part in this discussion, but the observations that fell from the honourable member Mr. Pahalajani induced me to take part in it. The honourable member, Sir, imported more heat than light into the discussion. Now, Sir, he asks where the insects came from.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : I did not say that.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : I heard him say that—I am sorry if I am wrong. That reminds me of an article recently published which ridicules honourable members for putting such interpellations as to where the mosquitoes come from and why people die of malaria. I must deprecate the unfair remarks against the Honourable the Finance Member in regard to the Finance Committee. If this motion is to be rejected, it may be rejected on its merits, but the honourable member says that every member is bound to keep up the self-respect of this House, because some information was not supplied to the Finance Committee. Therefore, the motion should be rejected. Sir, this is a very unfair remark to make. I have been a member of the Finance Committee for some time and I owe it to the Finance Member to say that, with the greatest amount of courtesy he has placed every possible information at our disposal, and I think every member who has been a member of the Finance Committee will come forward to bear testimony to it. It may be that information about a particular item may not have been provided. Sir, the Finance Committee is not a statutory committee, and, as the honourable member Mr. Joshi has said, the Finance Member places at the disposal of the Finance Committee the information which he thinks it desirable for the members to know. But the House has the power to criticise, when the items come up before the House, in every respect possible, and I do not think there has been desire on the part of the Finance Member to burke any discussion or to be deficient in supplying information. I certainly give my testimony to the willingness

[Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad]

of the Finance Member and the Finance Department to give the Finance Committee every information possible.

With regard to the necessity of having a Central Press

Mr. D. R. PATIL : I rise to a point of order. The honourable member is addressing the members of the House ; he ought to address the Chair.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : I think the President would have reminded me if I had been addressing some one else than the Chair. At one time the Central Press was in the Secretariat building. But for various reasons it had to be shifted. I do not think it is wise to propose that the press should be taken far far away from the Secretariat. It is no business of ours where the press is located. It is not necessary for us to point where Government should have a building for the press. We have simply to give the order, and leave it to Government to decide the best way in which that order should be carried out. It must be admitted that the General Member is rather unfortunate in his secretaries, because their vocal organs are not very strong, but, at any rate, he has done his best. As far as the honourable member for the city of Bombay is concerned, he takes special pleasure in attacking the General Department, and is never so happy as when he is attacking the Honourable Member who is in charge of that department. If a cut is to be made, it must not be made because the Finance Committee was not supplied with some information. It must be made on its own merits.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North) : Mr. President, the question that is raised wears a constitutional aspect. The honourable member who has spoken just before me has referred to that point. The Finance Committee is not a statutory committee, but is appointed to advise the Finance Department as a matter of courtesy. Therefore, the point is, if the members of the committee do not obtain the information which they want, then it is the duty of those members who are refused the information, to come and state it to this House, and then it will be a point of honour for this House to decide whether it should, in future, elect any of its members on that committee. For this year, at any rate, that opportunity is lost, because the Finance Committee is already elected. Let us take a note of this fact, and when the appointment of the Finance Committee is moved next year, we can tell the Government that on such and such an occasion they refused to give particular information to the committee, and unless they promise to give all the information necessary for the decision of the questions coming before the Finance Committee, we will refuse to elect any members to it. That would be the right course to adopt. In the present instance at any rate, I think the House having once accepted the invitation of Government and having elected members to the Committee, it will not be for us to go back on it and say that we are not going to sanction this particular demand, because no information was given to our members because, by its very constitution we know that it is only advisory in its functions. Therefore, I think, to raise a point of honour in this particular instance is not quite sound. The second point is this. I was also on the finance committee last year. I may give you my own

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

experience and that is—I may say—in favour of Government. There is a circular on the file which any honourable member can see. On the notice of the meeting a note was made asking all the secretaries to come with their files to answer the questions that any honourable member might choose to ask. I can produce this notice, if any honourable member is curious to look at it. That was not all—in accordance with the notice the secretaries did produce huge files and were in attendance on the non-official members of the committee. If Government are willing to give us all the information that they can possibly give, then can we in justice say that information is not given to us and therefore we are not going to sanction the particular item?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Mr. President, I am sorry that the discussion should be led astray into the paths of the proceedings of the Finance Committee. As some weight appears to have been attached to that matter, I should like to say a word or two to remove the misunderstanding. The Honourable the Deputy President has spoken with his usual fiery eloquence and has given an impression of bitterness. The honourable member must have derived that heat in this matter at second hand, for he did not happen to be present at any recent meeting of the Finance Committee. This matter came up for discussion in December and the honourable member Mr. Pradhan asked for certain plans. I think that he must have misunderstood the answer that was given to him. It was not that the plans would not be given but that the detailed plans, did not happen to be available for immediate production. He was told that the plans would be produced at a subsequent meeting of the Finance Committee if required. But when the next meeting of the finance committee took place there was such a tremendous rush of work that it did not occur to the honourable member who had asked for the production of it to repeat his request. There was not the slightest desire to keep back these plans and had they been asked for certainly they would have been produced. I suggest therefore that this matter may be discussed purely on its merits and not with reference to the proceedings of the Finance Committee, which I should like to mention have been characterised by the greatest cordiality and good feeling.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Sir, I adhere to the same view I held a year before about the Finance Committee. I was on the finance committee for the last year, and I still believe that it is a mysterious body. The finance committee here is not on the lines of the finance committee in England and other western countries. The finance committee is treated here with scant courtesy. That I can very well say...

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Should that point be pursued further? Let us decide the question on its merits.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: As regards this item I see no reason why there should be a new building at a cost of 15 lakhs. For the present they can go on with the existing building which will last for two or three years more. Especially in such times as this additional expenditure on buildings should be avoided.

Mr. PUNJABHAI THAKERSI (Bombay City, North) : Sir, I never thought of taking part in the debate, but after hearing the speech of the honourable member for Poona I was wonder-struck when he said that he was in the Finance Committee and all details and every information were placed before the Finance Committee.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : That is not the point.

Mr. PUNJABHAI THAKERSI : Here is a provision made for the construction of a building for the Central Press. From the speech of the Honourable the General Member, it appears that land is also to be purchased. We do not know either the area of the land or the price which it is proposed to pay. If it is over Rs. 35 I would suggest to the Honourable the General Member to wait till the reclamation scheme is complete so that we can purchase for the same price land in the reclaimed area ; and we can also construct the building near the Secretariat. The reclamation will be complete in five or six years and till then we can go on in the present building which is not in any way so very dangerous. I have seen the Central Press building myself and it is not in such a bad condition. Further it is not desirable at such a time as this when there is financial stringency to spend 15 lakhs of rupees on such purposes. Without going into further details I request the honourable member to wait for some time.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts) : Mr. President, I must first clear some misunderstanding which has arisen. I did not for a moment mean to say that any information I asked for was refused. Information was supplied to us whenever we asked for it. My grievance as regards these estimates and plans is this. You are asking us to sanction huge sums. How can you expect us to give our assent or dissent without placing before us the plans ? I was told that it was not the practice to place the plans and estimates before the finance committee. If that is so, it means that you simply ask us to nod. I do say that the Honourable the General Member did make an offer to me that he would be prepared to show the plans if I went to his rooms. I said that it was not that the plans and estimates should be supplied to me but that it should be placed before the finance committee, whether it is statutory or not. Rightly or wrongly there is a committee. That committee advises you in framing the budget. If that is so, take at least that committee into your confidence and let them know the details. We do not pose to be experts but we have some knowledge and will be in a better position to give our assent or dissent.

Coming to the merits of this case, I find that the Honourable the General Member says that there is a site of about 6,000 square yards. We shall have to acquire a site of about 5,000 square yards from the Government of India. In the estimates Rs. 3,70,000 are put down as the probable cost of that land. It works out to about Rs. 70 a square yard. That portion of the site which you have already got, if put into the open market for sale, will fetch, according to the rate of value of the site which we are acquiring, at least 3 lakhs of rupees. So, the cost of the whole site is 6 or 7 lakhs, and this building is going to cost in all Rs. 18,31,000.

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

Now, Government are advertising and advertising for the sale of their suburban plots at the rate of Rs. 4 or Rs. 5. They can easily get the 11,000 or 12,000 square yards they require from these developed lands for Rs. 50,000.

Then, I am told that quarters are required for workmen and officers if the press is removed to the suburban sites, but even if money has to be spent on building quarters for the workmen and officers, that money will give a return. I submit, therefore, that in this lean year Government should not ask for a grant of such a big sum. Let them wait. As a matter of fact they are asking only for 4 lakhs this year, and according to their own calculations the new building will take four years for completion. The present building, therefore, is not going to tumble down within that time. If urgent repairs are required, let those repairs be made, and the building be made inhabitable for a couple of years more. So, whether Government build it in the reclamation area, because they want it near the Secretariat, or somewhere else, they can easily postpone it for a year or two. It is not such an urgent matter and that is why we are urging them to withdraw this demand.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Mr. President, there have been two main arguments placed before this honourable House. One argument came from my friend the honourable member from Ahmedabad, and that was from the humanitarian point of view. He desired that the workmen should continue to have the benefits of the sea breeze they get now. But he forgot that it is far more important to protect their lives than to allow them to enjoy the sea breeze. Well, Sir, I have already stated that one of the reasons why this demand is made is that this structure cannot continue to last very long. We have postponed consideration of this matter long enough. This structure was intended to last for two years and two years only. We have made it go for eleven years. And now we come to the Council, when we are convinced that we can wait no longer. Several honourable members have urged upon Government the advisability of waiting a little longer. Some have stated that we should wait till the reclamation is finished. Well, the reclamation area, at the very earliest date, will not be available until the year 1932 : that is another seven years, and it will take about four years to construct the new building, that is eleven years. What are we going to do during the next eleven years ? We will have to put up another temporary structure, and that will cost a lakh and a half or two. It cannot be done under that sum. Now, the repairs alone of this temporary structure go up to Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 15,000 a year at present, and we run the continued risk of being told that we have to vacate in a month's time because it is unsafe. Such a thing actually did happen with the old Central Press, which came down and Government had to rush up the present building in two months' time. We do not wish to be placed in the same circumstances if we can possibly help it. And it is for this reason that we have come to the House and told them that the time has arrived when we must budget for this item.

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

One honourable member raised the point of there being accommodation in this building for the Manager and the Superintendent. I have already stated that the Manager has quarters at present which are capitalised at the value of Rs. 56,000, and he will be housed, and this capitalised value will be saved. As to the Superintendent, he is at present in a hired building for which he pays rent himself and Government has nothing to do with it. We can easily provide that for him here and we have done so, and we propose to charge rent for it. It is most convenient that the Superintendent should live on the premises, because it is proposed to effect some economy. It is quite possible, I may tell honourable members, that if the Superintendent lives on the premises, we may be able to dispense with the services of the Manager. The accommodation has been provided at a very small cost, and we can get a full return of interest in the shape of rent.

My honourable friend from Ahmedabad made a suggestion, which could only come from the representative of the Millowners' Association of Ahmedabad. He suggested that we should house the Press in three or four bungalows in the suburbs. A Press which requires a building which is going to cost eleven lakhs should be housed in three or four bungalows in the suburbs! I repeat that the suggestion can only come from a representative of the Millowners' Association of Ahmedabad. I have no other argument to give. He also asked us not to emulate the example of Bengal and Madras who have got their own press buildings. During the last few days I have heard nothing but praise for the Governments of Bengal and Madras who run their administration most economically. We have been told that the expenditure in Bengal and Madras is much lower and that we should follow their example. Well, my honourable friend from Ahmedabad turns round and says: "Do not emulate their example; they are defaulters and have not paid their contributions to the Government of India. If you follow their example, you will also become defaulters." Whether we follow their example or not in the other case, we propose that we should follow their example in this case.

Now, Sir, as to my honourable friend the Deputy President and his white ants, I can only say that he should not judge other people by his own standards of veracity. If he does, he will only misjudge other people as he has done the officers of Government. Standards of veracity differ. But I can tell my honourable friend that I have seen this press myself, and the officers of Government who reported to me that white ants were prevalent have also seen the press for themselves, and what is more, the white ants have attacked the furniture so much so that Government have been asked to include in the budget steel furniture instead of wooden furniture, because if we substituted wooden furniture for the present wooden furniture, it might not last till the new buildings are completed.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: The white ants must have been there so many years.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: It may be that the white ants have appeared only two or three years ago.

Well, Sir, my honourable friend the Deputy President also complained that the date of the plan was not given. It was given by the honourable the Secretary of the Public Works Department. The plans are dated October 1924. It cannot be very much later than that. We are now in February 1925, and therefore the plans are up to date.

Mr. President, I do trust the honourable House will reject this motion. The building is urgently needed and we have postponed it long enough.

But there is just one more fact that I would like to bring again to the attention of the House and that is, that we shall be making some saving against this expenditure and that that saving nearly comes to 9 lakhs of rupees. It consists of the capitalized value of the bungalow in which the Manager lives, the capitalized value of the rent Government are paying for hired premises in Poona, the capitalized value of the accommodation in this building and in the Custom House which is badly wanted by Government, and also the amount of money which Government might receive from the land that has been relinquished. The old press site will fetch perhaps 4½ lakhs of rupees. It is next to the Custom House, and is 2,144 square yards. My honourable friends can value it for themselves.

Now, we have been asked to go to Chembur. If we go to Chembur it will be necessary to have another small press near the Secretariat. That was proposed when Government considered the question of removing it to Poona or the suburbs, or even to Dadar. If you take it to Chembur it will cost just as much money, and then there will be the housing question. Consider what the total cost will be, including another press near the Secretariat.

We shall try and get this land at the cheapest rate possible and let me assure my honourable friends that I will do my best to see that we get it at market rate, if not under market rate.

Question put. House divided.

Ayes 40; Noes 41: Motion lost.

Division No. 4.

Ayes.

ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
 BHOPATEAR, Mr. L. B.
 BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
 BIJARANI, Khan Saheb SHER MAHOMED KHAN.
 DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
 DEV, Mr. S. S.
 GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
 JATOI, Khan Saheb HAJI SERAI IMAM-BAKSH
 JATOI, Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH
 JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
 JOG, Mr. V. N.
 JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
 KABKI, Mr. M. D.
 LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
 LALJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.
 MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO, Mr.

MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
 NANAL, Mr. B. R.
 NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
 NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
 PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
 PATEL, Mr. A. E.
 PATEL, Mr. D. N.
 PATEL, Mr. G. I.
 PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED KHAN.
 PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
 PATIL, Mr. D. R.
 PIR RASULBAKSH SHAH
 POWAR, Mr. M. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSEINALLY M.
 SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.

Ayes—*contd.*

SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.
 SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.

THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
 THAKOR of Amod, the
 VELKAR, Dr. M. B.

Tellers for the Ayes : Mr. HOOSENBHOY A. LALLJEE and Mr. P. G. JOSHI.

Noes.

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
 ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
 AHMAD, MOULVI RAFI UDDIN
 ANGADI, Mr. S. N.
 CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
 CLAYTON, Mr. F.
 DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
 DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
 DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
 FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
 FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
 GHOSAL, Mr. J.
 GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan
 Bahadur SHAIKH.
 GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
 HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
 HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
 HEPPEE, Sir LAWLESS
 HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
 JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
 JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
 KALBHOR, Mr. G. M.

KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.
 KAY, Mr. J. A.
 LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
 MERTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 PECCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 PRATT, Mr. F. G.
 SARDESAI, Mr. S. A.
 SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
 SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO,
 Mr.
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 SURVE, Mr. A. N.
 THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
 TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
 WILES, Mr. G.
 WOODS, Mr. E. E.

Tellers for the Noes : Mr. J. A. KAY and Mr. J. ADDYMAN.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City) : Sir, I move :

“That the item of Rs. 2,58,400—expenditure item No. 48—Public buildings on the Artillery Maidan at Karachi—be omitted.”

If honourable members will turn to page 10 of “60—Civil Works Budget Estimate”, they will notice item No. 48 “Public Buildings on the Artillery Maidan”. It is an extraordinary item, Sir. I find that the estimate is for Rs. 1,96 thousand, out of which Rs. 1,11 thousand was spent in 1923-24 and Rs. 77 thousand is proposed to be spent during the current year, which amounts to Rs. 1,88 thousand. This means to say that the total expenditure of nearly the whole of the estimated amount has already been incurred, but we are now being asked to sanction an expenditure of Rs. 2,58,000 over and above the estimate. Now, Sir, this is a year during which we must stop any further construction of buildings for officers especially new buildings. These must naturally be new buildings since the estimated amount of Rs. 1,98,000 has practically been spent. If the demand had only been for the balance of Rs. 8,000, this House would have been justified in passing it. But the amount is Rs. 2,58,000 which means that it is quite outside the estimated amount. I do not believe there is any special urgency for these buildings; I do not find any description of any of these buildings either in the Blue Book or White Book or anywhere at all. I move, in these circumstances, that this item be omitted altogether.

Question proposed.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : I might say a word, Sir, about this item. It is not the case, as my

[Mr. D. B. Adwani]

honourable friend from Karachi states, that this money is going to be spent on buildings. It is for development, that is, laying out of roads, parks, drainage, etc. The honourable member has seen the Artillery Maidan. We have acquired some portions of it from the military. Here we have actually started buildings, such as the Judicial Commissioner's Court, for which there is a separate amount provided in this budget. This item is for the laying out of roads, parks, etc. When people see that there are roads, parks, drainage, etc., and that the place is thus in a developed condition, we will be able to dispose of the remaining portion belonging to Government at higher rates. The honourable member himself knows how valuable that portion is. The Karachi municipality is fighting and spending thousands of rupees for a strip of land that is included in this area. By providing roads, parks and drainage, we are enhancing the value of land belonging to Government.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Mr. President, the Honourable Minister in charge has explained the position with regard to the item entered in the Public Works Department budget. There is some reason for misunderstanding on the part of the honourable members opposite, because the heading says : " Public Buildings on the Artillery Maidan." That is rather a misnomer. It is not meant for public building, it is meant really for the development of the estate which we ultimately want to sell. Honourable members are aware that before 1921 the Bombay Government made an agreement with the Government of India by which a sum of 31 lakhs of rupees was to be paid to the Government of India for the Artillery Maidan that was taken up by the Bombay Government. The estimates prepared then and revised now show that this transaction is likely to be a profitable one for the Bombay Government. In parts the estimates were sanctioned by the Legislative Council in the two previous years and the Legislative Council had also sanctioned the erection of the judicial courts on the Artillery Maidan. The amount is necessary to develop the estate properly with roads and drainage and lighting, etc., in order to be able to place it on the market for the public to take. The details of the estimates, if they are required by the Council will be given to them when the items for Rs. 10 lakhs and Rs. 2,50,000 which are entered under head 56 come to be considered by the Council. Objections have been taken to these items by some members, and there will, therefore, be an opportunity of discussing them in detail then. For the moment, the amount of Rs. 2,58,000 is only meant for roads, drainage etc., in continuation of works that are already in progress, and I think that the Council will do well to pass this item, in order to enable the estate to be developed, so that it can be placed on the market as soon as possible.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Why was there a misprint ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Like all human affairs, it is liable to error.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City) : Mr. President, the Honourable Minister has not replied to the point which I made, namely that the

[Mr. D. B. Adwani]

estimate provided for Rs. 1,90,000, and we have already spent up to the current year Rs. 1,78,000, which means that we require only Rs. 12,000 more. But suddenly the House is asked to sanction an additional expenditure of Rs. 2,58,000, without any further explanation being given. The Honourable Minister simply says that the money is wanted for roads, etc. It seems to me that this is really a very unsatisfactory way of putting matters before us. Here is a big project; it is said to be for the development of the city. Now, it is only fair and reasonable that this Council should be provided with details with regard to the whole of this project in its full bearings, in the same manner as the details of the Development Department in Bombay are being provided. What is going to be the whole cost of this project? What is the estimated amount of outturn, and at what rate is the land expected to be sold, or is the transaction of the nature of the Bombay Development scheme? I think the Council should pause before passing this provision.

The Honourable Minister made some point about the land which was asked for by the municipality. With regard to this, the facts are that the municipality had been asked to part with some of its land, nearly 1,40,000 square yards, some years ago for the Military. The municipality now want that this land should be given back to them, but the Government has so far refused to give them this land. Now, this demand of the municipality is, in my opinion, a very just one, and the point for consideration would be whether, if the municipality is able to get back this land—because I understand that the municipality is going to the law court in order to get back this land—if the municipality is able to get back this land, would the project be a paying one then? All these particulars must be forthcoming, before we are asked for a grant of Rs. 2,58,000. As a matter of fact there is not a single word of explanation about it from any Member of Government. I must say that I am not against the development of the city, but I am certainly against the provision of funds, without any knowledge on the part of the Council about what is being done, and how the money is being spent.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Sir, I thought I mentioned that the detailed figures which my honourable friend wants would be more appropriately discussed when the scheme comes to be considered under the head 56. I do not think he is quite correct in charging Government with not having prepared or made available the full details of this agreement which, as I said, was entered into before 1921. Here is the report that was made by Mr. Mirams in 1923. It gives the plans and other details.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: I have not seen the report.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: It was again revised in detail on the 1st of September 1924—and the report is another printed document—and the Council last year passed a grant of Rs. 95,000 in connection with this very scheme. It also passed, as the P.W.D. estimates mention in the printed papers; on preliminary development Rs. 1,96,000. I told the Council that it is a misnomer to say that this Rs. 1,96,000 is

[Mr. C. V. Mehta]

for public buildings, as one might be led to expect from the heading of the item. I have also stated that this Rs. 1,96,000 is by no means the full estimate. It is only a preliminary development estimate, as is clearly mentioned in the papers. The full estimate will come to a much larger sum, and is bound to come to a larger sum, considering the very large area that is proposed to be dealt with in these papers. One hundred and eighty acres, I think, were taken from the Government of India. All these items are put in these printed papers, and the scheme was, as I said, already passed, both in principle and in practice, by the Council passing the sum of Rs. 95,000, which was put deliberately in the budget last year, in order that it may be discussed by the Council. In fact, it is rather an academical discussion now, because the transaction has been entered into with the Government of India, Rs. 10 lakhs have already been paid to the Government of India as part of the Rs. 31 lakhs which we contracted to pay, and the more we delay the development of this property which is now ours, the greater will be the time when we shall get returns from it and the greater will be the interest charges that will mount up on these sums that we have expended. Further, it is to the interest of the Government and the public to see that we carry out our obligations as quickly as possible, and allow for the expansion of the city, to which, I understand, the honourable member does not take any exception, I, therefore, think that this grant should meet with the approval of the Council.

Question put and lost.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The Deputy President has two motions for lump sum reduction: in the first case, the assumed total grant is Rs. 85 lakhs, and he proposes a reduction of 25 lakhs; in the second case he rightly puts the figure at Rs. 69,85,000, and proposes to reduce it by Rs. 19 lakhs. I take it he moves the reduction by Rs. 19 lakhs.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the total provision of Rs. 69,85,000 in P. W. D. estimates, page 3, be reduced by Rs. 19 lakhs.

If we refer to page 3 of the Civil Works Budget, under head 60, we find that the actual expenditure for 1923-24 is Rs. 57 lakhs; the budget estimate for 1924-25 is Rs. 82 lakhs, the revised estimate for 1924-25 is Rs. 81 lakhs, and the budget estimate for 1925-26 is Rs. 69,85,000. Now, it is clear that the actual expenditure on work done from borrowed funds in 1923-24, when the year was not a lean year, when there were plenty of funds with Government—it was two years after the system of buildings from loans was begun—was Rs. 57 lakhs.

The actual expenditure for 10 months and the possible expenditure for two months more is Rs. 81,22,000. At the same time, at the bottom you will find a lump sum of 4 lakhs for probable lapse in 1924-25. Under the new system of accounts this amount of 4 lakhs for probable lapse goes into the balance. That is to say, the actual expenditure will be 76 lakhs. If the actual expenditure in 1923-24 was 57 lakhs, there is no

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

reason why in this year, when it is necessary to curtail expenditure, it should stand at 76 lakhs. Even after the cut that had been made the present figure stands at 57 lakhs. Therefore my submission is that adding these two lakhs and odd a total cut of 19 lakhs can be made in this item so that it will be reasonable, if at all it is necessary to spend this amount upon loan works. I may be asked by the Honourable Minister whence this money is to be cut. I would suggest to the Honourable the General Member that it is high time he should consider after the last division, which evidently showed that there are only 15 non-officials to support him and 40 non-officials against him, whether he should not stop the programme of building the Central Press. If you look into the small White Book you will find several items of works enumerated in connection with the Goculdas Tejpal hospital, the Ahmedabad hospital, B. J. Medical School, Poona. There are works under the Administration of Justice, under Jails and Convict Settlements. Above all you have got an increased expenditure of several lakhs on roads and communications. If we turn to pages 10 and 11 of that separate book, we find that these are works in progress. The works on roads and communications have been going on from time to time none of which are likely to be finished. Very few are likely to be finished. Under these circumstances, if a proportionate reduction is made on expenditure on roads and communications so as to bring the total to 50 lakhs there will be no difficulty in giving effect to the proposals I have made. Therefore I put it to the Honourable Minister in charge whether it would not be desirable to put the figure on roads and communications at what it stood during the last 4 or 5 years. According to the proposals I have made I think the cut of 19 lakhs will not be heavy.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Sir, I was very much amused at the arguments advanced by the honourable the Deputy President. I have been hearing so much about the solicitude for the masses and the poorer classes, and listening to the insistent demands for better communication, and hospital accommodation. Now, my honourable friend tells me that it is better not to undertake such beneficent works. I was surprised to find that his practice differs from his professions. What does he ask for now? He wants to cut down expenditure on communications, which are so badly wanted in the interest of the masses. One member after another gets up and asks for more money for communications and more money for medical relief. With all his solicitude, the honourable member the Deputy President proposes a reduction in the demand.

I shall show how this amount of 69 lakhs is made up. We cannot cut down any expenditure on works in progress. If we stop any of the works, we will have to pay damages. The suggestion of the honourable member the Deputy President was to cut down expenditure on communications and medical relief. I was simply surprised to hear him. The only items for which there were no motions either for reduction or omission were communications, which honourable members fully realise are in the interest of the people. The honourable member the Deputy President, on the

[Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain]

other hand, wants to cut down the expenditure on those items. I am indifferent and I leave the Council to decide as it likes in the matter.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind): Sir, I am very grateful to the Honourable Minister for the plea he has imported in his reply. I was explaining to the Honourable Minister that if any money lapses this year that will relate to the actual works. According to the new system, in the next year they are not allowed to lapse: they are kept apart for the purpose of building those works. It is a portion of the 81 lakhs shown as the revised budget estimate, that is to say, actual expenditure for ten months and probable expenditure for the next two months. It is in view of that that I still hold and place before the House that 4 lakhs is the amount that will have to be kept apart after 31st March for unfinished works.

Mr. G. WILES: Sir, may I explain? The Honourable the Deputy President is not quite correct, and it would be a pity that the House should remain under a misapprehension about this. On page 27 of the Blue Book I have explained the method of lapses. I have stated there that although provision is made for this lapse of 4 lakhs at the end of this year, we have got a corresponding deduction of a sum of 4 lakhs as probable lapses during the next year, so that the total demand remains the same.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: Sir, I was referring to the total sum Government is asking for this year. I was not referring to the four lakhs. I have not been properly understood. I am perfectly certain that I said that the real expenditure up to 31st March is not 81 lakhs but four lakhs less. In that I am supported by the honourable the Finance Secretary. Four lakhs is the amount of unspent balance that will be left in the hands of the Government on the 31st March.

The only reply that I have been given is a ridicule of my proposal for saving a little money out of the provision for communications. It is certainly open to the Honourable the Minister in charge, as a part of parliamentary tactics, to ridicule his opponent, and I am quite prepared to take it and return it. But it is no fair argument to state that no reductions should be made even in a lean year. The list of roads and communications and the money that is spent from year to year may be looked into. You will find that the total amount spent during each of the last three or four years on repairs of roads is much less in those years than during this year. Sir, the Honourable Minister has attached so much importance to the completion of these roads that he is looking forward to it as towards a millennium. I must ask him, therefore, to look at his own figures, and tell the House how many years he has taken to complete those roads for which he is so very enthusiastic now. The whole question is whether in the present year it is necessary to devote towards partial repairs, not completion of the repairs, of these roads all the amount that is provided for, and whether it is not possible to spend less money upon them this year and finish them after the second or third year. That is the view that I place before the Council.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Sir, may I make one point clear to the House ? The honourable member the Deputy President has often been harping on the provision for lapses. It is a new system. The lapse in one year is to be provided for the next year ; but from the figures for the next year, a corresponding deduction is made of the probable lapses during that year.

Then the honourable member the Deputy President has stated that these amounts are provided for repairs. Again, that is a misstatement. These are roads in progress or new roads that we are constructing. Repairs come under 41—Civil Works. I will come to repairs later on. These are new roads or roads in progress. What will be the effect.....

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: Will the Honourable Minister look at item No. 52, page 10 (Budget Estimate of the Public Works Department)? There provision is made for "metalling and improving" the road.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Improvement is quite different from repairs. I think the honourable member the Deputy President should know the difference between improvement and ordinary repairs. This is money which the Ministers get with difficulty for the nation-building departments, and I am simply surprised at the attitude of the honourable member the Deputy President. I therefore hope this House will vote against the motion of the honourable member the Deputy President.

Question put and lost.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): Sir, I beg to move:

Reduce by Rs. 10 lakhs, total demand of Rs. 69,85,000 (Civil Estimates, page 253).

Sir, my proposal ought to commend itself to the Honourable Minister, because it is quite a reasonable one. I do not propose to go at length into the details, but I wish to point out to him only a few items under which reductions can very easily be made. For example, if he looks at the details on page 4 (60—Civil Works, Budget Estimates, Public Works Department) he will find item No. 1, "Housing of Officers in Karachi". I would request honourable members to see that the estimates are for Rs. 2,53,000. During the current year we will have spent Rs. 1,50,000; and the Honourable Minister wants Rs. 1,50,000 more, making in all Rs. 3,00,000. The estimate is only for 2½ lakhs, and the Honourable Minister wants the House to vote a sum of 3 lakhs, without any explanation as to the necessity for this increase, and without any revised estimates of any kind. Now, I hold, Sir, that the housing of officers is not so urgent that we should spend fifty thousand rupees more than the estimated amount. It is quite probable that one more bungalow is being added, for one more officer in Karachi. There is plenty of accommodation in Karachi, in the Civil Lines, and it would therefore be a waste of money to spend money in that way.

I will proceed now to item No. 6, Judicial Commissioner's Court, Karachi. Honourable members will observe that there is an estimate of Rs. 10,61,000, and that is only for the "ground-floor". The stone has been imported from elsewhere, an extraordinarily expensive stone, and I think the estimate of Rs. 10,61,000 for only the ground-floor of the

[Mr. D. B. Adwani]

Judicial Commissioner's Court is an extraordinarily heavy one. And we are asked to pass Rs. 5,00,000 for this item. I am quite certain, that if stringent economy is observed a great deal of saving can be made under this head.

Then, Sir, I pass to item No. 53 (page 10, 60—Civil Works, Budget Estimate of the Public Works Department). The Honourable the Finance Member told us yesterday that he had promised to pay the sum subject to the approval of the Council, and that it was originally a smaller sum. I cannot understand the amendment of figures. The estimate of 13 lakhs was never placed before the House so far as I am aware. A saving can be made in this head. An estimate of 13 lakhs is shown under this item. This House only passed an estimate of 4 lakhs originally. Therefore we can save an amount of 4 lakhs which has been provided for this item in the ensuing year. In addition we must not forget that a big margin usually exists in the Public Works Department estimates. I am sure that if officers of the department would make up their mind they would be able to reduce the expenditure, and I submit that a cut of 10 lakhs of rupees is not too high for works of this character.

Question proposed.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Sir, my honourable friend from Karachi first dealt with the housing of officers in Karachi. He said the original estimate was 253,271, that last year we proposed to spend about 1 lakh 50 thousand, and now we have brought again a demand for Rs. 1,50,000. Sir, so far we have been able to ascertain, the whole of the present year's provision is not likely to be spent; therefore we have asked for this amount for the next year. Suppose we now do not give further money to the contractor, what will he do with the materials? Will he not sue us for damages? Is the Council prepared to give him compensation?

Now the same arguments apply to the Judicial Commissioner's court. Plans and estimates have been sanctioned, the work is in progress and a large sum of money has been spent on it. All the materials have been collected by the contractors, and if the work is now stopped, that material will be of no use to them.

Now, coming to the Kasheli bridge, I must say a few words about the history of this bridge. We had representations from Thana and other places in this matter. We heard that the Bombay Corporation wanted to build a bridge there and in order that the people going to Thana and other places may use this bridge, we subscribed towards it. At first, the Bombay Corporation gave us to understand that our contribution would come to about 4 lakhs, but now they say that Government contribution will come to 13 lakhs. When the corporation complained that we did not co-operate with them, we said that we would go to the Council with the revised estimate and if the Council sanctioned the revised estimate we would give them the money. It is the scheme of the Bombay Corporation which Government helped for the benefit of the people passing over the bridge which Government wanted to make wide enough for the purpose of traffic.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, I beg the indulgence of this House to put in a few words about this project. It is well-known, Sir, that the Bombay Agra Road is one of the main arteries of communication. It passes through Thana, to Bhiwandi and further on, and between Thana and Bhiwandi there is a ferry which is required to cross a creek. It is a very troublesome job to take carts across the creek and it took a deal of time and caused a great deal of inconvenience to the people. A small road was therefore constructed from the Bombay-Poona road to join at Kalyan, but this caused a detour of 14 miles. It was necessary to shorten this distance and therefore Government entered into the agreement to co-operate with the Bombay Municipality to share in the expenses of constructing this bridge. The Bombay Municipality has spent a good deal of money over it and the contribution that is asked as a share from Government is quite moderate, taking into consideration the great importance of this bridge as it shortens the distance between these two places by about 15 miles.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City) : Sir, I do not wish to take the time of the House, but I simply wish to say that the Honourable Minister has not been able to make out a case for himself. He has told us that in the bungalows for officers he can make a saving of 50 thousand rupees. It would not be spent, or at least there is a margin for saving in it. With regard to the Bassein Bridge, this House agreed to give 4 lakhs as its contribution and the Honourable Minister admitted that he would be prepared to come to this House again with the revised estimate. When the revised estimate is brought forward, it will be for the House to decide. It would not do till then to include that amount in the budget. In conclusion I will only read from the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member made on the 20th February 1922. He says :

" I now come to Civil Works. Any one who examines the budget will observe that the establishment charges have been reduced from 46 to 35 ; a reduction which is the fruit of the Honourable Minister's labour in the cause of retrenchment.

No new works have been undertaken ; the fact which though regrettable in itself, is another indication of economy practised."

This shows that if the year were actually lean and there was a deficit no new works would be undertaken at all.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Sir, I am really surprised at the attitude the honourable member for Karachi has taken. He is talking all along of works in progress. I have already told him that, if these works are stopped, the contractors will sue for damages ; and, if the House is prepared to pay the contractors compensation for stopping the works in progress, I am ready to stop them.

Question put and lost.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Sir, I move :

" Reduce by rupees 5 lakhs—total demand (Civil Estimate, page 253)."

Rs. 2,66,000 have been already cut from the total demand. These items, totalling that amount, have been rejected by the Council and it is only a question of 2 lakhs and 40 thousand more to make a total

[Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan]

reduction of 5 lakhs, and there are many new projects that can be delayed for one year. As for example the new sub-judge's court building at Hyderabad. If that building is abandoned rupees 50 thousand can be saved.

The whole grant that is provided in a particular year is not always spent, as several honourable members have pointed out. Secondly, a further cut of 2 lakhs can be easily made in view of the fact that the materials of construction have diminished in price. So I propose that the Government can easily save Rs. 5 lakhs.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Sir, just now there was a motion for rejection of the provision for Hyderabad sub-judges' courts, and the motion was rejected by this honourable House. I really do not see how I can go against the wishes of this honourable House. In fact, in regard to almost every item of new works, there is a motion for reduction. The honourable House have made cuts in some of them, and have passed others. I think in again cutting down the grants both the honourable House and I would be stultifying ourselves. The honourable House have approved all the items except those which they have reduced.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN: It is not necessary for me to reply, Mr. President. I have shown that economy can be effected and I have shown it can be done.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: I assure the House that I will try to reduce the amount to their satisfaction.

Mr. G. I. PATEL: By what amount?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Make it four lakhs.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN: Sir, in view of the assurance given by the Honourable Minister that economy will be effected, I would ask for permission to withdraw my motion.

Question put and leave granted.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Sir, I will now ask that the budget grant for this department be passed for Rs. 67,18,500.

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Mr. President, I rise to move for a demand of Rs. 1,47,75,000 for Bombay Development Scheme. I would just like to explain how I come to that figure. If honourable members will open their Blue Book, they will see on page 23, that the demand is put down at Rs. 1,57,91,000, item 42. Mr. President, I am going to ask for Rs. 10,16,572 less than that amount. Therefore, I am asking for Rs. 1,47,75,000. I will ask the permission of the House to explain a little later why I am reducing the amount by this Rs. 10,16,000. Mr. President, from one or two of the speeches made, I realise that honourable members have not quite understood the figures in the budget and I sympathise with them and realise that it is not easy

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

to follow these figures, specially when we make changes in the form of the budget, not because we desire to make it more difficult for honourable members, but sometimes we are ordered to do so by the Accountant General and the Auditor General, and sometimes because it is more convenient. In previous budgets all loans taken from this Government by local bodies were included in the Development Department budget, which made the budget unnecessarily complicated and which led some honourable members to believe that we were borrowing on behalf of the Development Department much larger sums than we were. Therefore, this year all loans taken from this Government by local bodies such as the Improvement Trust, the Municipality and the Port Trust have been excluded from the Development Department budget. If honourable members will turn to page 129 of the Blue Book, they will find on the expenditure side No. 19, Interest on debt, budget estimate for 1924-25 Rs. 1,84,63,000. For the revised estimate of 1924-25 there is a big drop to Rs. 1,16,56,000. In the figure for 1924-25 all interest charges were included, while in the revised figure of Rs. 1,16,56,000 the Development Department interest charges have been excluded. That is why there is a big drop between the two figures. Now, turning to the head 59 on the same page, honourable members will see that the expenditure head for 1924-25 was Rs. 2,77,99,000 while it is, in the revised estimate for 1924-25, Rs. 2,82,03,000. And naturally, my honourable friend the member for Poona and the member for Ahmedabad yesterday concluded that the expenditure had gone up. The revised figure for 1924-25 includes the interest charges, while the estimated figure for 1924-25 does not include that charge. That is explained in the Blue Book, at the bottom of page 131. If you look at the bottom of page 131, you will find the interest charges are Rs. 63,27,000 for the current year. Now, in the next year, you will find the expenditure is put down for Rs. 2,36,99,000. That also includes the interest. That is explained at the bottom of page 132. There you will see that the actual expenditure is Rs. 1,59,00,000, while the interest is Rs. 77 lakhs. Now, if honourable members will just take down these three sets of figures they will get the exact comparative position. Last budget session, I had the honour of making a demand for a little less than Rs. 2,77,00,000, because non-voted items were deducted. The revised figure is Rs. 2,18,76,000. The expenditure for the coming year is Rs. 1,59,85,000. Now, honourable members will see that there is a difference of nearly Rs. 60 lakhs between the current year's demand and the revised figure. Honourable members will recollect that they took a considerable interest in the development budget last year, for which I am considerably indebted to them, and they asked me to make a reduction of Rs. 75 lakhs. I responded by making an offer of Rs. 35 lakhs. Government have kept that promise, and though I did not make a promise to reduce it by Rs. 75 lakhs, I told the House that Government would do their best to reduce as much as they could. These figures which I have just given show a reduction of Rs. 60 lakhs. But that is not all. These figures were worked out some time ago, and now I am in a position to say that it is quite possible that

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

we shall reduce it by another Rs. 30 lakhs. Therefore, when honourable members were insistent upon reducing the expenditure by Rs. 75 lakhs, I am now in a position to say that Government have been able to effect, with the assistance of my honourable friend the Director of Development, a reduction of about a crore of rupees. At that time, I informed honourable members that certain expenditure was entered in the budget, and that was required, but that we would save every pie. We have done so. Now, the process of retrenchment and reduction of expenditure has been continuous throughout the year, and is still going on. It may be that when the actuals are out, the figure will be lower by something like Rs. 30 lakhs.

An Honourable MEMBER : How ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : By spending less all over the suburban area. That was the policy we announced last year. I may briefly repeat the policy I announced last year. It was that for the reclamation we should go ahead as fast as we could ; for industrial housing we should stop at 16,880 rooms : and we should not commit Government to any further expenditure either by acquisition of land or by placing further contracts for chawls, and that we should not go in for any new schemes in the suburbs and we should stop all further suburban development. We have faithfully followed that policy to the letter and in the spirit.

(Mr. K. F. Nariman made an observation which was inaudible.)

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : To get a compliment, even a left-handed compliment from a critic like the honourable member Mr. Nariman is some compliment. I do not value it ; it is something and I draw the attention of the House to it.

I think the sales of land have been criticised, and rightly criticised. All honourable members are aware of the stagnation in the real property market. All honourable members realise that, with all other commercial bodies, Government must delay turning their land into hard cash. (Interruption.) Sir, I shall be obliged for less interruptions. I cannot proceed, otherwise I shall answer all questions. Times are difficult for all parties, and we have not been able to sell as much land as we had hoped, but the figures are not as pessimistic as they appear on paper. Honourable members, some of them certainly, are aware of the fact that we have agreed to accept payment by instalments for land in the suburbs ; to encourage the middle class man to own his own property. We have sold some land on those terms, but although we have sold the land, the total price of those lands is not included in the receipts. Only some instalments have been received, and therefore the figure of receipts from the sale of land does not actually show the amount of land sold. To give a proper and accurate idea of what land has been disposed of let me give honourable members just two or three simple figures. We had 1,264,000 square yards of land developed, ready and available for sale for residential purposes. Of this amount we have disposed of about

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

5·9 lakhs of square yards, and we have a balance of 75·5 lakhs of square yards. We have, therefore, disposed of about 40 per cent. of the land available and ready for sale. Well, Sir, I think that shows that, after all, the figures are not as pessimistic as one would make out from these budget figures. We hope and trust that, with a little better times, we shall be able to show better results. But, with everybody else, we must be patient; and I only ask my honourable friends opposite to consider this problem as one of their own problems, and, as many business men in Bombay will tell you, patience has become a virtue with them all, and we have got to follow their example.

Now, Sir, let me just come to the question of establishments.

Do you want to adjourn now, Sir?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Is the honourable member likely to take some considerable time?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Yes, Sir.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Then, he can continue on Monday. The House will now adjourn till 2 p.m. on Monday, the 2nd March 1925.

MUNJABH, the 2nd March 1925.

The Council re-assembled at the Town Hall, Bombay, on Monday, the 2nd March 1925, at 2 p.m., the Honourable the President, Sir IBRAHIM RAHIMTOOLA, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
 ABDULPURKAR, Mr. N. A.
 ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
 ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
 AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
 ANGADI, Mr. S. N.
 BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
 BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
 BHURGRI, Mr. J. M.
 BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
 BIJARANI, Khan Saheb SHER MAHOMED KHAN
 BOLE, Mr. S. K.
 CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
 CLAYTON, Mr. F.
 COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
 DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
 DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
 DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
 DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
 DEV, Mr. S. S.
 DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
 FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
 FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
 GHOSAL, Mr. J.
 GHJLAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH
 GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
 GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
 HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
 HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
 HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
 HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
 HUDSON, Mr. L. S.
 JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
 JATOI, Khan Saheb HAJI SERAI IMAMBAKSH
 JATOI, Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH
 JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
 JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
 JOG, Mr. V. N.
 JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
 KALBHOR, Mr. G. M.
 KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.

KARKI, Mr. M. D.
 KAY, Mr. J. A.
 KAZI INAITULLAKHAN
 KOKANI, Mr. G. J.
 KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
 LAGHARI, HAJI FAZUL MUHAMMAD KHAN
 LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
 LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.
 LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 LINFORD, Mr. J. W.
 MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUERO, Mr.
 MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
 MAVALANKAR, Mr. G. K.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. O. V.
 MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
 NANAL, Mr. B. R.
 NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
 NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
 NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
 OWEN, Mr. A. O.
 PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
 PATEL, Mr. A. E.
 PATEL, Mr. D. N.
 PATEL, Mr. G. I.
 PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED KHAN
 PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
 PATIL, Mr. D. R.
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 PIR RASULBAKSH SHAH
 POWAR, Mr. M. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 PRATT, Mr. F. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOSENALLY M.
 SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
 SAPTARSHI, Mr. O. M.
 SARDESAL, Mr. S. A.
 SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH
 SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
 SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO, Mr.
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
 SURVE, Mr. A. N.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.

SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
 THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
 TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
 VELKAR, Dr. M. B.
 WADIA, Mr. C. N.
 WILES, Mr. G.
 WOODS, Mr. E. E.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Order, order.
 Questions.

APPLICANTS FOR BOMBAY CIVIL SERVICE.

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN (Sholapur District) :
 Will Government be pleased to furnish—

(a) The total number of applicants for appointments as probationers in the executive branch of the Bombay provincial civil service in the year 1923 ?

(b) The total number of applicants from each community ?

(c) The number of candidates from each community disqualified for appointment on the ground of their being above the prescribed age limit ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) 120.

| | | | | | |
|------------------|----|----|--------------|----|----|
| (b) Brahmins | .. | 49 | Other Hindus | .. | 14 |
| Prabhus | .. | 6 | Lingayats | .. | 7 |
| Kshatriyas | .. | 3 | Mahomedans | .. | 10 |
| Hindu Amils | .. | 3 | Parsees | .. | 9 |
| Marathas | .. | 9 | Jews | .. | 1 |
| Banias and Jains | .. | 6 | Christians | .. | 3 |

Total .. 120

(c) No candidate was disqualified for being above the prescribed age limit.

SUBORDINATE OFFICERS' PENSION AND GRATUITY RULES.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the question of the revision of the present rules regarding pension and gratuity to subordinate Government officers is engaging their attention ?

(b) Whether Government contemplate having a system of provident funds instead of pensions ?

(c) If the answer to (a) and (b) is in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state when they are likely to arrive at a decision ?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) Government do not contemplate introducing a system of provident funds to take the place of pensions in permanent departments. The question of introducing provident fund schemes in temporary departments is under consideration.

(c) No definite date can be given.

CAMP COURTS OF MUKHTIARKARS.

* Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that owing to the fact that mukhtiarkars cannot try all their criminal cases at their headquarters and that owing to their multifarious duties it is not possible for them to fix their camps beforehand when they go out on tour, parties and witnesses in criminal cases are often unable to attend their courts and that consequently the hearing of such cases is often unnecessarily prolonged?

(b) Are they further aware that in addition to the inconvenience experienced by witnesses in such cases they do not get the daily and travelling expenses to which they are entitled when attending the camps of mukhtiarkars?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a) and (b) According to standing orders mukhtiarkars generally try their cases at taluka headquarters. When circumstances specially justify or require hearings in camp, due notice is given to parties and witnesses. It is however true that sudden changes of camp do sometimes take place and cause inconvenience. But it is not true that this often leads to unnecessary delay. Bhatta is paid to witnesses who are entitled to and claim it whether in camp or at taluka headquarters?

RESTORATION OF RESIDENT MAGISTRATE'S COURT AT MATLI.

* Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the present District Magistrate of Hyderabad (Mr. Covernton) has twice recommended to the Commissioner in Sind the reopening of the court of the resident magistrate at Matli?

(b) What were the annual expenses of maintaining the court of the resident magistrate at Matli for each of the last three years of its existence and the annual expenses on the travelling and daily allowance of witnesses attending the mukhtiarkars' courts during the same period: and what have been the annual expenses on the latter since the abolition of the resident magistrates' court?

(c) Do Government intend to take any action in this connection?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a) The District Magistrate, Hyderabad, did not in either of the references specifically recommend the restoration of the appointment of resident magistrate at Matli.

(b) A statement† giving the required information is laid on the table.

(c) Government do not propose to revive the appointment of resident magistrate, Matli.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 46.

VILLAGE PANCHAYATS IN KOLABA DISTRICT.

* Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City) : Will Government be pleased to give the following information regarding the village panchayats in the Kolaba district :—

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| Name of the village panchayat, taluka, etc., with date of establishment. | Whether there was a sanitary committee before the establishment of village panchayats. | Yearly grants made to the Sanitary Committee by Government and district local board. | Grants made by the Government and local board in 1923-24 to the village panchayat. | Grants sanctioned by Government and district local board for 1924-25. |

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : The required information is contained in the attached statement†.

EDUCATION GRANTS.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government be pleased to state in a tabular form what amounts of grant they have given to each division in the Presidency, district by district, for primary, secondary and higher education, respectively, during the last ten years ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The honourable member is referred to the supplements to the Reports on Public Instruction in the Bombay Presidency for the last ten years, which give the information required by him.

ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THANA DISTRICT LOCAL BOARD.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : (a) Will Government be pleased to state when the right of electing its president was given to the Thana district local board ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to furnish the names of all the elected presidents of the Thana district local board up to date together with the caste of each ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : (a) The honourable member's attention is invited to sections 22 and 34 of the Bombay Local Boards Act, 1923. The right of electing their own presidents was given to the local boards by the passing of this Act which came into force from the 17th March 1923.

(b) Every attempt will be made to supply the information during this session.

CLERICAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THANA DISTRICT LOCAL BOARD.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government be pleased to give the following information with regard to the clerical and higher establishment of the district local board, Thana—

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 47.

(a) The number of posts (excepting that of the Chief Officer) carrying a monthly salary of—

- (1) Rs. 30 to 50.
- (2) Rs. 51 to Rs. 100.
- (3) Rs. 101 to Rs. 300.

(b) The number of posts out of (1), (2) and (3) held by Brahmins and non-Brahmins including the backward classes respectively ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Every attempt will be made to supply the information during this session.

CLERICAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE KALYAN MUNICIPALITY.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government be pleased to furnish the number of persons of Maratha and allied castes holding any clerical or higher appointments carrying a monthly salary of Rs. 30 or upwards in the office of the Kalyan municipality ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Every attempt will be made to supply the information during this session.

MITHRAO WAH.

* Mr. J. M. BHURGRI (Thar and Parkar District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the amount that has been sanctioned during the last eight years for repairs and improvement on the left bank branch Mithrao Wah at mile No. 45 and how was it actually spent ?

(b) Is it a fact that in spite of the expenditure there was no increase in water at the tail of the branch ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : (a) No separate allotment for repairs and improvements to 45th Left Bank Distributary Mithrao Canal is sanctioned, but they are carried out from the general grant for maintenance and repairs sanctioned for the Mithrao Canal. The accompanying statement A† shows approximate expenditure incurred on reduction and improvements carried out on this distributary since its construction.

(b) The accompanying statement B† shows that repairs and improvements carried out in 1923 resulted in a substantial improvement of the working of the distributary which worked right up to its tail.

TEXT BOOK BY MR. TOTARAM GANU ZOPE.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is the practice of the Educational Department to issue circulars to all vernacular schools communicating the names of the books sanctioned for use as text books ?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† Vide Appendix 48.

(b) If so, are they aware that a book titled as " अरोग्य शास्त्राचा ओनामा " written by Mr. Totaram Ganu Zope, the head master of the girls' school, Bhalod, East Khandesh, has been sanctioned for use as a text book for girls in primary schools ?

(c) If the reply to (a) and (b) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state whether any circular has been issued either by the Educational Department or by the deputy educational inspector, East Khandesh, in regard to (b) ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Enquiries are being made.

Mr. D. R. PATIL : May I know the time when notice of this question was received by Government ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I shall gladly find it out if notice is given.

RAW COTTON TAX IN AMALNER AND DHARANGAON.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that a tax of two annas per cart-load of raw cotton is collected at Amalner and Dharangaon in East Khandesh ?

(b) If so, who collects the tax, and is the collection sanctioned by Government ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : The information is being obtained.

INCREASED LOCAL FUND CESS IN EAST KHANDESH.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District) : Will Government be pleased to state the number of applications received from persons in East Khandesh protesting against the increased local fund cess ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Information is being obtained.

BORING MACHINES IN NASIK DIVISION.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District) : Will Government be pleased to state the number of boring machines kept for use in the districts in charge of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Nasik Division ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Three.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Do Government propose to meet all the demands for boring machines ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : The demands are being met gradually as circumstances permit.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI : Are there many applications ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : There are many and Government are trying their best to meet them.

FREE AND HALF-FREE STUDENTSHIPS.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of students of the Brahmin, Prabhu and other advanced communities and that of students from the backward classes in the G. S. High School, the New English High School and the Bhagiratha School at Jalgaon ?

(b) What is the number of full free studentships and half-free studentships given to the students of the advanced communities and the number of those given to the backward communities respectively ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Information has been called for.

Mr. D. R. PATIL : May I know when the information called for will be obtained ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : In as short a time as possible.

Mr. D. R. PATIL : Is there any limit to that short time ?

ANNEWARI OF CROPS IN SATARA DISTRICT.

* Khan Bahadur D. B. COOPER (Satara District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the annewari of the crops in the Khatav, Man, Khanapur and Tasgaon talukas of the Satara district during the last ten years ending 31st July 1924 ?

(b) What measures have Government taken during the last ten years to prevent or mitigate famine conditions in these talukas ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) The requisite information is contained in the appended statement.†

(b) Scarcity was declared in these talukas in 1918-19 and 1920-21. There was also a failure of crops in 1923-24 but not sufficient to warrant a formal declaration of scarcity. On all these occasions gratuitous relief was distributed to infirms and inferior village servants. Patels whose emoluments were insufficient were given extra remuneration. Land revenue and other Government dues were either suspended or remitted. Tagai was distributed, grass depôts were opened in three or four places and grass offered to the cultivators for cash or in the form of tagai. Grants were also made for drinking water supply. Test works were opened but were attended by very few men. In 1918-19 and 1920-21 food grains were imported in large quantities for supplying the needs of the affected parts. An unofficial charitable relief committee was opened at headquarters.

Khan Bahadur D. B. COOPER : In view of the fact that there have been three famines during the last 6 years, do Government propose to undertake any protective works in that area which is badly affected ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. METHA : Yes ; Government propose to go in for an intensive scheme of well-boring and well construction. They also propose to examine the small irrigation works wherever it is possible either by means of bunds or tanks.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 49.

PRIMARY TEACHERS IN THE DISTRICTS OF GUJARAT.

* Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state how many primary teachers in each of the Gujarat districts are drawing Rs. 15 per month?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state why the minimum pay has been reduced to Rs. 15 per month in such cases, and in what direction the saving so effected is intended to be applied?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) The number of primary teachers drawing Rs. 15 per mensem in each of the Gujarat districts is as follows:—

| | | | | | |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|---------|
| Ahmedabad | .. | .. | .. | .. | Nil. |
| Kaira | .. | .. | .. | .. | 20 |
| Panch Mahals | .. | .. | .. | .. | Nil. |
| Broach | .. | .. | .. | .. | 18, and |
| Surat | .. | .. | .. | .. | 55 |

(b) Many of the local board schools were undermanned and urgently required additional assistants. With Rs. 25 per mensem, the minimum pay in force for an untrained teacher, it was not possible for the local boards to employ a sufficient number of teachers, even with the help of Government grants. It was therefore decided, in November 1922, to grant permission to the employment in municipal and local board schools of untrained teachers as assistants on pay less than Rs. 25 per mensem but in no case less than Rs. 15 per mensem, subject to the following provisos—

(a) that the concession was used in the case of new entrants only;

(b) that it was not used for the purpose of replacing existing teachers by teachers on lower pay or of paying existing teachers less than their pay at the time;

(c) that the employment of such teachers should be regarded as temporary only, and subject to such conditions as Government might thereafter determine.

It is proposed to utilise the savings resulting from this lowering of the minimum of pay of untrained primary teachers in opening new schools and providing more teachers in existing schools.

INDIGENOUS SYSTEMS OF MEDICINE.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have taken any steps to encourage the study, teaching and practice of the indigenous systems of medicine since the introduction of the Reforms in 1921?

(b) Have they made any inquiries of any other provincial Governments as to action taken by them in this respect?

(c) If the answer to (b) is in the affirmative, what is the result of such inquiries?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The attention of the honourable member for the Poona district is again invited to the replies† given

*This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

†Vide Volume XIII, pages 796 and 797.

to his questions at the last sessions of the Legislative Council. The District Local Board, Satara, has since applied for a grant-in-aid towards the maintenance of their Ayurvedic Dispensary. The grant will, in the first instance, be sanctioned for one year if funds permit.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : May I ask who is the adviser of Government in regard to Ayurvedic and Unani systems of medicine ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The Surgeon-General.

RECORD OF RIGHTS IN UNSURVEYED INAM VILLAGES.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the work of writing the record of rights has been undertaken in any inam villages in the Khed taluka of the Poona district in which no original survey settlement has been introduced ?

(b) If so, have Government issued any orders as to how columns 13 and 14 of the village account form No. 6 should be filled in in such cases ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) Yes. It has been undertaken in the following six villages :—

(1) Bhavdi, (2) Pangri, (3) Palu, (4) Surkundi, (5) Kanhwadi Budruk and (6) Koregaon Khurd.

(b) Village Form VI has only four columns. The old form had only twelve columns (besides a remark column).

CHARITABLE TRUSTS.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the names and places of all religious, public and charitable trusts authorisedly created or continued by their orders in the Poona district ?

(b) How is the scheme regulated in each case for the election or nomination of the *panchas* who are entrusted with the management of these trusts ?

(c) Has any scheme for the audit of their accounts been provided by Government ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The number of such trusts is so great that the collection of the information asked for would involve labour of a magnitude quite incommensurate with any possible advantage that might accrue.

Mr. S. S. DEV : What is that number which Government consider so great as to make the collection of the information asked for almost impossible ? Is it 100, 200, 300 or 400 ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I think it is more than that and it is hardly worth the time that would be spent in collecting the information.

OCCUPIED ASSESSED LANDS IN SIND.

*MR. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE on behalf of HAJI ABDUL-LAH HAROON (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state what was the area of the total occupied assessed land, in the year 1912-13 and in the last year, in each of the districts of Sind and what part of such area in each district was occupied by Mussalman and by Hindu holders respectively in each of the above two years?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: The requisite information is contained in the appended statement.†

APPORTIONMENT OF WORK BETWEEN EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS AND MINISTERS.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE on behalf of HAJI ABDUL-LAH HAROON (Karachi City): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether any modifications have been made by this time in the circular dated 3rd January 1921, which was laid on the table of this Council on 1st March 1921, describing the apportionment of work between Executive Council Members and Ministers?

(b) If so, will they be pleased to lay on the table a copy of that circular with the alterations made therein?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a) and (b) A copy‡ of the latest circular on the subject is placed on the Council table.

CENSORING OF KHILAFAT COMMITTEE'S POST.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the post of the Central Khilafat Committee, and the "Khilafat" Press are censored in Bombay?

(b) If so, under what law, by whose orders, and for what reasons is such action being taken and how long is it to continue?

(c) Are Government aware that the delay caused by such action entails great inconvenience to the said committee and the said press?

(d) Are Government aware that even the daily newspapers and other periodicals, subscribed for by the addressees, are so censored and reach them only when the news they bring becomes too stale?

(e) Are Government aware that the post, so censored and delayed, does not bear the post-mark of the date on which it is delivered to the addressees but that the post-mark on it always bears a previous date? If so, why is that done?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 51.

‡ Kept in the Secretary's office.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: A reference is requested to the replies given to two similar questions put at the last July* and October† sessions by the honourable member for Hyderabad district.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: Will Government see the advisability of abolishing this system of censorship?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Government is not prepared to give any information on this subject.

ALLOWANCES TO NON-OFFICIAL MEMBERS OF DIVISIONAL BOARDS OF AGRICULTURE AND CO-OPERATION.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the non-official members of the divisional boards of agriculture and co-operation get only a single second class fare for railway journeys and a single fare for journeys in public conveyances over five miles;

(b) whether it is a fact that the district honorary organisers of the Co-operative Department get their travelling allowances on the scale payable to second class Government officers under the Civil Service Regulations?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) and (b) Yes.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: May I know why difference is made in the scales of allowances given to non-official members of the divisional boards of agriculture and co-operation and the district honorary organisers of the co-operative department?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: I want notice of that question.

NETT CROPPED AREA IN KANARA.

‡ Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state what was the extent of the nett cropped area at the

* *Vide* Vol. XII, page 716.

† The following questions and answers were printed in the 1st list of Questions and Answers:—

CENSORING OF KHILAFAT CORRESPONDENCE.

Mr. NOOR MAHOMED (Hyderabad District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that the correspondence of the Central Kilaphat Committee is being censored and that this causes great delay in the delivery of their post at their offices?

(b) Are Government aware that letters and newspapers posted in Bombay take as many as four days to reach the Central Kilaphat Committee and the Kilaphat Daily Press?

(c) Have they received any representation from the Central Kilaphat Committee or the Kilaphat Daily regarding the delay caused in the Censor's Office? If so, do Government intend to take any action?

(d) Are Government aware that letters addressed to the Central Kilaphat Committee or the Kilaphat Daily are pasted in the Censor's Office so badly that the addressees cannot open them except by tearing the entire envelope and that the censor's paste gets stuck on the contents of the letters in such a way that they cannot be deciphered by the addressees? If so, do Government intend to take any action in this connexion?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: A reference is requested to the reply given to a similar question put at the July session by the honourable member.

‡ This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

time of the original settlement in Kanara and what was then the amount of land revenue in respect of that area ?

(b) What was the area under that heading in each of the succeeding years up to the year 1890-1891 ?

(c) Is it a fact, as stated at page 9 of the report of the committee appointed to consider and adopt measures for the protection of crops from wild animals and stray cattle, that there has been a decrease of 42,000 acres under that heading in the 4 above-ghat talukas during the period from 1894-95 to 1921-22 ?

(d) Has there been any decrease in the average under that heading in the 4 below-ghat talukas during the same period, and if so, what has been the decrease ?

(e) What was the amount of land revenue of the whole district in 1890 and in the year in which the last revisional settlement took place, respectively ?

(f) What are the reasons for the inclusion of " grass " or " fodder-crop " area under the heading " nett cropped " area from the year 1915-16 ?

(g) Did the Director of Agriculture approve of this method when it was introduced ?

(h) Has this practice been adopted in other districts also ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) Information regarding the nett cropped area at the time of the original settlement, which was undertaken in 1863-64, is not available. The total land revenue due for realization in that year was Rs. 6,84,582-9-10.

(b) 1863-64 to 1883-84—Information not available :—

| | Acres. |
|---------|------------|
| 1884-85 | .. 199,430 |
| 1885-86 | .. 208,335 |
| 1886-87 | .. 213,370 |
| 1887-88 | .. 222,046 |
| 1888-89 | .. 223,202 |
| 1889-90 | .. 234,517 |
| 1890-91 | .. 240,399 |

(c) If area under grass or fodder crops is excluded the decrease in the above-ghat talukas is 33,000 acres and not 42,000.

(d) If area under grass or fodder crops is excluded the decrease is 14,000 acres.

| | Rs. |
|-------------|--------------|
| (e) 1890-91 | .. 10,46,388 |
| 1914-15 | .. 10,00,200 |

(f) The reasons will be found in No. 6 of the remarks on Village Form XII at pages 140-141 of the Manual of Revenue Accounts, to which the attention of the honourable member is invited.

(g) Yes.

(h) Yes.

Mr. M. D. KARKI: May I know why the information asked for in (a) and (b) is not available? Is it for want of records or is it because the figures are not shown in the records?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: It is not available either for want of records or for want of figures in the records.

HAVIK BRAHMINS IN THE EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

* Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to state how many persons belonging to the Havik caste have been serving in the following capacities in the educational department and what are their present grades:—

- (a) Educational officers such as deputy educational inspectors and assistant deputy educational inspectors;
- (b) teachers in the secondary cadre;
- (c) clerks?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a), (b) and (c) Only one Havik Brahmin has been serving in the Educational Department. He is an assistant master in a Government high school in the scale of Rs. 50—5—80—10—150 and his present pay is Rs. 120 a month.

Mr. M. D. KARKI: Is not the gentleman referred to in the reply a 'Kot' Brahmin and not a Havik Brahmin?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Inquiries will be made.

EDUCATION OF CHILDREN OF THE DEPRESSED CLASSES.

† Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of school-going children belonging to the depressed classes in the district of Kanara;
- (b) the amount of money yearly spent on their education during the last three years?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The accompanying statement† gives the information required.

KUMRI CULTIVATION IN KANARA.

* Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to state the conditions under which lands are given by them to agriculturists in Kanara for *kumri* cultivation?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Assignments of land for Kumri cultivation are made after taking from the head of each family an agreement in the following terms, *viz.*:—

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

‡ *Vide* Appendix 52.

(1) The agreement is to last so long as the head of the family is alive and desirous of cultivating the land and to be renewed in the name of his heir or any other person selected by the local authorities in the event of his dying or relinquishing the land.

(2) One block only to be cultivated during the year and handed over by the village officers in January.

(3) The land is held on restricted tenure.

(4) Assessment at the rate of 4 annas per acre is levied on the whole area allotted for cultivation in any one year.

(5) No vari crop is allowed during the year immediately following the ragi cultivation and any cultivation in any block except the one allotted for the year is treated as unauthorised and is liable to the penalties prescribed in the Land Revenue Code.

(6) All grazing on "hakka" lands is strictly prohibited.

(7) The cultivators are allowed to cut and burn all vegetation except hirda trees growing on the block assigned for the year; the cutting is to be done level with the ground and no stumps are to be left standing.

(8) The cultivators are allowed to cut karvi and other similar undergrowth in the adjoining jungles for burning as rab on the land.

(9) Any infringement of the above conditions renders the person or persons so infringing them liable, at the discretion of the revenue authorities, to forfeiture of his or their right to cultivate the land in the future.

(10) Grantees are required to remove all undergrowth within a radius of 200 yards of their dwellings.

AREA OF LAND UNDER KUMRI CULTIVATION.

* Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the total area of land in each of the divisions of Kanara allotted by them for *kumri* cultivation during the last three years;

(b) the total yield in kind from such cultivation during those years;

(c) the total amount of fine levied from the cultivators, if any, for transgressing the boundaries of their respective allotments during those years;

(d) the total area of land encroached upon by them during the said years?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) No area was allotted for *kumri* during the last three years in any of the divisions of Kanara except Western Division in which an area of 2,698 acres was allotted.

(b) Not known and not ascertainable.

(c) Nil.

(d) Nil.

"THE KANARA NEWS" AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT LEAFLET.

* Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether their attention has been drawn to the editorial

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

2 MAR. 1925

note published in the "Kanara News" in its issue dated 29th May 1924 commenting on the leaflet No. 6 of 1923 issued by the Agricultural Department?

(b) Have they tried any experiments in their Agricultural Department farms on the lines suggested therein?

(c) If so, will they state the results in detail of such experiments?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The attention of the honourable member is invited to the report of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Konkan, appended to the annual Administration Report of the Department of Agriculture for the year 1922-23.

DAMAGE CAUSED BY WILD PIGS TO CROPS IN KANARA.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of land revenue annually realised from the district of Kanara;

(b) the amount of annual loss to crops actually planted caused by wild beasts, excepting monkeys, and birds according to the estimate of the Crop Protection Committee?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) The figures are published in the Land Revenue Administration Reports and the General Administration Reports to which the attention of the honourable member is invited.

Mr. M. D. KARKI: Will the honourable member be pleased to state approximately the amount of land revenue of my district so that the honourable House may have an opportunity of comparing that with the one to be found in answer to the latter part of this question?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: I am afraid I am unable to give you any approximate or accurate figures off-hand.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (b) The Committee estimated that on the basis of certain calculations made by the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Konkan, the loss caused by all wild animals in the Kanara District would amount to Rs. 7,05,000 (*vide* paragraph 9, page 6, of the Report).

Mr. M. D. KARKI: Do Government take the amount of loss as correct or do they doubt it?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: How does the question arise? I don't understand the honourable member.

Mr. M. D. KARKI: The reply says that the committee arrived at such an amount. I want to know if Government approve of it. I want to know whether the figures of the actual loss were supplied for the information of the committee?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: The figure is given as ascertained by the committee. That was one of the means by which the figure was ascertained.

ENCOURAGEMENT TO BOOK-WRITING IN KANARESE.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have ever encouraged the writing of Kanarese books by giving grants-in-aid or any other kind of help?

(b) If so, will they be pleased to state the number of writers who have been given grants-in-aid or any other kind of help and the number and names of books written by each of them during the last 12 years?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Information has been called for.

KANARESE BOOKS SANCTIONED BY GOVERNMENT AS LIBRARY AND PRIZE BOOKS.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to furnish a list giving the following information as regards Kanarese books sanctioned by them as text-books, library and prize books for use in primary as well as secondary schools in the Bombay presidency:—

1. Serial No.
2. Name of Book.
3. Name of Author.
4. Name of Publisher.
5. Price per copy.
6. Purpose for which sanctioned.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Information has been called for.

FLOOD RELIEF FUND IN KANARA.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of money collected in each of the talukas of Karwar, Ankola, Kumta and Honavar and Petha Bhatkal by or at the instance of the Collector of Kanara for the relief of areas suffering from floods during 1923;

(b) the amount of money distributed in those talukas;

(c) the balance of money remaining out of the amounts so collected, if any;

(d) what proposals have been made, if any, for the disposal of such balance;

(e) when and how Government intend to dispose of such balance?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA:

| | Rs. | a. | p. |
|------------|-----|----|-----------|
| (a) Karwar | .. | .. | 2,273 9 3 |
| Ankola | .. | .. | 200 0 0 |
| Honavar | } | .. | Nil. |
| Kumta | | | |
| Bhatkal | | | |

(b) Including some money received from outside the district, the amount distributed in Honavar was Rs. 3,663-13-6. No money was officially distributed in the other talukas mentioned.

(c) Nil.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

GRAZING FEES ON CATTLE GRAZING IN BETTAS.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in the above-ghat talukas in the Kanara district owners of cattle who graze their cattle in their bettas, where grazing is privileged, are made to pay grazing fees?

(b) If so, what are the reasons therefor?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) Yes.

(b) Besides the bettas, which have been assigned to individual garden holders, there is almost invariably some forest assigned to the villagers in general for the exercise of privileges including grazing and when such a privilege has been conceded it is impossible to ascertain whether cattle belonging to betta holders graze only in the bettas and not in other Government forests.

TREE TAX ON TODDY TREES IN PARDI TALUKA.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the landholders and agriculturists of Pardi taluka in the Surat district have submitted a memorial to Government complaining against the recent increase in the tree tax on palm trees used for drawing toddy?

(b) Will Government please state what has been the extent of the increase and the reason therefor?

(c) Have Government taken any action on the said memorial, and, if so, what action have they taken?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) Yes.

(b) The honourable member is referred to the reply* given by Government to question asked by Mr. Shivdasani in the last session of the Council.

(c) The memorialists have been informed that their request cannot be granted.

The question is surprising to me from a prohibitionist like the honourable member Mr. Karki.

Mr. M. D. KARKI: The intention of asking this question was simply to get information and not to encourage drinking.

TAX ON TODDY TREES IN SURAT.

Dr. M. M. MEHTA (Surat City): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the tax on toddy trees for domestic as well as trade purposes has been nearly doubled in the Surat district during 1924?

(b) Will Government be pleased to furnish a comparative statement showing the amount of the said tax during the years 1922, 1923 and 1924 respectively?

* *Vidz* Vol. XIII, pages 811 to 813.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) Yes.

(b) The honourable member is referred to the reply† given by Government to question asked by Mr. Shivdasani in the last session of the Council which contains the information required.

CONSUMPTION OF FOREIGN LIQUOR IN SURAT.

Dr. M. M. MEHTA (Surat City): Will Government be pleased to furnish figures for the consumption of foreign liquor during the years 1922, 1923 and 1924 respectively in the Surat district?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI.

The honourable member is referred to Imperial Return IV appended to the Excise Administration Reports for the years 1921-22, 1922-23 and 1923-24.

RIVER FERRIES IN INAM VILLAGES.

* Mr. R. G. SOMAN on behalf of Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars): Will Government be pleased to state—

(1) The names of inam villages in this presidency which are bounded by a river with a Government village on the other side;

(2) Whether that river is fordable and if not, whether there is a Government or private ferry for crossing it;

(3) Whether the proceeds and costs of repairs, etc., of such ferries are shared by the Government and the inamdar equally;

(4) Are there any such ferries of which the proceeds go wholly to the inamdar or to the Government?

(5) Are there any ferries which ply between two inam villages?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: The accompanying statement§ furnishes the information required.

LIST OF SARDARS AND INAMDARS.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN on behalf of Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars): Will Government be pleased to supply a list of sardars and inamdars with the names of their inam villages who have been presidents or vice-presidents of the district and taluka local boards in the Bombay Presidency from 1884 to 1923?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: The accompanying statement§ furnishes the information asked for.

SALE OF FOWLER TRAINS BY DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, SURAT.

† Mr. H. H. NARIELVALA on behalf of Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state in what year, at what price, by what officer, and with how many engines and how many carriages the Fowler trains lying at present idle at the Fort Songadh station and in the Dangs were purchased?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

‡ Vide Vol. XIII, pages 811 to 813.

§ Kept in the Secretary's office.

(b) Will Government be pleased to state for what work these Fowler trains were purchased and for what period they worked ?

(c) Are Government aware that these trains are now advertised for sale by the Divisional Forest Officer, Surat ?

(d) Is it a fact that two of those Fowler trains are now lying in a dilapidated condition at the Songadh station, and that they have been left unprotected from the sun and rain ever since they were brought to that station ?

(e) If so, will Government be pleased to state from what company these Fowler trains were purchased and on what date and year the payment for them was made ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : (a) The Divisional Forest Officer, Surat, acting under the orders of Government, purchased in 1913-14 at a cost of Rs. 31,014 a Fowler train consisting of one 70 I. H. P. Locomotive, two ten-ton timber pole wagons and two box wagons.

(b) The Fowler train was purchased for the better transport of timber. Owing to the unsuitability of the roads in the Dangs, however, its use for this purpose had to be discontinued after its first trip. The engine is now being used in a saw mill.

(c) No. Only the two pole wagons at Fort Songadh, which are too heavy for use, are to be sold.

(d) No. Only the two pole wagons are in a dilapidated condition at Fort Songadh having been eventually given up after trial as too heavy for use. There was no place to store them in. The white English wood has naturally rotted in the course of years.

(e) There was only one Fowler train ; it was purchased from Messrs. John Fowler and Company (Leeds) and payment was made in 1913.

Mr. H. H. NARIELVALA : Was it not necessary for Government to find out whether the pole wagons were heavy and not suitable ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : It was evidently not thought that the machine would be so heavy as not to work at Fort Songadh.

MECHANICAL ASSISTANT TO THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF
AGRICULTURE, GUJARAT.

*Mr. D. N. PATEL (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state :—

(a) How many applications for advice on the erection and repairs of pumping and other agricultural machinery were received by the mechanical assistant to the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Gujarat, in the year ending on 31st March 1924 ?

(b) What action was taken on those applications ?

(c) Whether the mechanical assistant has ever visited any villages in the Kaira district possessing pumping plants, in order to give benefit of his technical knowledge to the men working on those plants ; if so, what villages were visited by him for such purposes in the year 1923-24, and with what result ?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) Thirty.

(b) Out of the above 25 enquiries were attended to during that year.

(c) The villages of Hadgood, Anklav and Bhojkuva were visited at the request of the co-operative societies and the wells in the villages were inspected and plans and estimates of proposed pumping plants were prepared. A visit was paid to Anand and the pump in the veterinary hospital was repaired. There were no calls from other places in the district.

BADLAPUR WATER WORKS.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts):

(a) Will Government be pleased to state the total expenditure incurred upon the Badlapur water works including the laying of the pipe line to Ambernath?

(b) What is the recurring expenditure?

(c) What is the return which Government get on all this outlay?

(d) Will they be pleased to state at what minimum rate per thousand gallons they are selling the water?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: (a) The actual expenditure on works incurred on the Ambernath water-supply scheme up to 31st October 1924 is Rs. 28,23,627. The work is expected to be completed by 31st March 1925 when the total expenditure, including interest charges up to that date, will be Rs. 43,33,000.

(b) The estimated fixed recurring expenditure is as follows:—

| | Ra. |
|--|----------|
| Sinking fund to replace cost of plant and machinery in 30 years @ $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. | 28,701 |
| Sinking fund to replace cost of masonry and buildings in 60 years @ 4 per cent. | 6,270 |
| Interest @ $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on total cost | 2,81,645 |
| 1 per cent. on plant and machinery for repairs | 17,509 |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on masonry and buildings for repairs | 7,462 |
| Establishment (watch and ward and meter reading only) | 972 |
| Total | 3,42,559 |

(c) The return which Government will receive will depend on the quantity of water sold. The net earnings of the plant (receipts less running expenses) cannot be expected for several years to cover the annual fixed charges referred to in (b). But it is estimated that when a demand of 3 million gallons a day is reached, the net earnings will exceed the fixed charges and that thereafter the accumulation of fixed charges will gradually be reduced, until the demand reaches 6 million gallons when the plant will run at a profit.

(d) The minimum rate is 0-4-0 per 0/00 gallons which is charged in the case of certain pioneer factories only. Re. 1 per 0/00 gallons is being charged in other cases, except for deliveries in bulk where special rates apply.

r. G. B. PRADHAN : In (c) my question was "What is the return to what Government get on all this outlay"? I never wanted a reply to what Government will get 100 years hence. I want to know what Government get to-day. That has not been replied to.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : The work is just being brought into operation—the whole work of this water-supply. If the honourable member will ask the question in a month or so, we will be able to give him some figures.

RETIREMENT OWING TO RETRENCHMENT IN EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

*Mr. H. D. SAHEBA (Ahmedabad District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of persons who had to retire from service in the Educational Department (i) owing to retrenchment, (ii) by the employment of persons from the Secondary Training College?

(b) How many of them have been re-employed in the Educational Department?

(c) How many new men have been taken into service by the Educational Department, since the compulsory retirement of persons mentioned in (a)? Were the claims of the latter taken into consideration when these appointments were made?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) and (b) No person had to "retire" in the ordinary sense of that term, on account of either retrenchment or the employment of persons from the Secondary Training College.

The services of no permanent teachers were dispensed with. 21 probationary teachers and about 90 acting teachers had to be relieved.

As far as possible, the former were employed in acting vacancies, and 8 are still so employed.

The employment of persons from the Secondary Training College did not really affect the situation, as these all held posts as probationary assistant teachers. They were, however, retained in preference to those who had not been deputed to the college. Every year 25 to 30 teachers, who have been acting for the men sent to the Secondary Training College, have had to be relieved when these men returned.

(c) With reference to the first part, one new candidate, a Maratha, was made probationer, and 11 others who were acting were made probationers. The answer to the second part is in the affirmative.

WATER FOR MALAV TANK.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA (Ahmedabad District) : Are Government aware of the inconvenience and hardship caused to the inhabitants of the town of Dholka in the Ahmedabad district, by the practice of the Irrigation Department in first diverting water to Khan and other irrigation tanks and not to the Malav tank, a tank declared to be an ancient monument?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : The supply in the Malav tank and others in its neighbourhood depends entirely on the

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

rainfall. When, however, water is available in the feeder or Malav tank is served first and this fact is fully borne out by an observation made in the month of November 1924 when the Malav had 6 ft. depth of water the Khan tank had only 2½ feet.

NON-BRAHMIN TEACHERS.

*Mr. G. B. PRADHAN on behalf of Mr. SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts): Will Government be pleased to state what steps they have taken to increase the number of non-Brahmin teachers?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Attention is invited to Press Note No. 2461-F., dated the 24th September 1923, regarding admissions to Vernacular Training Colleges. Last year, two-thirds of the places in primary training institutions were given to intermediate and backward Hindus. Preference has been given to non-Brahmin untrained candidates whenever it has been necessary to appoint untrained teachers in primary schools.

As regards secondary schools, less than one-third of the teachers deputed to the Secondary Training College in June were Brahmins, and teachers who have been trained at the Secondary Training College and obtained the B. T. degree alone are eligible for permanent appointments. As far as possible acting appointments are given to non-Brahmin teachers.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: Is the term "non-Brahmin" applicable to Mahomedans, as used in this answer?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Yes.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: If so, does it apply also in the case of untrained Mahomedan teachers in the employ of Government?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Yes.

SUPPLY OF MEDICINES TO LOCAL BOARDS.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the medicines supplied by them to local board dispensaries and to Government hospitals are procured from the Bombay Medical Stores? If not, who supplies them?

(b) Is it a fact that local board dispensaries are charged higher rates than Government hospitals for such medicines?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) The attention of the honourable member for the Satara District is invited to the reply † given to question put by Khan Saheb I. A. Saherwala (Northern Division) in July 1923.

(b) They are charged 10 per cent. more than their cost price for packing and departmental charges plus Customs and Excise duty.

Dr. M. B. VELKAR: Why are local board dispensaries charged more than Government dispensaries or hospitals when the medicines are supplied by Government themselves? Do Government make any profit?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† Vide Vol. X, page 108,

(b) Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Government have no intention of making any profit. If the honourable member will give me notice, I find that out.

STATEMENT OF TEMPLES, MOSQUES, BURNING AND BURIAL
GROUNDS FALLING WITHIN SUKKUR BARRAGE SCHEME.

* Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North): (a) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement indicating the temples, mosques, burning and burial grounds and similar other places and objects held sacred on account of religious and other sentiments, which fall within the Sukkur Barrage Scheme, together with their location, the parties interested in them and the objections, if any, raised by them and the manner in which Government intend to meet those objections?

* * * * *

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: (a) A statement † giving the required information is laid on the Council table.

PRODUCTION OF AGRICULTURAL FOODSTUFFS IN RATNAGIRI
DISTRICT.

Mr. V. A. SURVE (Ratnagiri District): Will Government be pleased to state whether the produce of agricultural foodstuffs in the Ratnagiri District has increased during the last 12 years, and, if so, what is the extent of increase?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Yes.

The area under cereals and pulses has risen from 562,000 acres in 1912-13 to 675,000 acres in 1923-24. The outturn, which depends upon the nature of the season, was estimated at 197,000 tons in 1912-13, 112,000 tons in 1918-19, 268,000 in 1919-20, 252,000 in 1921-22 and 207,000 in 1923-24. The area under sugarcane and the outturn rose from 967 acres and 1,300 tons in 1912-13 to 2,500 acres and 4,500 tons in 1923-24.

VILLAGE AYURVEDIC DISPENSARIES.

* Dr. M. B. VELKAR (Bombay City, South): (a) Will Government be pleased to furnish the names of the villages, with their talukas and districts, at which various district local boards and municipalities in the presidency have opened Ayurvedic dispensaries since October 1921, with the dates of opening in each case?

(b) Will they also be pleased to furnish the names of those villages at which such dispensaries are intended to be opened this year (1924-25)?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) and (b) A statement † showing the information asked for by the honourable member for Bombay City (South) so far as the Central Division is concerned is put on the Council table. In no other part of the presidency have Ayurvedic dispensaries been opened since October 1921 or are proposed to be opened by district local boards or municipalities.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† Kept in Secretary's office.

‡ Vide Appendix 55.

Dr. M. B. VELKAR : Will the honourable member tell us how many dispensaries are given grant by the Government ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : As far as I know, no dispensary has as yet been given a grant, but one is proposed to be given this year, if the Council sanctions it. The district local board, Satara, will get it.

Dr. M. B. VELKAR : Does the Honourable Minister intend to lay down any policy as regard the giving of encouragement to indigenous medicine through the agency of municipalities and local boards ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : If the district local boards apply.

MOTION FOR LEAVE TO MOVE FOR ADJOURNMENT OF BUSINESS.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI (Indian Merchants' Chamber) : Sir, under Standing Order VII, I wish to apply for leave to move for the adjournment of the business of this Council for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, to call attention to the financial proposals of the Finance Member of the Government of India as they affect this presidency and to urge upon the Government the necessity of urgently communicating to the Government of India, by a proper representation of the honourable members of this House, the just claims of Bombay to further consideration, having regard to the financial position of this presidency.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Under the Rules and Standing Orders, the previous consent of the President is required before any honourable member can ask for leave of the House to move a motion for adjournment, to draw attention to a definite matter of urgent public importance. The honourable member Mr. Lalji Naranji has obtained my consent, and I therefore allow him to apply to the House for permission.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI : I ask for leave.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Does any one object ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, I concur entirely on behalf of the official benches in the desirability of discussing this most important matter as of great urgency in this House.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I take it nobody objects. The honourable member has the leave of the House, and the motion will be taken up, as provided in the rules, at 4 o'clock. The House will adjourn for tea at 3-30 p.m.

(Discussion on Demands for Grants resumed)

Demand for a grant of Rs. 1,47,75,000, for 59, Bombay Development Scheme.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Mr. President, when we adjourned on Saturday night, I was giving the House some figures as to the land disposed of by the Development Department in the suburban areas developed for residential purposes. I had then informed the

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

House that we had developed 12·64 lakhs of square yards, that we had disposed of 5·39 lakhs of square yards and that we had a balance of 7·25 lakhs of square yards, the result being that we had disposed of 40 per cent. of the land developed for residential purposes in the suburbs. Perhaps, some honourable members would like to know the percentages for the different schemes. In Chapel Road, Bandra, we have disposed of 84 per cent., in the Danda estate 44 per cent., in Khar Model Suburb sector A, 7 per cent. ; sector B, 59 per cent. ; in Kiroi North, 11 per cent. ; Chembur Garden Suburb, 39 per cent ; making an average of 40 per cent.

If honourable members will turn to page 139 of the Blue Book, they will see what reductions we have made in establishments, and if they will refer to the notes placed on the table of the House for the information of honourable members, they will find the percentages of reductions. It will be noticed that there are substantial reductions in the Suburban Division and in the Housing and Materials Division, while there has been an increase in the establishment in the Back Bay Reclamation Division. The increase is entirely due to our having now to employ the full dredging staff, as dredging will go on for 16 hours a day.

Mr. President, my honourable friend the representative for Bombay (South) complained that Government had thrown cold water over the one constructive proposal that he had made in this Council. Honourable members will remember that during the last session of the Council at Poona, my honourable friend moved a resolution for the appointment of a committee to investigate the administration of the whole department. I then informed the honourable House that a similar resolution had been tabled by the honourable member Mr. Lalji Naranji but unfortunately it was crowded out ; but Government had referred the resolution of Mr. Lalji Naranji to the Advisory Committee for report. Some honourable members on the opposite side suggested that, as that committee did not consist of members of the Legislative Council to the extent that this House desired, Government should add a few more honourable members of this House to the committee, and the names of five members were suggested to me who should be added on to this committee and I was informed that that was the unanimous wish of the opposite benches. Government did comply with that request, and my honourable friend the member for Bombay (South) was invited to join the committee, but I regret that he declined the invitation, and we have lost his valuable services. I am sure that Government is not responsible for his doing no constructive work ; but I have nothing to complain about ; it is for the honourable member to decide. That committee has thoroughly investigated the working of the department, and has submitted an *ad interim* report, which has been laid on the table of the House, as promised by Government. In short, the committee have come to the conclusion that with regard to the Back Bay reclamation, the work on the reclamation should continue. The report states :

"The Committee are aware that the financial results will depend not only on the price at which the land can be sold, but also on the rate of disposal. Whilst some members

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

of the Committee are emphatically in favour of advising that the work should be completed in any case, others consider that further information is necessary before a definite recommendation can be made. The Committee propose therefore to appoint a sub-committee to examine the financial prospects of the scheme in detail. In the meantime, pending submission of their final report, the Committee recommend that the work should be proceeded with."

There are some dissenting minutes. One of them is by Mr. Jehangir B. Petit. In his minute of dissent, he states as follows :

"All the data available with regard to the reclamation scheme itself are and have always been at the disposal of the committee, and I for one am unable to make a recommendation other than that the scheme should be pushed on with the utmost possible speed and completed at the earliest possible moment."

The other dissenting minute comes from my honourable friend Mr. Joseph Baptista, and since he happens to be present in this House, I will not detain the House by reading out any parts of his dissenting minute. He will most probably have an opportunity of giving expression to his views. He will inform the House that he is just as definite in his opinion that the Back Bay reclamation scheme should continue. I think it will be advisable at this stage, Mr. President, if I were to read out the names of the gentlemen who have signed this recommendation that the work should continue. Dr. H. C. Sukhia, Messrs. Manu Subedar, F. G. Scowen, E. C. Reid, R. H. A. Delves, Jehangir Bomanji Petit (subject to a minute of dissent), I. G. D'Monte, D. D. Rodrigues, Phirozshaw Jamsetji Vakil, Fazal Ibrahim Rahimtoola, S. K. Bole, A. N. Surve, Joseph Baptista (subject to a minute of dissent) and Janmejy Chhabildas.

Now, Sir, the next point that the committee have reported on is the question of the East Colaba Reclamation. On that they have come to a unanimous conclusion :

"The committee believe that no great inconvenience would result if the construction of the sea-wall were carried out at a later date, whilst there would be a considerable saving in interest charges if this were done. They, therefore, recommend that work on the East Colaba Reclamation scheme should be closed down for the present, and that the advisability or otherwise of going on with it should be reconsidered when the filling of the Back Bay Reclamation is nearing completion."

Mr. President, Government have accepted this recommendation, and in pursuance of that acceptance they have reduced the demand by ten lakhs of rupees. I explained when I made the demand that Government desire to reduce the demand by 10 lakhs, and it was due to this recommendation which Government have accepted.

Then, coming to Industrial Housing, the committee have stated that they approve of the policy adopted by Government. They say :

"The Committee have inspected the chawls at Worli, where the largest number are situated, and they are of opinion that the present programme consisting of 211 chawls cannot be curtailed or postponed but should be completed. For the reasons indicated in this report, the committee agree with Government that any further instalment of chawl building should await the result of experience, after the 211 chawls in hand have been finished and are ready for occupation."

There are only three dissenting minutes to the majority report—only three. One comes from my honourable friend Mr. Bole who desires to add to the committee's report that the rent should be reduced. Another is from my honourable friend Mr. Surve who desires that the original

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

policy of building 50,000 one-room tenements should be continued, and my honourable friend Mr. Baptista is also of the same view. I will take the liberty of reading three lines from my honourable friend Mr. Baptista's dissenting minute, for it contains the crux of the question. He states, "the programme should be completed, the rent should be lowered, the loss should be recovered by an adequate increase in the cotton cess". Now, it is for this House to consider whether the cotton cess should be increased or not. That cannot be done by Government by executive action. It is for this House to decide. As I say, the crux of the question is that if the original scheme is to be carried out this honourable House will have to legislate. Mr. Baptista is of opinion that there should be an increase of the cotton cess. I should like to draw my honourable friends' attention to this point for a few minutes longer. It will be interesting to know why Government came to the conclusion that for the present their activities should be confined to the 16,880 rooms, some of which are under construction. Some of them have been completed, and when all of them are constructed, that will be the number. Government had come to the decision in 1919 that 50,000 one-room tenements should be constructed. They came to that conclusion on certain figures. They felt then that Bombay was short of one-room tenements by 50,000. In 1919 their figures as to the population of Bombay were correct; their figures as to the number of one-room tenements in the city were correct. But the Census of 1921 showed that the percentage of the total population occupying one-room tenements was only 66 per cent., while Government's calculation in 1919 was that that percentage was 80. Under these circumstances, naturally the calculation of Government that there was a shortage of 50,000 one-room tenements was not quite accurate, and considering that the Census report is one to which every weight should be attached, Government cannot but come to the conclusion that Bombay does not require the 50,000 additional one-room tenements that they thought were urgently required in 1919. So, if we go on increasing these one-room tenements it is quite possible that the supply may overtake the demand. I express no opinion, but I say it is possible. Then, again, I would ask the honourable House to consider whether Government are right or wrong in pursuing this safe and cautious policy. Let us consider what responsibility Government incur and take upon their shoulders when they undertake to manage an estate with 50,000 one-room tenements. Private landlords in Bombay who own one-room tenements have long realised that to administer these estates is no easy matter. We have to deal with a class from whom it is not possible to collect rents regularly..... (An Honourable Member: Since when did you realise this?) After experience. That is why we have adopted this cautious policy.

Now, Sir, I want to point out that there are vacancies in the development chawls and there are arrears of rent. When one comes to consider the difficulty of administering an estate of this kind, and when one comes to consider the figures which I have just read out to the House, one cannot but come to the conclusion that this House will be right in

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

pursuing a cautious policy. Government have agreed with the committee that for the present they should be satisfied with finishing the construction of the 16,000 and odd one-room tenements.

Now, Sir, that ends the report. I trust the House will consider the report satisfactory. It confirms the policy Government have adopted up to now with regard to the Development Department. Mr. President, I need only repeat that we have done our best to retrench and the figures in this budget are the best proof. We have reduced our expenditure, during the current year, by nearly 60 lakhs of rupees, and we hold out a hope that when the actuals come in that 60 lakhs will be increased by another 30 lakhs. Our budget figures for the next year show that our expenditure as compared with the current year's figures will be less by 1,18 lakhs. In these circumstances, Mr. President, I leave this budget in the hands of this House with the full confidence that they will find reasons for satisfaction in this year's administration of the Development Department.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts): Sir, I move:

"That item No. 5, a provision of Rs. 75,000 for Kandivli quarry acquisition (Detail of Budget estimate for original works and acquisition in the Development Department) be omitted."

My reason for moving for the omission of this item is this: On turning to page 143 of the Blue Book I find that the amount that was originally sanctioned for the acquisition of Kandivli quarry was Rs. 1,50,000. Owing to a mistake in the estimate, a revised estimate was made and by the Government Resolution issued on 12th July 1923, this amount was raised to Rs. 4,20,000. Up to the present we have already spent Rs. 5,81,611. We have even exceeded the revised estimate. By this additional amount of Rs. 75,000 we are increasing the estimate to Rs. 6,56,611. I do not know how Government will pay this amount for which there has been no Government Resolution till now. Unless some explanation is offered by the Honourable the General Member as regards these figures which have exceeded the original estimate by 400 per cent. this House will not sanction this amount.

Question proposed.

Sir LAWLESS HEPPER: Sir, I shall try to explain the position to the House. In 1920 Government notified for acquisition a large area near Kandivli for the purpose of quarrying. Of that area about 150,000 square yards was in the possession of a society known as the Bombay Gorakshak Mandal. The Collector estimated the value of that area at about Rs. 65,000. The trustees of the society, however, held very different views as to the value of their property and they instituted a suit in court for the recovery of a very large sum. The then Honourable Member in charge, Sir Chimanlal Setalvad, interviewed the trustees and in view of the fact that the association was more or less of a religious character he decided that it would be desirable to try and come to some amicable settlement. Instructions were issued accordingly and after Negotiations extending

[Sir Lawless Hepper]

over 4½ years, it has now been decided to settle on ~~ed~~ ^{to be continued} briefly as follows :

Government will provide the society with an alternative area in Trombay of 125 acres, and will make a cash payment to the trustees to cover the cost of the transfer of their activities from Kandivli to Trombay. Government will also bear the cost of making a short length of road to connect the new area to be handed over to the society with the Sion-Trombay road. The cash payment has already been made and the acquisition of 125 acres in Trombay is proceeding. The Collector estimates the cost of acquiring the land at Rs. 95,000 of which about Rs. 20,000 will probably be paid this year. It is accordingly recommended that a provision should be made for Rs. 75,000 to cover the balance in the following year.

As regards the estimate it will of course be further revised as soon as the actual cost of acquisition is known and the formal sanction of the Government will be obtained.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : I have nothing to add to what I have already said.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Mr. President, the Director has already placed all the facts before the House. I think the honourable member Mr. Lalji Naranji is in a good position to explain the exact state of affairs, as he is one of the trustees who negotiated this question with Government. The complaint of the society all along has been that Government did not treat them with the liberality they deserved. I personally came to take up this matter at a later stage.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI : Let me correct the honourable member. The claim of the society was just and equitable.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : I have only stated that the society has all along been under the impression that Government are not treating them liberally. I am of opinion that the decision was equitable and just and that the charitable institution got what it ought to get. Several well known citizens of Bombay who are trustees are well aware of the facts.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : I beg to withdraw the motion.

Question put and leave granted.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : I take it that the Honourable the General Member sticks to the assurance he has given that he will not spend any money on East Kolaba reclamation.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Yes.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : I do not move that item. (Omit item no. 28.) (Consultants, fees—Rs. 10,065, Budget page 145.)

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts) : Mr. President : I move

Reduce by Rs. 2,11,000—Item No. 29—Housing (Worli) works (Budget pages 146-147);

[Mr. G. I. Patel
Lawless Man]

The ~~previous~~ ready chawls which have been built and wherein rooms are lying vacant. Government are not getting the rent in some places and in other places the rent is falling in arrears, even at the reduced rate. The Honourable the General Member says that Government are not getting the economic rent. I am surprised that when the Government have got tenements unoccupied and they know that they cannot get tenants for the chawls they have built by spending large amounts, they should still go in for the construction of new chawls. My submission is that unless the whole of the tenements that they have built so far are occupied they should not take in hand the construction of any new tenements.

Question proposed.

Sir LAWLESS HEPPEL: Sir I should like to explain that this amount is not required for any new construction. It is required for works which are included in the sanctioned estimates for the construction of 121 chawls at Worli. The 121 chawls which have already been sanctioned are approaching completion, and will be completed by next July or August. There is a certain amount of work which has not been commenced and which has been provided for in this item. It includes mainly the construction of roads in the area, levelling up of the open spaces and building compound walls. This work is incidental to the construction of 121 chawls practically completed and no new construction is involved.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): Sir, I find on page 146 under item no. 29: "Constructing chawls of 80 tenements each with sanitary fittings....."

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: That is the name of the project.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: I would like to point out that on page 129 of the Blue Book whereas the estimated rent on these chawls for the current year was 13.16 lakhs, the revised estimate is put down as 7.20 lakhs of rupees. So, we see that there is a drop of about 6 lakhs, which shows how inaccurate the estimate of the department is. I do not believe that even these 7 lakhs and odd will be realised. Taking 7.20 lakhs as correct, it works out to 6,000 rooms at 10 per room per month. Thus out of the 14,000 or 15,000 rooms that have been built, only 6,000 rooms have been occupied, which is less than 50 per cent. And it will take quite a long time at this rate for the remaining chawls to be occupied. In such a state of things, Government are not at all justified in continuing this work to any extent whatsoever. That is the proposition which I would like to bring to your consideration, whatever the opinion of the committee that was appointed may be. In the interests of Government and of the presidency, we should stop this work altogether.

Mr. G. I. PATEL (Ahmedabad Millowners' Association): Sir, I may state here that during the course of last week I had been on this spot to see the condition and to examine how far the figures given in this item

[Mr. G. I. Patel]

are correct. I found most of the chawls vacant then. ~~Out of~~ ^{One of} the roads passes through the chawls towards sea-side where also regular buildings have been erected. I understand 76 per cent. of these tenements are lying vacant and this shows the difference in the rents which are expected and the rents which are actually received. That also shows that the project is a complete failure and any more expenditure on the same lines will prove ruinous to the whole Worli affair.

In regard to other tenements the percentage of vacancies is 37 and 26, while in Worli it is 76 per cent. Out of 6,000 tenements erected at present the vacancies are 43 per cent. and the average on the Worli spot is 76 per cent. Hence this big amount of Rs. 2,11,000 is going to be wasted on the realization of 24 per cent. only. 76 per cent. being actually vacant, while 24 per cent. is remaining occupied, this sum of Rs. 2,11,000 is going to be spent for further losses than for realizing any gains.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA (Bombay City, North) : Sir, I do not suppose that I am justified in taking the time of the House in commenting on the general policy of this housing or development scheme at this stage.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : You can do that on a motion for a general reduction.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA : Sir, at the present moment I should like to point out that so far as this particular work is concerned if the drainage scheme is not carried out the health of the residents of this place would be naturally impaired. These housing schemes are for the working classes ; and therefore it is a great mistake at this stage to refuse sanction for the development of this place. For this reason, I shall support this grant.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts) : Sir, what I have been noticing is this, that this year as a matter of fact 34 lakhs are provided for the housing schemes of Worli and Sewri. On a reference to appendix "C" I find that the repairs and maintenance charges for the Bombay Development Scheme, are Rs. 12,64,000. The actual realization is Rs. 7,20,000. That is the maintenance and repairs including of course the maintenance of roads, exceeds the income, at any rate the income of the rents realized, by 5 or 6 lakhs. If that is the case, would it be advisable to spend about 34 or 35 lakhs more on this Sewri and Worli schemes ? So, what I say is any money that is required for the drainage scheme which is considered necessary by my honourable friend Mr. Baptista, may be spent. But this money is put down for new construction. So, I say no money should be spent upon new construction until we are in a position to know that the existing tenements are fully occupied.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangir : Sir, I quite agree with my honourable friend who has just sat down. As the honourable member the Director of Development explained, this Rs. 2,11,000 is to be spent for the small roads between chawls. The honourable member for Thana asks why is it " called new works not commenced and acquisitions." Let me tell him that when a chawl has been begun, any other

(Mr. G. B. Pradhan) R. 1925] P. gir]
 addition, Lawless is not "work in progress." For instance, if you have to provision drainage it is "new works." When it is completing the chawl itself then it is 'work in progress.' If my honourable friend wants all these details put into the budget I do not know of what size the budget will be. We have got after all to compress a bit and when we say 'new works' it means all sorts of work. That has been the ordinary system of budgetting for years and years and whenever explanation is needed we give it.

Question put and lost.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts) :
 Mr. President, I move :

That item No. 31 Housing (Worli and Sewri)—Rs 3,00,000 be omitted.

I find that according to the information supplied by the Honourable the General Member, in the construction of chawls, roads are included, drainage is included, and everything is included ; and when 12 lakhs are provided for maintenance and repairs, and over and above that, 3 lakhs are provided as unforeseen items, I ask, Sir, why such a huge sum as Rs. 3,00,000, when provision is made for every bit of thing, should be kept in the hands of the Development Directorate without any information being given to this House.

Question proposed.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : I will agree, Sir, to delete this item of Rs. 3,00,000—Housing (Worli and Sewri).

Question put and carried.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts) :
 Mr. President, I move :

That item No. 37—Khar Works—be reduced by Rs 1,00,000.

Now, Mr. President, I find that a sum of Rs. 1 lakh is put down for Suburban Scheme No. 7, Khar Model Suburb, and there is an asterisk to this sum that this sum is required for land acquisition. Now, if this is required for new land acquisition, certainly I object to it and I say it should be omitted. But if this sum is necessary for giving extra compensation to owners, if the courts have allowed it or may allow it, in which case we of course are bound to pay, I would not object to the retention of the amount. But unless there is an explanation coming forward whether it is to pay the awards of compensation which the court has made or may make to owners, or whether it is for new acquisition of land, I must object. If it is for excess amount of compensation payable, the item may be retained.

Question proposed.

Sir LAWLESS HEPPEL : Mr. President, the position is explained on page 2 of the note of the Development Budget circulated to honourable members. The amount has been entered at the request of the Collector to meet any possible enhancement in cases of references to the court. That is the only reason why it is put in. There is no question of new acquisition, but legal proceedings are still going on and the Collector advises

[Sir Lawless Hepper]

[2 MAR. 1929]

that it would be advisable that this provision should allow any possible enhancements of awards.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : If that is so, I withdraw my motion.

Question put and leave granted.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts) : Mr. President, the next motion which I wish to move is :

Reduce item No. 40—Ambernath Works—by Rs. 10,000.

This sum forms part of Rs. 3,10,000 set apart for Ambernath, and if I understand the Honourable the General Member rightly, as there is no demand for land at Ambernath, he does not intend to spend anything out of the 3 lakhs and odd unless it is absolutely necessary to do so as a result of a sudden demand for land there. If that is so, I do not know why this Rs. 10,000 is necessary and why Rs. 3,10,000 has been put down for Ambernath. I move that this sum also be omitted if the 3 lakhs are not going to be spent.

Question proposed.

Sir LAWLESS HEPPER : Mr. President, this is a similar case to the last. It refers to land acquisition, not to new acquisition, but to cases in which land has been acquired but in which references have been made to the court. The land has been taken over by us and some of it has already been sold, but proceedings are going on and the Collector advises that Rs. 10,000 should be provided to meet any possible claims.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Will it not be covered by the previous grant ?

Sir LAWLESS HEPPER : This is land in another scheme.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts) : Mr. President, I submit the Honourable the General Member, if I remember rightly, said that 3 lakhs are not going to be spent by him for Ambernath unless there is a demand for land. As there was some company formed which was negotiating for land at Ambernath the sum may be required. Then, if those negotiations fall through, the 3 lakhs would not be required and would not be spent.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : May I explain, Sir ? For Ambernath we have got a provision of Rs. 3,10,000. Rs. 10,000 is under the head of land acquisition. Rs. 10,000 is provided in order to meet any extra demand that the court may award. The 3 lakhs is there as a provision for "works" if there is any demand for land. We are not going to use it unless there is demand for land. That assurance was given last year. Rs. 10,000 is for land acquisition and it is for the extra awards, extra amounts that might be added to the awards by the courts. We are not going to spend any more money on Ambernath. Three lakhs are provided for works in progress. We will use that money only if there is a demand for land. If there is no demand for land, we will not touch that 3 lakhs of rupees. Rs. 10,000 is for the extra awards. We won't use it for acquisition of new land.

R. 1925]
 Mr. G. B. PRADHAN :
 Rs. 10,00,000 (Lawless H)

N : I wish to withdraw this motion for deletion of

Question No. 11 and leave granted.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : Now, my next motion is :

"Omit item No. 41—Andheri—Rs. 1,00,000 (Budget pages 148-149)."

As regards Andheri they have put down 1 lakh of rupees for land acquisition again. At any rate, this one lakh is for fresh acquisition. So here at any rate, they are acquiring new land worth 1 lakh of rupees and this sum is being spent. So, if this sum is required for new land, then this lakh should be omitted.

Sir LAWLESS HEPPEL : Mr. President, the House are probably aware that Government have withdrawn the notification about 2,500 acres of land in Salsette through which this railway passes. But they have not denotified certain small areas in the neighbourhood of the proposed halts on the Salsette-Trombay Tramway, the idea being that it is advisable that Government should retain in their hands the power to control the development at places which may become railway stations in the future. The land is in the hands of the owners at present and is being cultivated by them, and, so far as we know, there is no demand that we should acquire it. But it is just possible that one or two of these owners may require that we should take their land over and pay for it, and this provision of 1 lakh has therefore been put in to meet such cases. There is no intention of acquiring any land unless we find ourselves forced to take it.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City) : Mr. President, I find the amounts provided in the budget for these items are formidable. The honourable member has just now said that 3 lakhs has been provided in case there is a demand for land. We must remember that we are losing on these transactions, that we have to pay more money by way of interest on these lands, than we are actually realising, if the money is with us. Therefore, it is advisable to reduce the amounts, if they are not absolutely necessary. Looking to past experience, I think we ought not to allow such large amounts to be provided in the budget and every attempt should be made to reduce them.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts) : Mr. President, the explanation that is given on page 2 of the note that has been supplied to us is that the money is required for fresh acquisitions near halts on Salsette-Trombay Railway. We do not know when this railway is going to be ready. Out of an amount of Rs. 68 lakhs and odd provided for this railway, nearly Rs. 52 lakhs have been spent, and I think the railway will not materialise for the next ten years. Nobody knows whether it is going to be a profitable concern. I do not know why a lakh of rupees should be spent for preparing halts for a railway which has yet to come into existence. So, this sum need not be provided in this year's budget. If Government have denotified the lands, why do they want to acquire other lands? I do not know why they should want a lakh of rupees now for some land which they may be compelled to pay for in the future, for future development. My submission, therefore, is that this sum should be omitted.

[2 MAR.] 1925

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Sir, there is some misapprehension as to this, and I will explain. The whole of Sahar was at one time notified. The railway runs through Sahar. The whole of Sahar has been denotified, with the exception of small plots of land which have been reserved for stations. Now, my honourable friend is under some misapprehension as to when this railway will be completed. The rails are down, everything is complete, and we hope to have a line running from Andheri to Kurla at the latest next cold weather. I had hoped that it would be running in the monsoon, but at the latest by next cold weather we shall have a line running there. Under these circumstances, it is necessary to have stations. We are not going to build any stations, but the little plots of land that we have not denotified will be the halting places. Even then, we contend that we will not spend this money unless the owners of the land compel us to acquire it. They are at present cultivated, and I should think we shall be able to get on without having any platforms or anything of that sort, and we will allow them to continue cultivation, until they force us to acquire. They may force us to acquire the land at any time, and therefore this amount of Rs. 1 lakh is necessary, and that is the reason why we have put it in the budget.

Question put and lost.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts): Sir, I beg to move:

"Omit provision for Personal Assistant to Land Manager, Rs. 10,800."

On page 156 of the Blue Book I find that a new post is created, which is that of the personal assistant to the Land Manager. Now, this gentleman was not in existence in 1923-24 and 1924-25. But provision is being made in the budget of 1925-26 to the extent of Rs. 10,800 for this post. I do not know whether, as the work decreases, the hands are to be increased. The land manager's work is going to be decreased, because the Honourable the General Member has informed the House that he is going to stop at any rate all the suburban activities for this year, and I do not know why these personal assistants and sub-assistants are required. There are one or two men who go to the Thana Court and spend their time, although there is the Government Pleader to do the work. These gentlemen go and occupy the court chairs. I do not know why they are required to waste their time in the court. This is apparently a new post, and I object to the creation of such a post when the work is decreasing.

Sir LAWLESS HEPPEL: Sir, I think I can give a satisfactory explanation of this. In the current year, there is provision for three assistant land managers. Next year we have provided in this budget for two. The designation of one assistant land manager has been altered to personal assistant, and the second remains as the assistant land manager, but as he is wholly employed in town planning schemes, his salary is recoverable, and we do not really pay it. Since this budget was framed, however, the third assistant has been transferred to the Revenue Department, so that the Rs. 11,400 shown against the post will not be

[Sir Lawless Hepper]

required by the Development Department, and the only salary that we shall have to pay in addition to the salary of the Land Manager himself will be the item of Rs. 10,800 on account of his personal assistant.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts) : Sir, do I understand the Director of Development to say that instead of Rs. 10,800 being omitted, he is prepared to omit Rs. 11,400 ? Because Rs. 11,400 is the amount which is recoverable, that is, it is to be nominally under the Development Department budget, but it is going to be recovered from some other department, but the Rs. 10,800 under the development budget is not recoverable. I do not know whether this assistant land manager will be deleted from the Development Department altogether, or whether he will be under the Development Department, but his salary will be recoverable from the Revenue Department. If the latter is the case, then I would ask that the amount be omitted.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Sir, my honourable friend started off by saying that this was a new appointment. Now, let my honourable friend just glance at the figure of Rs. 29,500 for 1924-25 for three assistant land managers. That has been reduced to Rs. 11,400 that is to say, two assistant land managers have been dispensed with. We budgeted last year for three assistant land managers, and we provided Rs. 29,500. This year we budget for only one, and the provision for that one is Rs. 11,400. What Government have done is that they have reduced those three to two ; one we have sent to the Revenue Department, and therefore, now that he is gone to the Revenue Department, that Rs. 11,400 will not be required. So, we have retrenched Rs. 29,500, and in the place of those three, we have got one man whom we call the personal assistant to the land manager. Therefore, instead of three we are budgeting for one and call him the personal assistant. Therefore, the whole of the Rs. 29,500 will be deleted from this year's budget, and instead of that we will have the one figure of Rs. 10,800.

Question put and lost.

After recess.

(Motion for adjournment of business)

Mr. LALJI NARANJI (Indian Merchants' Chamber) : Sir, I move :
 "That the House do now adjourn to call attention to the financial proposals of the Finance Member of the Government of India as they affect this presidency and to urge upon the Government the necessity of urgently communicating to the Government of India by a proper representation of the honourable members of this House the just claims of Bombay to further consideration having regard to the financial position of this presidency."

The reason for this motion is well-known to all the honourable members of this House who have read the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member of the Government of India which was published on Saturday evening. The object of this motion is to call attention to the financial proposals of the Finance Member of the Government of India as they affect this presidency. Now, Sir, the budget that was presented on Saturday evening at Delhi is not only a manipulated budget but also a diplomatic budget, and certain aspects of it require careful consideration

[Mr. Lalji Naranji]

which it is not within the province of this Council to bestow. I am therefore only going to examine that portion which refers to this presidency. The main question arises on the assumption that the statement of the Honourable the Finance Member that there is a surplus of 3,24 lakhs is correct. I will not go into the question whether that surplus is real and genuine or whether it is a manipulated one, but I will take it as an accepted fact that there is a surplus of 3,24 lakhs, because it is not the business of this House to examine whether that surplus is real and genuine or manipulated. Sir, it is the duty of this House to see how this Presidency is treated by the Government of India and why it is so treated. When we come to consider the treatment by the Government of India of this Presidency we have to go to the Report of the Financial Relations Committee, whose recommendations are known as the Meston award. I have got a copy of that report in my hand, and I will refer to the terms of reference given to them. There were only four terms given to them, and out of those four, the fourth was introduced at the representation of the Government of Bombay, and that is : "whether the Government of Bombay should retain any share of the revenue derived from income tax". There were three other terms of reference. The first was "contributions to be paid by the various provinces to the central Government for the financial year 1921-22". The second was : "modification to be made in the provincial contributions thereafter with a view to equitable distribution, until there ceases to be an all-India deficit". And the third was "the future financing of the Provincial Loans Account". We are only concerned here with the second and fourth. The first related to the year 1921-22, which is now past. The second is "modifications to be made in the provincial contributions thereafter with a view to equitable distribution, until there ceases to be an all-India deficit". You will see, Sir, that the Meston settlement was instituted on account of the deficit that the central Government had to meet in view of the allocation of certain heads of revenue to the provinces. In this connection we have to see what the Bombay Presidency was getting before, and what the Bombay Presidency lost by, the settlement. Of course I will not go in detail into the question how much the Bombay Presidency has contributed to the assets that the Government of India have claimed as their sources of revenue. According to the Government of India's own admission, the Bombay Presidency has contributed very largely to those assets on the capitalised value of which we are now asked to pay interest. The honourable members of this House are aware that we are asked to pay 43 lakhs of rupees interest on the capitalised value of the irrigation canals. That used to be met out of the central funds before the Reforms. There are several other assets that the central Government have been able to build for themselves out of the revenues of the provinces when certain heads of revenue were divided between central and provincial governments. The question of how much exactly we have contributed is one which cannot be determined to-day. But I think members of this House will agree that this presidency has contributed a very large amount in building the assets of the Central Government, including one of their biggest assets, the railways.

[Mr. Lalji Naranji]

There are two main sources of wealth in this country : one is agriculture and the other is trade and industry. So far as agriculture is concerned, it is common to all the provinces. As regards trade, the Meston committee has made mention of only two centres, Bombay and Calcutta. What trade pays is in the form of customs revenue and in the shape of income tax. Now, Sir, the statement that has been presented by the Honourable the Finance Member of the Government of India, against which this motion is directed, clearly shows that the main sources of revenue for the Government of India are customs receipts, railway profits and income tax. Customs receipts come to about 45 crores ; railway profits amount to 5 crores—that is the net contribution they get from the railways—and income tax comes to 17 or 18 crores. Now, these are the main items out of the 133 crores. To all these revenues this presidency contributes a good deal.

Sir, this presidency was treated with the grossest injustice when the Meston settlement was made. Both our Government and this House have protested against this settlement so far without success, because of the weakness, I believe, of our Government. The weakness of Government is that they did not protest enough ; they went on taxing this presidency without considering whether it was fair or not. This presidency has been called wise, but I do not think that they have been wise, because from the results we find we are the greatest sufferers. This presidency behaved well, and taxed themselves fully, on the expectation that if they did so the Meston award would be revised, and they would ultimately get good results. The result has falsified such expectations. The chief source of our income before the reforms was income-tax and that has now been taken away from us on the promise of early inquiry and revision. All our representations against the Meston award have resulted in nothing. You will see, Sir, from the budget statement, page 35, where the income of the presidency before the Reforms Scheme is given, that land revenue and income tax were divided between the central and the provincial governments on a half and half basis. It is admitted by the framers of the Meston settlement that income tax is an expanding source of revenue. Land revenue is not an expanding source for reasons well known to members of this House. Now, in the proposal that this presidency should be deprived of the half share in the income tax, we were deprived of roughly 4 crores, assuming that 8 crores was the total revenue under income tax from this presidency. Sir, we cannot forget that this presidency is flourishing mainly due to its activities in trade and industry. When the central Government was sharing the revenue by income tax with the provinces, it was certainly not to their interest to look to the industry of the whole of India, and they always looked upon Bombay as one of their big sources of industrial development in this country.

Now, Sir, if we look to the treatment that we get by the present proposals of the Finance Member of the Government of India, which is to remit the contribution of the other provinces out of the surplus of 3·24 crores, and if we look into the history of the settlement made by the

[Mr. Lalji Naranji]

Meston Committee, even in the words of Council Committee, their recommendations are arbitrary without any rhyme or reason. The committee themselves state on page 5 of the report :

" This limit, however, obvious as it is, makes it inevitable that the initial contributions should be in some measure arbitrary, dictated by the existing financial position of each province and not by any equitable standard such as its capacity to pay."

Another point I should like to bring to the notice of the House is that the Meston Committee assumed that the Bombay Presidency is a rich province in the whole of India. Whether Bombay is a rich province or not, it has been very careful about the discharge of its obligations by incurring further heavy debts and thereby incurring recurring liability of heavy charges of interest and sinking funds. All the capital commitments that the Government have incurred are not solely for the benefit of this presidency. As you will see, Sir, the income by the development of trade will not benefit this presidency, but it will go to swell the coffers of the Central Government in the form of income tax. That fact has been corroborated by the Finance Member in his speech while presenting the budget. He says in paragraph 60 :

For 1925-26 I put the total yield at 17.35 crores, which is 38 lakhs higher than the revised estimates for the current year.

I maintain that the revenue from income tax was a sort of guarantee against famine, because land revenue is not a steady source as it is dependent upon nature. If we had had half of land revenue and half of income tax revenue we could have depended upon both. Now, we are getting 5 crores from land revenue. If we get half of this, that is, 2½ crores, and if we get 4 crores, half of the income tax revenue, we will get 6½ crores. Now, it is plain that there is now a distinct loss of 1½ crores. Over and above that, we have to pay a contribution of 56 lakhs settled on an arbitrary and temporary basis. They say that according to the famine rules there is no other course but to remit this amount in the way that the Finance Member has proposed. But the question is whether the Meston settlement itself is proper and whether we are not entitled to a share in the surplus of 3.24 crores. I will only refer to Bengal. We see the way in which Bengal has been treated. Personally I do not like that there should be any jealousy between sister provinces; but the Central Government for political reasons may have chosen to create jealousy between the two presidencies. It may be that Bengal is fortunate in that they have the ears of the head of the Central Government. They may have got the favouritism of the Central Government as we see from the way in which Bengal has been treated. Bengal gets a remittance of its contribution for three years and to the surprise of the Honourable the Finance Member of Bengal. Last week when we read the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member of Bengal when he introduced the budget he mentioned that he would have to provide 63 lakhs in the coming year, because it was a surplus budget, for contribution to the Central Government. I congratulate the Bengal Government on their surplus budget because they have not incurred any debts by further borrowings in order to tax themselves to that extent as has been done by this presidency. By taxing

[Mr. Lalji Naranji]

ourselves and by heavy borrowing we have shown a surplus and our solvency. In this connexion I wish I to point out one observation of the Meston Committee that sometimes the surpluses are masked deficits. On page 7 of their report the committee say :

"While actual deficits appear, as has been said, in some provinces other complain that their apparent surplus, if rightly understood, masks a real deficit."

Our presidency is under that category. Why should we have big surpluses ? These surpluses are not real surpluses, as it has been observed by the Meston Committee. The Central Government have been misled by these surpluses of the Bombay presidency. They have remitted Rs. 63,00,000 for three years in the case of Bengal even to the surprise of the Finance Member of that Government. From the speech of the Finance Member of the Government of India it appears that it is a sort of reward that the Bengal Government is not to pay any contribution for the 4th year also. What is the policy of the Government of India in doing so ? I say with great emphasis that it is the result of the deliberate policy of the Government of India to kill the industry of Bombay, and to see that Bengal flourishes at the expense of the other provinces. Of all the provinces Bombay is the only province that depends upon its prosperity of industry and trade. I put it to the honourable members of this House who represent agriculture

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I should like to invite the attention of honourable members to the fact that under the Rules and Standing Orders, it has been laid down with regard to adjournment motions that "No speech during the debate shall exceed fifteen minute in duration." Having regard to the special circumstances of this motion, I propose to allow some more time to the mover of the motion, provided there is no objection by the House. He has already had his 15 minutes. I take it there is no objection.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI : Honourable members of this House who represent agricultural interests will thus see that if they are deprived of their legitimate sources of revenue they have no other course but to tax every source open to this presidency. By the proposal of the Finance Member of the Government of India we are compelled either to wind up the progress of all the nation-building departments or to reduce expenditure indiscriminately making the administration impossible. Unless it is desired by the Central Government to cause confusion in the administration of this presidency, it is unfair to put this presidency under the necessity of suffering under the yoke of heavy taxation and also to exact from us the Meston award.

Coming to the point that the Finance Member of the Government of India wants to kill the industry of this presidency, I shall refer to his speech on page 13 wherein he says in paragraph 40 :—

During the last year or so prices of goods imported into India have gone up considerably in terms of sterling, while remaining fairly steady in terms of rupee.

He argues that by exchange this country has not suffered and to support his theory he has quoted the prices of the produce of this country. I will refer to cotton. If you compare all the raw products you will see

[Mr. Lalji Naranji]

that the price of jute has increased by 100 per cent., £22-5-0 to £42-10-0, while cotton from 11·10 to 12·30. You will see the increase is merely a trifle in cotton, because though it is shown as 12·30, in his own speech further on in paragraph 60 he refers to cotton industry and admits that the cotton mill industry this year has continued somewhat stagnant.

Now, Sir, you will notice that neither the agricultural people of this Presidency are benefited by the Exchange policy in obtaining prices of raw materials nor indigenous industries by unfair competition of imported goods enjoying 12½ per cent. bounty in the form of favourable exchange. The cotton industry is the chief industry of this Presidency. And when he goes on to distribute the big surplus of 3·24 crores which he has brought about quite justly or unjustly at the cost of this Presidency, he proposes by the unjust and inequitable award known as the Meston award all the surplus to be distributed to those who have neither balanced nor tried to balance their budgets by new taxation. Now when he considers the probable deserving claimants he has not even the fairness to consider the claims of the cotton mill industry, which has given a very large income by way of the customs revenue on plants of machinery and parts, by way of income tax in past years, and by way of super-tax in war time and after war time. He has not even the justness and fairness of admitting the claims of the cotton industry by proposing to abolish excise duty, because it would have meant in another form a saving to this Presidency and a long delayed justice to industries which was due to them after a long time in surplus budget. This unjust tax has been admitted by Government to be such and a pledge was given by the Government of Lord Hardinge that that tax would be removed in the year 1916, and in spite of that no mention of this claim has been made by the Honourable the Finance Member as the first claimant and the prior claimant. The deliberate attempt of the Central Government is to kill the industry of the Government of Bombay and to make Bengal flourish at the cost of this Presidency.

Now what is the condition of the Bengal industry? Bengal has jute, coal and tea: they are making profits of over 200 to 300 per cent. now, and Bengal is lightly taxed as has been shown by the leader of the Swaraj party in his interview to "*The Times of India*"; he has given these figures and shown that Bengal is the most lightly taxed province and Bombay is the heaviest taxed province and also heavily burdened with capital debt not for the development of Bombay, but as I said before for the development of the general interests of the Central Government. Because, Sir, what is the Development Department for, what is the Sukkur Barrage for? if this House considers carefully it will find that they are meant to give land to industry and its labourers at the cost of the general taxpayer of this Presidency. Who is going to be benefited by customs and income tax. The Central Government is wholly benefited. The only gain to this Presidency will be the employment of our labour. They will sweat and earn their wages, but there will be no other gain to this presidency. Taking big risks with the Central Government, sanctioning and encouraging schemes in spite of the opposition of this side of

[Mr. Lalji Naranji]

the House, by giving big loans to the Government of Bombay, what does this Presidency get? Both Sukkur Barrage and the development scheme, as the Honourable the General Member of our Council always represents—and let us hope that his representations to this House will prove correct—may prove to the advantage of this Presidency in the form of more land revenue, from the former or in the form of profits by sale of land developed, but that will be after several years. But at present we have to pay large sums of interest. In fairness the Central Government ought to share at least half of all the preliminary and interest charges, because the only advantage that Bombay will get is some help to the agricultural progress of this Presidency. It may help the poor people when they work and toil on the land, but the real profit, the cream, will go to the Central Government.

This Meston Settlement is nothing but an instrument in the hands of the Central Government to play one provincial Government against another, and the Finance Member of the Government of India has not lost the opportunity of creating jealousy, but what we wish is that the Bengal Presidency will join with us in representing that this Meston Settlement is not only arbitrary but that it should be revised at the earliest moment.

Now, Sir, about the claims that are already mentioned. I will only speak about this budget which has been shown as a very prosperous budget. This has been a prosperous budget because of the manipulation of the Finance Member as regards exchange, and if honourable members of this House will consider who has got to pay for the rise in exchange, they will realise that it is the producer and no one else, though the Finance Member has taken great pains to show that neither the producer, the taxpayer, nor the general consumer pays any part of it—a theory he has tried to propound without any success. I will not take the time of this House on this subject. I shall only appeal to this House that on this point they will not be satisfied by expressing indignation at this distribution of this surplus but that they will take practical steps by making a strong representation to the Central Government by uniting all the parties in the strongest manner possible and even by refusing our Government any further money and taxation and also by making further big cuts which we are now doing to-day and we will have to do in the next five days, and making the administration of this Presidency impossible and by not accepting the dictum that our Government are taking for the taxation.

Another thing that I will say is that all the parties should unite in this representation to the Government of India and I hope that our Government will also join with us in making this representation and in removing this dark spot on the administration and good name of British justice. It is not justice, it is depriving you in the open day of the fruits of your labour: it is nothing short of looting this Presidency by the unjust settlement of the Meston award and doleing this surplus which we have been mainly instrumental in enabling the Central Government to obtain to those who are hardly justified in getting it. I will not take the

[Nr. Lalji Naranji]

time of this House any more. I hope that all the parties will support this motion in as strong terms as possible and condemn the action of the central Government.

Question proposed.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I should like to point out, in view of the several honourable members who got up on their legs with the intention of addressing the House, that, though 15 minutes are allowed, they should try to be very brief, because if each member addresses the House for 15 minutes, it will not be possible to go to vote without applying the closure.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North) : Sir, whether to-day is a day of indignation or a day of humiliation, it is our plain duty to raise a united voice against the arbitrary and unjust action of the Government of India. Sir, we are not only badly treated, but there is an attempt to add insult to injury. In the budget speech the Finance Member refers to refunds of customs duty on Government stores. He himself admits that to give refunds on Government stores is not a very satisfactory arrangement; but all the same he perpetuates that and says that Bombay will get 10 lakhs out of the 18 lakhs of the duty on the stores and therefore it is not necessary to revise the settlement or to give any concession in the provincial contributions as far as Bombay is concerned. Sir, our case has suffered and it is now time to enquire as to why we have been left in the cold. My own view is that we have made the case go partly by default and partly by mismanagement. When I say by default, I refer to this thing. Our Government had two or three years ago sent notifications to members of this House that on behalf of this Government our representatives in the Legislative Assembly were going to move a resolution recommending that some arrangement should be made in respect of provincial contributions. Beyond receiving that notification or notice, I up to this date do not know what has taken place in the matter. When other provinces have represented, have moved resolutions, why has our Presidency sat quiet? So, I say that was a case of default. Then, as to mismanagement. In this connection in the year 1922 in the month of April there was a Finance Members' Conference held at Simla, and there also our Government made some blunders. First of all, they wanted that the contributions should be revised but pending that revision they should get one-third of the income tax revenue of the year 1920. Later on they changed their tactics and came to demand divided heads. They said "Give us half of income tax and take from us half of land revenue" Now, that demand is clearly a demand which could not have been sustained in view of the spirit of the reforms. Then, if the Government of India has declined to entertain that proposal, I think the mistake is ours and not of the Government of India.

Then, another point is that we had made a mistake of policy. There is no secret about it that ours is the province which wanted the largest loans from the Government of India. I may give you the figures. Bombay wanted in five years' time about 39 crores for its Sukkur Barrage and

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

development schemes, whereas Madras wanted 15 crores, Bengal 7½ crores, United Provinces 10 and the Punjab 15. Therefore, the mistake we were committing was this, that we wanted the largest loan amount from the Government of India, and in order to show our solvency we were actually trying to show that we were more solvent than we really were and with that view we had introduced fresh taxation, we had made retrenchments and various other things. Now, as regards retrenchment, in one year we had retrenched by 124 lakhs. Thereby we had lost the efficiency of our own provincial administration. And with what view did we do it? Only to show to the Government of India that we are quite clever people, that we could wipe away our budget deficits and bring in surpluses. Now, Sir, if you refer to the other provinces, you will find—take, for instance, the revenue of Bengal and that of our own province—there is not much difference. The revenue of Bengal in 1922 was 9 crores and in that year our revenue was 14 crores. Their expenditure in the same year was 9 crores and ours was 13 crores. But what did we do? Bengal did not, though it had the greatest staying power, retrench to the same extent that we did. You can judge of the staying power of Bengal by the new taxation that was raised. The sources of taxation were just the same. But in Bengal from amusements, they could recover 25 lakhs in one year, whereas we in Bombay could not recover more than 2 lakhs. Take stamps, Bengal could obtain 28 lakhs, whereas we could hardly obtain 12 lakhs. Therefore, my point is that we were heavily taxed and in spite of that we underwent great self-denial only with the view that we should obtain credit from the Government of India. And we wanted that credit for what? To finance the Sukkur Barrage and the Bombay Development Department. As to the Development Department, we know in what plight it is at present; so I need not labour the point any further. We do not know whether our projects will be financially sound. I simply wish that they would be, but to-day at least the indication is that there are great doubts about their being very successful. And in order to finance such projects we were showing to the Government of India that we were solvent and for that we were taxing our own people to an extent which was not quite justifiable. In every way we were showing what we really were not. Therefore, my point is that, as far as the treatment which we are receiving to-day is concerned, it is the outcome of our own mistakes. But our duty to-day is, whether there be differences of opinion between the official and non-official benches or not in regard to other matters, it is our plain duty to raise our voice as one united body. As a Sanskrit poet says, where the Pandavas and the Kauravas had to fight one common enemy or another enemy they were 106, and when they had to fight amongst themselves, the Pandavas were only 5 and the Kauravas 101. Similarly to-day, when we are going to raise our voice in protest against the iniquitous arrangement of the Government of India, it is our plain duty to express our indignation at the treatment which we have received, especially when we have a greater claim to a fairer treatment because we always maintained our reputation for solvency and we kept ourselves

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

within our means, with one voice. These were the qualities for which the Government of India should have given us a reward, but the reward which we have received is quite a different one. Therefore, I at least would request the Government to reconsider their own financial policy. I may just remind them that in 1922 I had mentioned this fact in my budget speech, and I will read out one sentence from that speech :

"I am reluctant to sanction this taxation. I do think that if this Council would also oppose this taxation, they would be helping the Government by strengthening their case before the Government of India. We have some grievance against the Central Government with regard to Income Tax, and if our Government represent to the Central Government that the Council is not inclined to sanction new taxation, perhaps it may re-examine its decision."

The view which I took at that time has come true, and I hope that in future at least the Government will not try to raise money by fresh taxation. With these words I heartily support the motion for adjournment which is before this House.

MR. J. BAPTISTA (Bombay City, North) : Sir, I must candidly confess that no news in this new year has given me greater pleasure than this decision of the Government of India to exclude Bombay from the benefit of this remission of our contribution. I base my pleasure upon the proverb that "It is an ill wind that blows nobody good". But I think, Sir, if we are wise, we shall derive great good from this ill wind that has blown this way. It gives us an opportunity, in the first place, to unite together ; all persons and all parties can combine together on this occasion to present a united front to the Government of India, not for the purpose of obtaining doles from the dispensers of charity, but for the purpose of protesting against the perversity of the judges in deciding upon the merits of our case. I think it is unnecessary for me to argue in order to expose the essential injustice of this decision of Government. We feel it instinctively and we feel it indignantly. I have not the slightest doubt that when Sir Basil Blackett hears of the indignation of Bombay,—Bombay which is noted for its sobriety—he will try to plead *non possumus*. He will say : "We cannot help it ; we have no option, we have no choice ; the Devolution Rules stand in our way as an insurmountable mountain." We can retaliate and say that the Devolution Rules themselves are a blunder of Himalayan magnitude and they should be altered as soon as possible. It is no use flinging those rules at us. The best thing for Government to do is to go into ashes and sackcloth and repent over these Devolution Rules. I think they might emulate the example of Mahatma Gandhi and pray and fast and look aghast at the way in which the rules are working to-day.

Let me examine these Devolution Rules. Upon an examination, I find that the remission of the contribution from Bengal is obligatory under the rules for the first three years ending 1924-25. After that period, all the provinces are placed upon the same footing of equality. There is no distinction between one province and another, and whatever be the rules, they apply to all the provinces equally, including Bengal. Therefore, I say that there is no power vested in the Government of India—I say deliberately—no power even to remit the contributions by Bengal, as the rules now stand. Consequently, the Government of India have acted *ultra vires* in extending the period of moratorium for another spell of three

[Mr. J. Baptista]

years in the case of Bengal. I do not grudge Bengal what it gets. Let it get all it wants, but I want to point out that it is *ultra vires* under the rules. This is not the only breach of the rules. There is another breach of the rules on the present occasion. The Government of India are bound to take the contribution of Bengal into consideration in arriving at the surplus of Rs. 2½ crores. There is no choice, they are bound to do so and the rules make it quite explicit. The rules say that the contribution of Bengal shall be deemed to be the remission of the previous year. The word "deemed" is of great significance and importance, and indicates that, though there have been no actual contributions from Bengal, still the remissions themselves shall be considered as actual contributions for the purpose of arriving at the surplus. But the Government of India have not done so, and that constitutes, Sir, a second breach of the rules. If the Government of India can go on like that breaking their own rules for the purpose of benefiting Bengal or any other province, they ought to have taken into consideration our claims for the purpose of giving us a remission of our contribution. I must confess that, as the rules stand, technically, we are not entitled to anything, and I am quite certain that any one who has studied these rules will realise that we shall not be entitled to anything even if the surplus be Rs. 5½ crores. As a matter of fact, I have calculated that we shall not get more than Rs. 20 lakhs when the surplus exceeds 7½ crores. Therefore, you will see, Sir, there is no prospect before us. So far as the rule is concerned, the prospect of remission is far away. It is not within reach—not even within sight. So far as I can see, we shall not get anything under the Devolution Rules till the very crack of doom. Under the circumstances it is very kind of Sir Basil Blackett to tell us that his motto is "We will work in hope." I can only say that our motto under the circumstances must be "We shall live in hope to die in despair."

I should now like to call attention to another point. Was it wise on the part of the Government of India to apply these Devolution Rules at the present moment? Of course there is a surplus, but once the Devolution Rules are applied and there is a reduction, there is no method of revoking it, and if by some chance the surplus disappears—it can disappear if the exchange falls to 1s. 4d.—there will be no method of revoking it. Once reduced, for ever reduced, and therefore they will have no reserve in emergency. It would have been wiser on their part not to have applied the Devolution Rules; it would have been better if they had regulated the contributions according to the requirements of the people. They could easily do that, because the Devolution Rules do not oblige the Government of India to apply them. There is liberty to them to apply the surplus for any purpose that they please, and the best method would have been to distribute the surplus independent of the Devolution Rules upon some basis of sweet reasonableness.

We find that the unkindest cut is that on merits we do not deserve, because we are told that they are going to give to those that deserve. We are not told why we do not deserve, nor is it explained to us how we should deserve and then desire. But there it is—we have been told that we do not deserve. According to all ordinary canons of merits, there is

[Mr. J. Baptista]

no province more deserving than the province of Bombay. Taxation here is Rs. 8 per head, while in Madras it is Rs. 4 per head, and, as I pointed out the other day, 80 per cent. of this taxation comes chiefly from land and excise. Therefore, the heaviest burden falls on the poorest population, and, so far as land revenue is concerned, whatever you call it, rent or tax, after all it is essentially a tax on the food of the people, the poorest people of this presidency. Therefore, I think we may claim that, if there is any case, we have the strongest case.

I am afraid all this scurvy treatment that has been given to us must be attributed to the essentially wrong policy of Government. They have pursued that wrong policy in season and out of season by presenting money bills to this House for the purpose of getting more money. That indicated that the margin of the taxable capacity of the province has not been exhausted. That wrong policy, with overflowing budgets, brings this result. As I said the other day, that policy has been entirely wrong. I do not know to what extent Government have been driven to this policy. They may have been driven to this policy because they came in conflict with Lord Meston. Lord Meston stated that the Bombay Government was extravagant and that there should be retrenchment. The Bombay Government naturally resented the allegation and explored every avenue to disprove it. But whatever possibility there was of disproving the charge, that was lost for ever when in one day they retrenched by 62 lakhs. That showed that retrenchment was possible. On the other hand we ourselves on this side say more retrenchment is possible. The money bills of Government and our lamentations about extravagance—all seem suicidal on our part. Therefore, Sir, I think the time has come when the Government should change their policy about money bills and not create the false impression that the taxable capacity of the people is not exhausted; they should not starve the nation-building departments and thereby create surpluses, making people believe that we are overflowing with money. Taking this stand, let Government learn a lesson to-day from what we are telling them. Unfortunately, the Government of Bombay is in the hands of the Civil Services. The Civil Service no doubt contains men of calibre, though some of them are over-estimated. But the fact is that the Civil Service is no school for statesmanship. It produces good administrators, but good administrators are not always good statesmen. They make a great mistake in pursuing the policy of divide and rule. Therefore, I appeal to them to take a lesson and unite, and unite in presenting a solid front because that is the only way of persuading Sir Basil Blackett, and that great Israelite, who presides over the destinies of India, that we have reached the point of stony-brokenness. If they do it they will flourish; they will get more money from the Government of India and the Devolution Rules will be abrogated. I hope, Sir, that our Government will take wisdom by the forelock and accept our policy—a policy based on intimate knowledge of the weal and woe of our people.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Sir, I have great pleasure in associating myself with the resolution that has been moved by the

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

honourable member for the Bombay mercantile community. The Government of India have done a great injustice to this presidency. No doubt our greatest grievance is about the Meston settlement. That settlement has deprived us of an expanding source of revenue, and by the Devolution Rules, as the honourable member for Bombay has pointed out, we are debarred from sharing in any windfalls or any surplus in the finances of the Government of India. Sir, the Meston settlement, whatever the Government of India may say about it, stands condemned out of their own mouth. Under the Meston settlement, the Government of Bengal had to pay a contribution of 63 lakhs, and from the first year the Government of India had to remit that contribution for three years, and now, in this fourth year of the Reformed Councils, the Government of India have proposed to remit the contribution from Bengal for a further period of three years. A precedent is thus created and Bengal will be justified in saying that the Government of India have always considered them too poor to bear this contribution and this contribution should be remitted for ever. In this way, Sir, the Meston settlement has been condemned by the Government of India themselves. And now the Government of India have proposed a remission of part of the contribution from Madras also. I think the Government of India is committing a great injustice in favouring these spoilt children. I am going to present this Council with a few figures to show how the Government of Bengal have not been doing their duty towards their subjects. The population of Bengal is 46 millions; that is nearly $2\frac{1}{2}$ times the population of Bombay, which is a little over 19 millions. The Government of Bombay spent in 1924-25 a sum of Rs. 1,11,50,000 on primary education alone; while the Government of Bengal with a population $2\frac{1}{2}$ times the population of Bombay spent only 26 lakhs. Taking our expenditure as the basis, they could be expected to spend at least 2 crores: they have not only not spent 2 crores, but they have spent only 26 lakhs. That means that for every one thousand of the population Bombay spends Rs. 576 on primary education, while this favoured child of the Government of India, namely, Bengal, spends only Rs. 56 on primary education for every one thousand of the population. In the field of secondary education too Bombay has spent Rs. 148 per 1,000 of the population, while Bengal has spent only Rs. 55. Strange to say, that in Bengal the expenditure on primary education is just the same as the expenditure on secondary education, Rs. 26,46,000 and Rs. 26,22,000. So, the Government of Bengal is caring more for secondary education than for primary education. They do not recognise the necessity of giving education to the masses. The *bhadralogs* there care for themselves and lose sight of the toiling millions. For collegiate education, strange to say, they spend a still higher sum, Rs. 31,48,000. Well, this Government is not apathetic towards the spread of collegiate education: we have spent Rs. 81 for every 1,000 of the population for collegiate education, while Bengal spends only Rs. 66. In all branches of education, primary; secondary and collegiate the Bombay presidency has been spending more than Bengal. Bombay is especially very wide awake

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

to spend money on primary education. I will read to you, Sir, a few figures which will throw more light on the doings of the Government of Bengal. The proportion of expenditure on primary education to the total expenditure on education is 61 per cent. in Bombay.....

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Sir, I rise to a point of order. Are we discussing education in Bengal and Bombay ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I do not want to interrupt the Honourable the Minister in his speech. But I have appealed to the House that in order to deal with the subject satisfactorily they ought to deal with it directly and not go into such statistical aspects of the question as a comparison with the administration of Bengal, etc. I do not wish to say it is out of order, but having regard to the time limit of two hours of which one hour has been already taken up, a large number of other members who wish to join in this debate will be deprived of their opportunity, if every speaker takes up the full 15 minutes. I appeal to members that as the subject is one about which there does not appear to be any difference of opinion, each honourable member will exercise a little self-denial in the matter of the length of his speech.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, I bow to your decision, and shall not take more than a couple of minutes more. I want to bring to the notice of this House that the Government of Bengal has not been doing its duty by the people of their province, and therefore it was the last Government which ought to have been helped by the Government of India. The Government of India has already made their decision and I cannot find sufficient words to condemn their choice. The policy of the Government of Bengal has been to sit quiet and almost do nothing, but always cry that their finances are not in a flourishing condition. As a matter of fact, Bengal with its permanent settlement ought to be looked upon as very wealthy and very strong, and ought to have given primary education to all the people and also come forward to give larger contributions to the Central Government. I therefore say, Sir, that we all join in the condemnation of the Government of India, and especially of the Meston settlement which ought to be revised as early as possible.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities) : Sir, I rise to join my honourable colleagues in protesting against the treatment meted out to this province by the Central Government. Sir, as it is, the Bombay presidency is heavily taxed both as regards income-tax and excise duty. The condition of the textile industry of the Bombay presidency is very bad and those engaged in textile industry find it very difficult to make both ends meet. Still the Central Government continues to tax the textile industry. The Central Government is levying a tax of one rupee per loom and yet the Bombay presidency is not getting its due share in the remittance by the Central Government. The Bombay presidency is treated not only in a step-motherly fashion but as an illegitimate child. The Central Government levies excise duty on sugar, matches and so on. In this connection I want to bring

[Khan Saheb A. M. Mansuri]

to the notice of Government for their immediate consideration one important fact. Match boxes are subject to a duty of 12 annas per gross. Match boxes are sold at a certain rate in Bombay. This duty is imposed on matches imported into Bombay. But as regards those smuggled into Indian States like Bhavnagar, they escape this duty. According to the terms of the treaty.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: What bearing has that on the present issue?

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI: I want to show that instead of the tax being realised by Bombay, which is spending 30 crores of rupees on development, it goes into the coffers of Indian States. If this state of things continues Bombay will suffer very severely. Several departments are being starved and the Government have taxed every source of revenue available. If the Central Government continues in its present method, the Council will be well advised in protesting against their action.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Mr. President, I observe that this House is being swept on a stream of fiery indignation and eloquence; and I feel I should intervene at this moment to conduct that stream into a channel of careful and definite argument. We are all at one in the view that the interests of Bombay have been disregarded in the budget pronouncement of the Honourable the Finance Member of the Government of India; but we have very astute opponents whose interests clash with those of Bombay, and they will not fail to take advantage of any overstatement or inaccuracy in our language.

Further, we have in the Government of India an authority superior to provincial jealousies and rivalries: and it would be wise to recognise that, if they have disregarded our just claims, it is not through prejudice or hostility that they have erred, but through our own failure and remissness in not establishing the justice of our cause with sufficient clarity of proof and vigour of statement.

The issue is one of great gravity and the House will bear with me, I am sure, if I attempt to trace the history of our misfortune and explain the process by which the Government of India have been led into a position antagonistic to our interests.

Sir, the Meston Settlement is the economic counterpart of the Government of India Act with which some of our friends on the other side of the House are not fully satisfied. It is unfortunate that hitherto the Meston Settlement has not received the same share of attention as the political features of the reforms; or we should assuredly by joint effort before this have secured a modification of a system which is protected by no statute and which can be demonstrated to have been founded on erroneous premises of fact.

Sir, we must turn back to the declaration of August 1917. Immediately thereafter, inquiries began as to the best method of financial provision for the autonomous provincial governments then foreshadowed. There was a serious difference of opinion between high authorities whether a federal government should have separate resources or should share the

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

same resources. Up to that date the Government of India and the provincial governments had shared the same resources. Eventually the fiat went forth for separate resources, in defiance, I may observe, of the experience of every federal government in the world, and in spite of the earnest protest of the Bombay Government that they must retain a share of the income tax. Then in the winter of 1919 the Meston Committee was appointed to decide the distribution of resources. They toured throughout India and consulted many witnesses and wrote this report. It is a public report (priced 4 annas a copy) which can be had at the Central Press. I am sorry to say that it has not received the close and careful study which it deserves, for it is the origin of our present trouble.

The Meston Committee allotted to the provinces $18\frac{1}{2}$ crores more than their revenues before the reforms. They re-arranged the heads of revenue, granting to the provinces, for example, the whole share of land revenue, stamps, excise and so forth and reserving to the Imperial Government income tax, customs, salt and various other heads. The result was an anomalous re-distribution of total funds, entirely at variance from the revenues which the provinces possessed before. Four provinces—Madras, United Provinces, the Punjab and Burma—secured 15 crores out of this $18\frac{1}{2}$ and the other five secured $3\frac{1}{2}$ crores only. Bombay and Bengal each secured one crore approximately; while Madras got $5\frac{3}{4}$ crores and the United Provinces nearly 4. These increases of revenue were to accrue not at once but gradually; and this withholding of a share of this increase results in the levy of what is now known as the provincial contributions of which some provinces make so much complaint. Let us take for example Madras and the United Provinces. Of the eventual promised windfall of $5\frac{3}{4}$ crores Madras got $2\frac{1}{4}$ crores immediately; out of 4 crores, the United Provinces got $1\frac{1}{2}$ crores at once, while Bombay got 44 lakhs out of 93 lakhs eventually promised. I call these increases of revenue windfalls and you may think, Sir, that a responsible committee dealing with crores of public revenue would proceed on some definite process of reasoning and calculation and would not merely allot windfalls. But that is the very language that the committee themselves used. I quote from paragraph 15 of their report:

“The increases in revenues come to the provinces as a windfall, or as a bye-product of a constitutional change. It is not due, as financial settlements have been in the past, to consideration of the financial needs of individual provinces.”

“Clearly it has come about from political and not primarily from financial motives. It originates in the desire to secure a greater measure of devolution in the provinces and in the endeavour to draw for this purpose a defensible line of financial partition between local Governments and the Government of India.”

That Sir, was the method by which these portions of the increased revenue were divided. Of this $18\frac{1}{2}$ crores, $8\frac{1}{2}$ crores were distributed at once and the lucky four provinces received $6\frac{3}{4}$ crores immediately and the remainder received $1\frac{3}{4}$ crores and the Bombay share was 37 lakhs. And the Meston Committee devised an arithmetical table by which future contributions should be allotted, and by this table the lucky four again came first for future windfalls. There has now occurred such a windfall in the surplus of $2\frac{1}{2}$ crores which the Government of India are distributing

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

and the recipients are Madras 1,26, United Provinces 56, Punjab 61, and Burma 7. It is the Meston Award which is responsible for this new allotment which has aroused the notice and indignation of the public. Members of this House have indeed expressed their disapproval of the Award before, but never before I believe has it been so fully appreciated. In that Meston Award there are various statements detrimental to our interest which deserve careful analysis. In paragraph 7 of this report the committee reject the claim of Bombay to a share of the income tax and for what reason? They

"do not apprehend that the richer provinces such as Bombay, will be seriously handicapped in the administration of their own finances."

and they append

"some figures which indicate that several of the provinces and Bombay in particular may look for reasonable elasticity in their revenues apart from income tax—an elasticity which will in most cases be encouraged by judicious outlay."

Now, Sir, in these finance figures the committee, in spite of our protest made two serious errors. They took a year of great distress, 1912-13 and compared it with a year of good revenue, 1920-21, and concluded that on the average throughout these years our land revenue had increased by 4 per cent. per annum, stamps 15 per cent. per annum and excise 12½ per cent. per annum.

Then they write in paragraph 20 :

"Bombay has attained a scale of expenditure far above the Indian average and the space of expansion of its revenue is distinctly higher than in any other province. We believe that it could without inconvenience forego the greater part of its new resources at the outset and help the less fortunate provinces from its own abundant resources."

Sir, it is the erroneous statement and calculations of the Meston Committee which have led to the inequitable treatment of this presidency; and I submit that we should concentrate our efforts on securing a revision of this Award. The Government of Bombay have asked for it year after year. In March last year our representative in the Legislative Assembly made a powerful statement of our case and asked that it be submitted for examination by the Taxation Enquiry Committee then about to be appointed.

When that committee was appointed the terms of reference included the following words :—

"To consider whether the whole scheme of taxation, Central, Provincial and Local, is equitable and in accordance with economic principles and in what respects it is defective."

Further it is explained that the committee will indicate the theoretically correct distribution of taxes between Imperial, Provincial and Local, and then follow the words :—

"It will thus be no part of the duty of the committee to consider the equity of the Meston Award."

Now, Sir, we need not split hairs upon these words. I submit that we may put on one side the equity or inequity of the Meston Award, provided we get a theoretically correct distribution of taxes. And what we want is the clear recognition that no distribution of taxes can be theoretically correct which denies to an industrial province a share in the

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

proceeds of its industry ; in fact which denies to Bombay a share in its income tax.

This income tax at the time of the Meston Award was $2\frac{1}{2}$ crores of rupees, that is in 1919. In subsequent years we have paid 4 crores on the average. Then there has been a decrease to between 2 and 3 crores in 1923-25. These figures are exclusive of super tax and company tax. I submit that we are entitled to a substantial share of this revenue and that our claim is greatly strengthened by the demonstration of the grievous errors in the calculations on which the Meston Committee founded its recommendations.

Sir, the Government of India were informed by Mr. Bell, our representative in the Legislative Assembly, in the debate last year that our revenue under the selected heads in question in the five years has been 11 crores less than were anticipated by the Meston Committee. I fully admit that their anticipations in regard to other provinces have also been falsified. But in no province did the error in anticipating revenue come near this figure, 11 crores. But this much is clear and without dispute. Bombay raised a revenue of approximately Rs. 7 per head, while Bengal raised a revenue of Rs. 2 and Madras of Rs. $3\frac{1}{2}$. I will not on this occasion enter into the question whether the Bombay Government return to the taxpayers full value for the money levied, nor is it necessary to discuss the desire of Government to adjust the burdens of the state more equitably in accordance with the capacity to bear those burdens. Some sections of the House do not give us their full approval on these points and I will not elaborate them.

Sir, this is the first occasion on a matter dealing with politics or economics that this House finds itself entirely in accord with one mind. When one considers, Sir, that the representatives of the people sitting in this House are drawn from every class of society and comprise in their ranks the heads of important Mahomedan tribes in the north of Sindh, one thousand miles away, the sturdy Maratha villagers of the Deccan, the traders of Gujarat and the landed aristocracy of Karnatak, it requires no special gift of insight to recognise that a cause which combines in harmony and accord with the commercial magnates of the Bombay city is a cause of momentous importance. When, Sir, this great popular movement receives the countenance and support of the Government of Bombay the occasion can only be regarded as critical. It is indeed a crisis which demands careful judgment and high statesmanship.

Sir, this House has shown itself to be sharply divided on matters of grave policy. Sections of this House are severe critics of the Government of Bombay and no part of this House surrenders its powers of judgment lightly or gives an easy and careless acquiescence to the views of Government. And in like manner the Government of Bombay do not lightly bend to the popular will or seek the plaudits of the mob by following easy courses. I claim, Sir, that this House plays an essential part in the machinery of the Government of the Empire of India and that in recent critical years it has performed its duty with steadfastness and

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

resolution and that in its actions it faithfully represents the good feeling and good judgment of this presidency. When other parts of India have succumbed to the blandishments of excited politicians, when the countryside has been convulsed with riotous agitations, when anarchy has reared its head and when the ardent youths of the country have been led astray by conspiracies and secret societies the Presidency of Bombay has maintained a calm and dignified restraint.

But what about the Bombay Government? It is a somewhat delicate matter for me to touch. We are accused by stalwart critics in public life of unworthy subservience to the Government of India. We are told that we have sacrificed the interests of this presidency. We are told that our policy has been wrongly conceived and that we have starved the administration and presented a false picture of a prosperous and contented province which has excited the envy of unfriendly critics but elicited no sympathy and no understanding. Sir, the Government of Bombay have had no easy part to play in the last four years, and I admit on their behalf that this interpretation, however harsh we may feel it to be, is open to our critics. We have set before ourselves a high and difficult ideal. We have trusted in the responsive co-operation and understanding statesmanship of the Government of India. We have been led to believe that the Government of India appreciated that policy and that when that Government was freed from the overwhelming embarrassments of its own financial difficulties that appreciation would assume a tangible form. We had, Sir, in March 1923 the assurance of the Finance Member himself. I may quote from his speech for one moment. The Finance Member then said:

"It has been suggested to me by more than one spokesman for the provinces that there is a feeling in the minds of the Provincial Governments and of their Legislatures that it would be unwise for them to show balanced budgets. They are, it is hinted, taking a leaf out of the book of some charitable and religious bodies which make a habit of showing an annual deficit in order to make a striking appeal to their supporters to come to their rescue. The Provincial Governments think, it is said, that they will get more sympathy from the Central Government and get rid of their provincial contributions quicker if they can show a handsome deficit and appeal to the charity of the Central Government. I should like to say for my part that the strongest appeal that the Provincial Governments can make to me in this matter of the Provincial contributions is to show themselves worthy of assistance from the Central Government by strenuous and successful endeavours to make both ends meet for themselves."

Sir, we took the Finance Member at his own words on that occasion more than two years ago and in this belief we have strained every nerve to restrict our expenditure within our income, to preserve balances which would enable us to meet the day of adversity that must sooner or later recur when the rains fail and famine invades the land, when land revenue dwindles away and all the resources of Government are curtailed.

We have embarked on large policies of development for the protection of the agricultural population by irrigational canals. These schemes represent millions of money. We have embarked on other projects of development for the welfare of the city population of Bombay. These schemes also represent expenditure of money by the million sterling. We have maintained our credit by proving our ability to balance our

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

budgets and to maintain reserve balances. The House and the Government have acted together in cordial co-operation, the Government in pruning superfluous expenditure and the House by providing in time of need two years ago additional taxation. There is no province in India that has supported the financial position of the Government of India so amply as this Presidency. When the Government of India applied to the public for loans, there is no province which has subscribed such large sums to those loans as this Presidency. Without subscriptions from the city of Bombay, the Government of India could not have successfully floated these loans.

Now, Sir, when in this Presidency the people and Government alike have made every effort to support and sustain the stability of the Government of India, whether in matters financial, economic or political, have we received any recognition from the statesmen of the Central Government or even an assurance that our claims will receive attention at a later date? The Honourable the Finance Member of the Government of India makes two references only in his budget statement to Bombay. He tells us that the currency proposals which emanate from Bombay would benefit individuals in Bombay and the Bombay cotton mills—not a very sympathetic reference—and further that he wishes to reconsider the refund of some 14 lakhs of customs duty to Bombay. The Government of India had promised to refund us that duty, and the Honourable the Finance Member in his present budget statement talks of reconsidering that offer. His solicitude and his favours are reserved for the province of Bengal. That province is not entitled to any remission under the Meston award. What, then, is the reason for this peculiar solicitude? I will not make an invidious comparison of the conditions, political and financial, between Bengal and Bombay. There is one argument applicable to both. Bengal contributes heavily to the income tax—they contributed a sum of about 6 crores in two years 1921-22 and 1922-23. It is true that sum is only two-thirds of what Bombay has contributed, namely 10 crores, in the same two years. But the principle is the same. Why, then, should not Bombay receive the same treatment as Bengal? The Finance Member has reserved a sum of 74 lakhs as a balance undistributed. It is quite possible for him to hand back 56 lakhs of provincial contributions as a small refund of our crores of income tax. Then, at any rate, he will have given equal treatment for the present to Bombay and Bengal on an intelligible principle and within the small resources still available to him.

Sir, it would not be appropriate for me to discuss the cotton excise duty to which one honourable member has referred. The considerations which determine that case lie outside the scope of the jurisdiction of the provincial Governments. We are concerned with that in so far as it affects the prosperity of this city and the Presidency. The success of our measures for the development of the city of Bombay depends upon the prosperity of the mill industry. Any measure which promotes that industry affects the financial prospects of the schemes of development and, therefore, the financial interests of the province of Bombay.

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

Sir, as another honourable member has observed, this budget statement of the Government of India has achieved one beneficent purpose. It calls on us to consolidate our ranks and to take joint action together in the common cause. As a first step I am to announce that Government have decided to postpone the further consideration of the Bill to enhance the Court-fees. (Hear. hear). We trust the significance of this step will not be lost upon the Government of India. We have waited patiently and have given time to the statesmen of the Government of India to choose their opportunity and state that they realise our position and sympathise with our difficulties. But now opportunity after opportunity has come and gone, and not a word of hope or encouragement has reached us from that quarter. It is necessary, therefore, that the people and the Government of Bombay should hold consultation together and decide what measure should be adopted for the protection of the interests of the people committed to their charge. (Applause.)

MOULVI RAFI UDDIN AHMAD (Central Division): Mr. President, we are extremely indebted to our non-official expert adviser, Mr. Lalji Naranji, for bringing this motion in order to give expression to the deep feelings of indignation which obtain in the minds of the people of the Bombay Presidency. Sir, there has been seldom an occasion on which a motion for the adjournment of the House has been so cordially supported by the official benches. Sir, it has been pointed out that the Meston Settlement is a final settlement, though iniquitous. But nothing is ever settled which is settled wrong, and the people of this Presidency are suffering from a wrong and iniquitous settlement. Sir, there is not only an injury, it is also an insult added to injury. The Finance Member of the Government of India has not only proposed an unjust measure; he has also made an impolitic speech and taken an impolitic action. What will this result in? Here, our Honourable Finance Minister has said that this presidency has been most loyal, this presidency has been doing its duty in every respect both in times of adversity as well as of prosperity, and he is greatly surprised at the reward the Government of India has given to this presidency. What will be the result of this? The result of this will be that the people who have been most friendly to the Government will be inclined to think that the action of the obstructionists is more paying, more effectual and more decisive in the long run. That will be, really speaking, the consequence of this. Sir, the Government of India is killing the hen which lays the golden eggs. As a matter of fact, we are the most law-abiding as well as the most paying section of the country and they are trying to kill us. This is another bad effect. Sir, I do not want to say anything with regard to the other aspects of the question, because they have been very ably argued. But I will conclude with the observation that the people do not feel political grievances so much as fiscal wrongs, and this is one of the occasions on which the truth of this is beautifully illustrated. I hope the Government of India will take a lesson from this.

I may be permitted to remark that it is no use dwelling here on this occasion upon the faults of the Government or of the merits of the

[Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad] .

people's party, but we should take the sound advice of the Honourable the Finance Member, and all join in a conference for the redress of this grievance.

Mr. V. A. GRANTHAM (Bombay Chamber of Commerce): Sir, in regard to this matter, I entirely agree with every word which the Honourable the Finance Member said. You have asked us, Sir, to be brief. I will therefore not take much of the time of the House by delivering what can at best be but a repetition of his remarks. I will content myself therefore by supporting the motion.

Mr. F. CLAYTON (Karachi Chamber of Commerce): Sir, after all that has been said it is not my intention to make a detailed speech on this question but feel that I must not permit the opportunity to pass of expressing, what I feel positive will be the views held in the Sind province part of the Presidency on this question, that is in complete and whole-hearted agreement with the views expressed in this Council to-day, views upon which this House will undoubtedly come to a unanimous decision. And I recommend, Sir, an early opportunity being taken, through the medium of a deputation, to urge upon the Government of India, the reconsideration of our case.

Approaching three years ago in a session of this Council at Poona, I described the Meston Settlement as "wicked", but under the request of the Chair, your predecessor, Sir, I withdrew that expression. I am glad to find that to-day the honourable members of this House are in entire agreement with what I said at that time. I heartily support the motion.

Mr. G. I. PATEL (Ahmedabad Millowners' Association): Sir, I want to bring to the notice of this House one main fact only, viz., that if there was a surplus in the Central Government, the first claim over, or charge on, that surplus was that of the cotton excise duties. The fact is that a resolution was adopted by the Legislative Assembly without division during the last September session to the effect that the cotton excise duty, which had already been promised to be abolished long ago by Lord Hardinge's Government in 1916 and at a later stage by the Fiscal Commission also, should be forthwith abolished, and that it had a first claim on the surplus. After the resolution adopted during the last September session, the expectation of the people engaged in trade and industry in this presidency was that the cotton excise would be repealed, but we have been hopelessly disappointed. Secondly, if there was any surplus, it ought to have been utilised in the interest of the people in general and the agriculturists in particular.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University): Sir, on behalf of the Swaraj party, I rise to support this motion. I have listened very carefully to the impassioned speech of the Honourable the Finance Member pleading for unity on an occasion like this, and I will not strike a discordant note. But his appeal to the Swaraj party for unity does seem somewhat strange. I cannot help observing that necessity does make strange bedfellows. Only three days ago, in a speech delivered in a petulant

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

tone—I will not imitate the language of the Honourable the Finance Member and call it an uncommonly audacious speech, because I recognise that I am an Indian by birth and culture and therefore under an obligation to be courteous to an opponent, and I will not in this connexion imitate the manners of northern climes—only three days ago he described my party as a party of “blind vision”, “narrow creed”, “incapable of distinguishing between right and wrong”. It must be a great humiliation to him to-day—and I will not add to that humiliation by one word—that he has to plead for the unity of such a party. He described the leader of that party as a philosopher. I will accept the description, and I will make a free present of my philosophy to my honourable friend. My philosophy is this, that in politics there are no permanent friends and no permanent enemies. If my honourable friend will borrow from my philosophy, I am sure occasions of this kind will be more numerous and our life here will be pleasant. With these words, I support the motion on behalf of the Swaraj party.

An Honourable MEMBER : I move for a closure.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I do not see why I should accept the closure. At five minutes to 6 closure may be moved, and I will accept it.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District) : Sir, I feel great pleasure in supporting the motion for adjournment. I confess, Sir, that I view this motion with somewhat mixed feelings, and I also listened with mixed feelings to the several speeches on this motion that proceeded from several members of the House. I congratulate the Government upon the co-operation that they have been able to secure from the Swaraj party in this particular matter, and I am also glad that my honourable friend the leader of the Swaraj party realises that in politics there are no permanent friends and no permanent enemies. I feel impelled to make this observation, because I noticed that my attitude on the Stamp Act Amendment Bill exasperated the Swaraj party to such an extent that they probably felt that they might consider me as their permanent enemy. I am glad to have this assurance from the leader of the Swaraj party, and I reciprocate that sentiment fully. It is really a matter for sincere satisfaction that we are all united in this matter of raising our protest against the action of the Government of India in giving us absolutely no relief under the Meston settlement. I sincerely hope that the unanimity of sentiment which inspires this protest will have some effect upon the Finance Member of the Government of India, and probably, even before the session of the Legislative Assembly is over, the Government of India may reconsider their decision, and come to our relief. With these words, I heartily support the motion for adjournment.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Sir, I support the motion. The Honourable the Finance Member has just requested the House for some constructive proposals, as to what we should do, or what attitude this House should adopt. That being the case, I may be pardoned if

[Rao Saheb D. P. Desai]

I make one or two constructive proposals. We all know that we spend a lot of money from loan funds. I suggest that for that loan we should not go to the Government of India, but should raise our own loan in the Bombay market in competition with the Government of India. That is one of my suggestions, and this House should pass no expenditure from loans which have been borrowed from the Government of India. Another suggestion is that, so long as this settlement is not properly arrived at by the Government of India, our income tax payers should be asked by a resolution of this House that, after a certain date, all their income tax may be paid to this Government and not to the Government of India. This is the only way in which this unity may be of some use. Otherwise this unity is not going to result in any good, because a Government which is incorrigible, which has not come to reason even after a strenuous fight of four years, will not come to reason by an adjournment of this Council. With these words I heartily support the motion.

Mr. D. R. PATIL (East Khandesh District): Mr. President, the Government of India have repeatedly stated that their financial policy has been, is being and will be directed towards the reduction and eventual extinction of the provincial contributions at the earliest possible date. Let us hope, that they will be extinguished in the nearest future. Now, Sir, I would say that when the Finance Member of the Government of India discussed the deserving claimants' cases, he has talked about justice but acted with injustice.

Sir, he has stated at the end of his speech "We will work in hope". In that respect, I would simply like to state what the "Times of India" has stated in to-day's issue:

"In the hope of what? In the hope of the injustice that Sir Basil proposes for Bombay? We dislike this motto in its present application. We do not want it."

With these words I condemn the conduct of the Government of India and resume my seat.

Mr. A. C. OWEN (European, Presidency): Sir, on behalf of the constituency which I have the honour to represent I strongly support the motion before the Council. The Honourable the Finance Member has put before the Council very cogent reasons why the Meston settlement should be revised, and the just claims of the Bombay Presidency for an equitable share of the surplus which the Government of India have at their disposal should be recognised, and it is not necessary for me to say much. In this connection I am reminded of those words which tell us that "thrice armed is he who hath his quarrel just". I consider our claims are just and I trust a very strong representation will be made at an early date and will receive due consideration at the hands of the Government of India.

Mr. C. N. WADIA (Bombay Millowners' Association): Sir, may I rise to support the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member? I only have to offer one instance to show the favourable position of Bengal. I received yesterday from the Kelvin Jute Mills a dividend at the rate of 120 per cent. per annum, while we in Bombay, Sir, have to pay dividends out of our reserves. That province which is overflowing with money is to receive a remission of over half a crore of rupees from the central

[Mr. C. N. Wadia]

Government while we receive nothing. With these words, Sir, I support the motion.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI : Sir, as this House has unanimously supported the motion, I have nothing to reply.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Do Government wish to reply ?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : No, Sir.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, I should like to say one word by way of explanation. I should like to acknowledge the great courtesy of my honourable friend opposite, the leader of the Swaraj party, who has avoided the temptation of a stinging speech on our general financial policy in the interests of unity of all sides of this House in presenting our very strong case to the consideration of the Government of India.

Motion put and carried unanimously.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The House will now adjourn to 2 o'clock to-morrow, Tuesday, the 3rd March 1925.

Tuesday, the 3rd March 1925.

The Council re-assembled at the Town Hall, Bombay, on Tuesday, the 3rd March 1925, at 2 p.m., the Honourable the President, Sir IBRAHIM RAHIMTOOLA, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
ABDULPURKAR, Mr. N. A.
ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
ANGADI, Mr. S. N.
BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
BHURGRI, Mr. J. M.
BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
BIJARANI, Khan Saheb SHER MAHOMED KHAN.
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
CLAYTON, Mr. F.
COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
FERNANDES, Dr. COSMAS
FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
GHOSAL, Mr. J.
GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable 'Khan Bahadur' SHAIKH
GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
HUDSON, Mr. L. S.
JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
JATOI, Khan Saheb HAJI SERAI IMAMBAKSH
JATOI, Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWSAJI
JOG, Mr. V. N.
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.
KARKI, Mr. M. D.
KAY, Mr. J. A.

KAZI INAITULLAKHAN
 KOKANI, Mr. G. J.
 KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
 LALJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.
 LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 LINFORD, Mr. J. W.
 MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUERO; Mr.
 MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
 MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
 NANAL, Mr. B. R.
 NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
 NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
 OWEN, Mr. A. C.
 PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
 PATEL, Mr. A. E.
 PATEL, Mr. D. N.
 PATEL, Mr. G. I.
 PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED KHAN
 PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
 PATIL, Mr. D. R.
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 PIR RASULBAKSH SHAH
 POWAR, Mr. M. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 PRATT, Mr. F. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSEINALLY M.
 SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
 SAPTARSHI, Mr. C. M.
 SARDESAI, Mr. S. A.
 SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH
 SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
 SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO, Mr.
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.
 SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
 THAKOR OF KERWADA, the
 THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
 TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.

VELKAR, Dr. M. B.

WILES, Mr. G.

WOODS, Mr. E. E.

(Discussion on demands for grants resumed.)

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts):

Sir, I move:

"That the item of Rs. 25,200, provision for three assistant development officers, be omitted."

As regards these development officers we are told by Government that no new lands are going to be acquired, but that these officers are required for preparing the awards. As for the lands that have been acquired, they had been acquired some years ago and the awards for them are either in court or have been settled. I do not see the necessity for these officers. The Honourable the General Member has already informed us that they have suspended all activities in the suburban area and the work of these officers is only to prepare the excess awards given by courts. I do not see the necessity for three officers.

Sir LAWLESS HEPPER: Sir, the position as regards this demand is as follows: We made provision in the next year's budget for three Assistant Development Officers. One of these officers acts as Deputy Collector of Salsette and as mamlatdar of Ambernath. He is also chairman of the notified area committees. His work in connection with those committees is very heavy and will continue to be so until the committees are replaced by municipalities. This particular officer is practically of little use for acquisition purposes because his time is otherwise fully occupied. The second Assistant Development Officer is employed whole time in acquiring lands for outside bodies, mainly for the Bombay Municipality in connection with the Tansa completion works, and for the hydro-electric concerns for their transmission lines. The salary of this officer is shown on the establishment of the Development Department but is recovered from those bodies for whom acquisition is made. The remaining Assistant Development Officer is employed in connection with acquisition proceedings in Salsette in respect of land already taken over for schemes to which we are committed. He is also engaged in selling of pieces of land which we do not require, and in effecting settlements in a number of cases with owners, besides which he attends to cases which have been referred to the district court. The Deputy Director of Development, who is also Commissioner of the Suburban Division, has discussed the matter with the Collector and is of opinion that provision should be made for three officers. If during the course of the year there is any possibility of effecting retrenchment of one or more officers, it will certainly be done.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts): Sir, according to the explanation that has been given, two of the officers are not doing development work. If that is so, why are their salaries shown under the Bombay Development scheme? Those other bodies for whom lands are being acquired are not working for the Bombay Development Directorate. If that is so, why have these officers been mentioned as officers of the Development Directorate? According to the

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

explanation that has been given, there is only one officer who is necessary and that he also ultimately may not be required at all. If that is so, why should these three gentlemen be shown as officers under the Development Directorate ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : I have not very much to add, Sir, to what has already been stated by the Director. As has already been explained, we get back the salary of one officer. The other officer is a revenue officer. I may inform honourable members that the Development Department is in communication with the Revenue Department in regard to this officer and has objected to including the salary of this officer in the development budget. I trust that some amicable settlement will be arrived at shortly. The issue is only whether the Revenue Department should pay or the Development Department. One other officer may be retrenched during the year.

Question put : House divided. Ayes, 35. Noes, 34. Motion carried.*
Division No. 5.

Ayes.

ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JOG, Mr. V. N.
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
KARKI, Mr. M. D.
KAZI INAITULLAKHAN
KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.
MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
NANAL, Mr. B. R.
NABIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.

PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
PATEL, Mr. A. F.
PATEL, Mr. D. N.
PATEL, Mr. G. I.
PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
PATIL, Mr. D. R.
POWAR, Mr. M. B.
PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO, Mr.
SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
SURVE, Mr. V. A.
SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
THAKESI, Mr. PUNJABHAI.
THAKOR of Kerwada, the
VELKAR, Dr. M. B.

Tellers for the Ayes : Mr. G. B. PRADHAN and Mr. D. B. ADWANI.

Noes.

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
BHURGRI, Mr. J. M.
BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
GHOSAL, Mr. J.
GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH
HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
JATOLI, Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH
JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI

KOKANI, Mr. G. J.
LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHHRO.
Mr.
MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
OWEN, Mr. A. C.
PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED KHAN.
PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
PRATT, Mr. F. G.
SAYED, GHULAM NABI SHAH.
SURVE, Mr. A. N.
THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
WILES, Mr. G.

Tellers for the Noes : Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON and Mr. R. E. GIBSON.

*The Division lists were subsequently corrected and the motion was declared lost, vide page 26.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts) : Sir, the motion which I wish to move is :

“Reduce by Rs. 50,000 the provision for travelling and fixed conveyance allowance, etc. (Budget page 157).”

This item has been put down on page 157 of the budget as follows :

“Travelling and fixed conveyance allowance including tentage.”

This allowance is being provided for officers whose salaries come to Rs. 9 lakhs. I cannot understand why these officers, who have merely to travel in the Bombay Suburban district require tentage and fixed conveyance allowances and also travelling allowance. Then part of this allowance has been made non-votable this year. The whole of it was votable last year, but a part of it has been made non-votable this year. Over and above these allowances, there are four other allowances put down on the same page. One of these allowances is Rs. 20,000 and odd, which is probably due to the Lee Commission's recommendations, but even if we deduct that, we get a total of Rs. 1,24,445 as the total amount which has been put down for travelling and fixed conveyance allowance including tentage. Even as regards duty allowance, part of the amount is made non-votable. The whole amount was votable last year, but this year a part of it, namely, Rs. 3,000 has been converted into a non-votable item. As a matter of fact, most of these officers are working at the Back Bay Reclamation works ; only a few officers are doing some work in the Bombay Suburban District, and I understand the activities of the Bombay Suburban district are to be curtailed. If that is so, why should such a huge sum as Rs. 1,24,445 be put down as allowance in some shape or other, as local allowance, duty allowance, house allowance or travelling allowance ? Therefore, my submission is that the amount of Rs. 1,02,314 which has been put down for travelling and fixed conveyance allowance including tentage should be reduced by Rs. 50,000 at least.

Question proposed.

Sir LAWLESS HEPPEL : Mr. President, this item refers not only to the officers whose salaries are put down at Rs. 9 lakhs and odd in the budget but it also refers to a large number of employees who come under the heading of establishments. The figure which we have put in for next year, Rs. 1,02,314, includes Rs. 45,814 for travelling allowance. That is for travelling allowance under the ordinary Government rules for journeys by rail or by road. The balance of Rs. 26,500 is provided for fixed conveyance allowances. These allowances are paid to certain officers and subordinates whose work entails a large amount of moving about in a restricted area. They are given an allowance in respect of the maintenance of certain means of conveyance which does not at all cover the cost of providing and maintaining that conveyance, but is an encouragement to the officer to keep that conveyance himself. It is only paid when the officer certifies every month that he has maintained that conveyance and used it in his official work. The conveyance allowances are Rs. 150 a month for a four-seater car, Rs. 100 a month for a two-seater car, Rs. 50 a month for a motor bicycle, Rs. 75 a

[Sir Lawless Hepper]

month for a tonga and Rs. 15 a month for a bicycle. Last year, we provided for 113 of these allowances, and in next year we have cut it down to 70. I would add, Sir, that in the case of officers with a fixed conveyance allowance they are not entitled to any travelling allowance for journeys made by road, but they are entitled to allowances for journeys made by rail, provided those journeys are made over certain fixed distances which are laid down. I think that it will be recognised that an officer who has a means of getting about is much more valuable in the class of work we are doing in the housing and suburban sections than an officer who has not. In the case of local bodies in Bombay, the Municipality, the Port Trust and the Improvement Trust, it has been the practice up till recently to provide officers with a means of conveyance, generally motor cars, at public expense. Government have always set their face against this as being an extravagant arrangement, and they have adopted the system of giving conveyance allowance, which provides the officer with a part of the cost of providing and maintaining a conveyance himself and naturally, being his own conveyance, the officer probably looks after it better than if it was a conveyance provided for him at the public expense. I submit that it is very important that the officers should have the means of moving freely about, especially in the sort of work that our officers are doing. I may add that this list of fixed conveyance allowance has been very carefully scrutinised during the last few months, and a certain number of reductions have been made, apart from reductions which are due to reductions of staff. During the coming year we shall continue to scrutinise these allowances and no officer or subordinate will be allowed to draw a fixed conveyance allowance unless it can be clearly shown to be in the interests of Government.

As regards travelling allowances, I do not think there is very much to be said. If an officer is required to travel by rail, or by road in the case of an officer who has not fixed conveyance allowance, it would be unreasonable, I think, to deny to the officers of the Development Department travelling allowances which are considered just and reasonable in the case of officers of all other departments. I trust, therefore, that this Council will agree that it is desirable that this provision should remain.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts): Mr. President, according to the explanation which has been given by the honourable member the Development Director it seems that for some time there was a waste. During the last few months he says he has been carefully going over these allowances and he found that some reduction was necessary, and that that reduction is not in proportion to the reduction in the staff. That shows that there was some waste in the payment of these allowances and if there was some wastage and if they are still anxious that the officers should travel—I find that they move in a limited area, there are two railways running within the district—there is absolutely no reason why such large allowances should be given to them. I am not going to cut the allowances altogether. I say that out

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

of these four items which are put down at page 157 and the total of which comes to more than a lakh, I want to reduce it by Rs. 50,000 only. One lakh 24 thousand is the total of the first item. Then there are local allowance, duty allowance, house rent allowance. I have not touched them. Then there is the compensatory allowance which also I have not touched. I have only taken the total of the first three items. They are not the only allowances which have been put down. There are three other items of allowances and the total of these four items comes to one lakh 24 thousand 445. So I am asking a reduction of Rs. 50,000 from the first item. Then there still remain 52 thousand 214 in the first item and there remain the other three items and fifth item which I have not touched.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Mr. President, the amendment moved by the honourable member for Thana is to reduce the demand of Rs. 1,02,314 by Rs. 50,000, and while discussing that reduction he has also discussed local allowances, duty allowances and house rent allowances, and his argument is that he reduces Rs. 1,02,314 by Rs. 50,000, but he does not touch the other allowances. I do not think that is a very sound argument to place before this Council. He ought to have given us the reasons why travelling and conveyance allowances should be reduced by Rs. 50,000. The honourable member the Development Director has explained on what basis these allowances are given. If you have an officer who has got to get round the suburb, and although the distances may not be as big as in a mofussil district, he cannot do it in a tonga or by railway. He will not be able to get through his work quickly and in that case we shall have to increase our staff. The honourable member has stated that the explanation of the Director of Development has shown that there was extravagance. As far as I can understand the Director of Development, he has stated the actual facts, and they are that there is already a reduction from the last year's grant. The grant last year was one lakh 85 thousand and it has already been reduced to one lakh 2 thousand. Therefore, there has already been a reduction of nearly 82 thousand rupees. That reduction was caused because of a certain number of officers having been retrenched and along with their salary, their travelling allowances have disappeared out of this budget. That is the reason why there has been this big drop. In certain other very few cases where officers have now to perform different duties we have cut down their allowances to a certain extent, but the main reduction is due to retrenchment of officers. I do not think that there is any reason to say that there was any extravagance in the past.

Mr. President, I must ask this House to give us this money because it is essential that our officers should visit all these different schemes. If they are unable to visit them, they are not much use to us. We want personal supervision and we want good supervision, and we want to have it efficiently done. We have made a cut already in this item and I hope honourable members will give us the money asked for.

Question put : House divided. Ayes 30 : Noes 44. Motion lost.

Division No. 6.

Ayes.

ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
BHO PATKAR, Mr. L. B.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JOG, Mr. V. N.
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
KARKI, Mr. M. D.
KAZI INAIFULLAKHAN
KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.
MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
NANAL, Mr. B. R.
NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.

NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
PATEL, Mr. A. E.
PATEL, Mr. D. N.
PATEL, Mr. G. I.
PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
PATIL, Mr. D. R.
POWAR, Mr. M. B.
PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
SURVE, Mr. V. A.
SWAMINABAYAN, Mr. J. C.
THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
VELKAR, Dr. M. B.

Tellers for the Ayes : Mr. G. B. PRADHAN and Mr. J. C. SWAMINABAYAN.

Noes.

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
ANGADI, Mr. S. N.
BHURGI, Mr. J. M.
BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
FRANJJI, Mr. K. S.
GHOSAL, Mr. J.
GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan
Bahadur SHAIKH
GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
HUDSON, Mr. L. S.
JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
JATOI, Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH
JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.

KAY, Mr. J. A.
KOKANI, Mr. G. J.
LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHURO,
Mr.
MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
OWEN, Mr. A. C.
PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED
KHAN
PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
PRATT, Mr. F. G.
SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH
SHANKARRAO JAYARAMBAO ZUNZARBAO,
Mr.
SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
SURVE, Mr. A. N.
THAKOR of Kerwada, the
THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
WILES, Mr. G.

Tellers for the Noes : Mr. A. C. OWEN and Mr. J. A. KAY.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts):
Mr. President, I move :

Omit provision for Law charges, Rs. 77,000 (Development Department) (Budget page 158).

Now, I find that this item has been unnecessarily put down. This item is put down in order to benefit some counsel. We have got three or four Government pleaders at Thana. Either they are competent or they are not. If they are not competent, let them be removed by all means. Why do Government want special counsel to be taken from Bombay to Thana for land acquisition cases and paid whatever fees they choose to pay them? I find this is a thing which has gone on for a year or two and public funds are wasted. This sort of favouritism or

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

this sort of payment ought not to be encouraged or sanctioned by the House.

Question proposed.

Sir LAWLESS HEPPER : Mr. President, these are charges incurred in land acquisition cases, and include, I understand, fees paid to special counsel as well as to Government pleaders. We have no desire to incur this expenditure if it can possibly be avoided. But when we find that in former years charges were incurred on this account, I think it is only reasonable, as there are good many land acquisition cases still unsettled, that we should make some provision next year.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University) : Sir, I hope the Honourable the General Member will be in a position to state how much of this Rs. 77,000 is likely to be utilised by way of payment of fees to the ordinary Government pleaders and how much for the special counsel taken from Bombay. I submit, Sir, that the amount ought at least to be reduced by the sum that is to be paid to special counsel. I hope, Sir, the Honourable the General Member will consider this suggestion. I think, having regard to the amount of fees, that these cases are not such that senior counsel from Bombay are necessary. Already Government pay and have at their disposal very experienced senior members of the bar whom they engage as Government pleaders. I cannot understand the wisdom of the policy of taking junior counsel of the High Court over the heads of such Government pleaders. I think, Sir, this involves an important principle and I hope honourable members will consider the question as such; *viz.*, as to how far Government should be encouraged in this policy of engaging junior counsel over the heads of their permanent Government pleaders, who *ex hypothesi*, are the best men available at the Bar. I hope the Honourable the General Member will consent to reduce the demand by the amount of the fees which are to be paid to special counsel.

Mr. P. E. PERCIVAL : Sir, I am afraid I do not know what exactly is the sum paid to special counsel. I may say however in most cases the Government pleader is engaged; and it is only in certain special cases, where a large amount of money is involved, that special counsel are engaged. The payment that is made to them is not at all as large as the amount that is paid on the other side. I may mention that the Government pleader of Thana is retained in most cases; it is only in important cases involving large amounts that special counsel are engaged.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : Sir, may I move an amendment?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I do not think amendments can be allowed.

MOULVI RAFI UDDIN AHMAD (Central Division) : Sir, may I ask the Honourable the General Member to let us know what the rate of fees for special counsel is? If it is an ordinary rate, perhaps the House will be justified in voting for the demand. But if the rate is excessive and if the same is given to junior men, —I understand that first-class men are not

[Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad]

taken by the Development Department as they cannot afford the luxury—and if it is given to third class men, then the House will be justified in refusing the demand. If the Honourable the General Member is able to satisfy the House that only reasonable fees are given to special counsel, I do not think the House will be justified in voting for the motion.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Sir, I would just like to say a few words. I quite appreciate my honourable friend Mr. Jayakar's point. This amount includes all fees, for Government pleaders and special counsel. If you cut out the whole amount, as my honourable friend from Thana proposes to do, we shall have no pleaders at all, and this House will find that if we do not defend all these cases that are before the Thana court, Government will only have to pay much larger sums for these acquisitions than they are paying now. The point raised is how much of this Rs. 77,000 is for special counsel and how much for Government Pleaders. I am afraid I am not able to say just now exactly how much is for the one and how much is for the other, but I will inform this honourable House that when I took charge of the department, I went into this question—this was nearly two years ago—and it struck me that the fees we were paying to special counsel were rather high and Government cut them down by 50 per cent. We did not get the same barristers that we used to get

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : Is this correct ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : I think I am perfectly correct in saying that the present

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : I think you have got the same man, but on reduced fees.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR (After consulting the Legal Remembrancer) : The present gentleman is Mr. Bhandarkar. My own impression was—I may be wrong—that we did not get the same barrister. At least, the fees were cut down by 50 per cent. Now, I am not going into the question of whether the fees that are paid now are reasonable or not from the point of view of professional qualification ; as a matter of fact, I wanted to cut them down a little more, but I found on consultation that we could not do so and that, if we cut them down further, we could not expect to get reasonably competent men for the work. Then, at that time, I remember the Legal Remembrancer put it to me that the cases involved very large sums indeed and that it would not be in the interests of the department or in the interests of Government—the interests of Government means the interests of the taxpayer—if these cases were not properly attended to or properly defended, and therefore, a certain part of this money is certainly going for special counsel. It would be impossible for me to say just now as to how much of the money for next year is going to special counsel,—that will depend upon the class of cases that come up. If they are important cases which the Legal Remembrancer considers ought to be defended by special counsel, then special counsel will be briefed. I regret I have not got the figures for the past year ; but for the coming year it is impossible to say what the

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

figure of fees for special counsel would be. It depends upon the kind of litigation we shall have. But to cut down this Rs.77,000 would not be a wise policy just now. But, if this honourable House desires, I will certainly look into this question again and, if it is possible again to reduce these fees for special counsel, my honourable friend may rest assured, I will do so. I have done so before and I will try to do so once again; but I am not able to guarantee whether I will be able to do so immediately. I must see what sort of counsel we can get, what sort of fees must be paid, what sort of cases we have got to deal with, and so on. But I can assure my honourable friend that I will go into the question again.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : On a point of explanation, I did not suggest that the fees of the counsel should be reduced. I suggested that the counsel should not be engaged in those cases which are within the competence of your local legal men on the spot to deal with. But if you do want in any particular cases to engage counsel, for very strong reasons, I did not suggest that counsel should not be briefed at all.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : I am very much obliged to my honourable friend for the explanation. He may rest assured also that we shall not brief special counsel unless we are convinced that it is in the interests of the department to do so.

An Honourable MEMBER : Did you have any unsatisfactory experience in these matters for want of special counsel ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : I believe that is so and it was due to that that the principle of engaging special counsel was adopted. We always depended upon the Government Pleader to fight our case, but we had to change that principle some years ago and we found it necessary to brief special counsel because the amounts involved, Mr. President, are so very big and we have to fight very rich people who bring the very best of legal talent. I would, therefore, suggest, Mr. President, that this amount be left in as it is just now and I shall see that special counsel are not taken on unless it is absolutely necessary in the interests of the Development Department.

An Honourable MEMBER : Who were the legal men of whom you had bad experience in this matter ? May we know who were those persons and what were their qualifications ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : I do not think it is proper to go into legal personalities and I should not care to go into personalities. It would not be right either for me or other honourable members to discuss legal personalities. I have had to go into the question of personalities personally, but it is not a point which I care to discuss in the Council, nor is it dignified to discuss such personalities; nor do I think that my honourable friend the leader of the Swaraj party would care to discuss the qualifications of different counsel.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : Can I move an amendment, Sir ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: No amendments can be moved on this motion. I would draw the attention of honourable members to sub-rule (2) of rule 30 which says :

“Motions may be moved at this stage to omit or reduce any grant or any item in a grant, but not to increase or alter the destination of a grant.”

That is quite comprehensive in regard to any motion for omission or reduction and would probably include amendments. But this is governed by Standing Order 3 of “Chapter XI—Financial Business” which says :

“Notice of a motion under rule 30 shall be given three clear days before the first day of the voting of demands for grants under Rule 27.”

It is obvious, therefore, that every motion for omission or reduction of budget grants must be given three days before the motion for demands for grants comes up for discussion, and if that was not so, and if amendments were allowed on every motion for omission or reduction, it would be an interminable business to get through the budget. It is perfectly clear, therefore, that no motion—an amendment is also a form of a motion—for omission or reduction can be put before the House unless three clear days’ notice has been given. I therefore rule that no amendment of the kind which the honourable member for Poona city wishes to move can be allowed to be moved during this discussion.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I should like, Mr. President, to say a word in this matter, because it affects the arrangements in my charge in the Legal Department. The Government Pleaders—local officers—were at first entrusted with these land acquisition cases when it was not realised that the work would be so heavy and the sums involved would be of such serious importance to the working of the Development Department. It was found in practice that the amount of the work and the sums involved were more than could be adequately dealt with by our local establishment at Thana. The matter was, therefore, taken up and fully discussed not only in the Secretariat but also with the help of the Advocate General and the Solicitor to Government, and we endeavoured to come to some more suitable arrangement under which we could practically secure standing counsel who would become familiar with the nature of suits, which are all connected with one another more or less, and would be in a position to go out and to see the lands for himself on the spot and be able to deal with the whole litigation involved in a much more business-like and satisfactory manner. In order that the Development Department might be properly represented we also made some alterations in our Secretariat establishment. The matter is of great consequence because the value of the land which is being taken by the Development Department was very much exaggerated in the opinion of the owners. This invariably happens where development is going on and it is necessary to scrutinise very strictly the very large valuations which are put upon their property by owners. If that is not done and the case for the Development Department is not adequately put before courts, the result is that awards are given far in excess of the real value of the properties and the total

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

sum involved rises to, I believe, crores of rupees which would very seriously affect the commercial working of the Development Department.

I think, therefore, that this sum in the budget is very necessary and it is a security to see that there is no waste in assessing the value of the lands. The amount has been revised since last year. I see it is now reduced to Rs. 77,000 as against one lakh of rupees before, and that was because when we first realised the necessity of engaging special counsel we had to engage counsel here and there and consequently had to pay higher fees than we now pay for standing counsel who is able to do all the work on more reasonable figures owing to the fact that he is constantly engaged on this particular class of work and the labour involved in getting up each case consequently to some extent is reduced. I recommend, therefore, that the present existing arrangement which has been come to after consultation with our law officers, the Advocate General and the Solicitor to the Government of Bombay be allowed to stand by the House.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: Sir, I do not know whether I am to accept the assurance of the Honourable the General Member that no counsel would be engaged unless it is absolutely necessary or the explanation of the Honourable the Home Member that the present arrangement will continue. If the present arrangement is to continue, I will certainly press my amendment.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Sir, I would like to explain that every case where a counsel is engaged is examined both in the Legal Department and the Development Department. It is only in those cases where it is considered necessary that a special counsel should be engaged, that engagement is sanctioned by the Legal Department.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: I beg leave of the House to withdraw my motion.

Question put and leave granted.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South): Sir, I move:

"That a total reduction of Rs. 61,99,000 be made in total demand for the Development Department of Rs. 1,57,00,000. (Blue Book, page 139)."

In this matter I get now the first opportunity of entering my emphatic protest against the scant courtesy with which the Development Directorate has treated the popular opinion and the scant courtesy with which they have treated the resolution passed by this House last year. The Honourable the General Member while explaining every item stated that they had in fact carried out the resolution not by accepting the resolution passed by the majority of this House but by partially accepting another resolution of which notice was given by my honourable friend Mr. Lalji Naranji. I stated on that occasion, and I state it again, that the two resolutions were essentially different. The partial acceptance of Mr. Lalji's resolution need not cover the ground that was included in the resolution that was passed by this honourable House. I shall now

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

point out that they are essentially different from my point of view. My resolution was as follows :

" This Council recommends to Government :

(a) that a committee consisting of 12 non-official and elected members be appointed to enquire into the whole administration and working of the Development Directorate to suggest ways and means of effecting retrenchments and to report on the advisability or otherwise of continuing the schemes taken in hand ;

(b) that the Development Directorate be requested to co-operate with the said committee and afford all facilities and help in conducting the said inquiry and in making the said report ;

(c) that an independent officer or expert be appointed to help the said committee."

The resolution which was partially accepted by my honourable friend the General Member and of which notice was given by the honourable member Mr. Lalji Naranji simply wanted to consider the advisability of proceeding with works in the Development Directorate. The difference will be evident if I read the resolution of my honourable friend Mr. Lalji Naranji. That resolution runs as follows :

" In view of the conclusions arrived at during the period of war boom that the land available in Bombay was inadequate having proved erroneous, this Council recommends to Government that a committee, with a non-official majority, be forthwith appointed to inquire into the activities of the Development Department as to how far and in what directions such activities should be continued and as to whether that department should not be amalgamated with the Public Works Department."

Therefore, I submit that the two resolutions were essentially different. The most important point of difference between the two was that whereas one wanted an enquiry into the working, constitution and administration of the Development Directorate, the other wanted an enquiry only as to how far the activities of the department should be directed. Therefore, Sir, to say that the two resolutions are same is trying to cloud the real issue. I want to draw the attention of the House to the fact that even at the time when my resolution was discussed and even during the last two or three days when demands for the Development Directorate are being discussed, the real demand from the popular side has been evaded. The popular demand is not whether the Development Directorate is a profitable concern, whether it will end in a loss or profit, but the popular demand is to know the inner working of the Development Directorate. Without any reserve and with all the responsibility that I can command, I openly make a charge that there has been serious mal-administration of public funds, and there has been a serious wasting of public funds. There have been instances which I could go to the length of calling frauds, and I make this charge on behalf of the public and on behalf of the investors of Bombay who have invested Rs. 30 crores in this work. On the occasion when I moved my resolution, the Director of Development stated that he did not wish to burke a public enquiry and that he did not wish to shirk the enquiry. I say that if Government now shirk that enquiry, the suspicion in the minds of the public will be confirmed. I say that Government have shirked the enquiry, and the suspicions of the public have been confirmed, and I am quite justified in laying openly this charge against the Development Department before this House. The Honourable the General Member stated that, under the rules, they did not take any notice of anonymous applications. Perhaps, on principle,

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

it is right, but this is not any anonymous petition. But it is an open charge laid in this House by a responsible member of the House on behalf of the investors, who have invested Rs. 30 crores of their money in this development scheme. I would ask the House not to cloud the issue. I do not want to mix up the two issues. I do not want an enquiry as to whether the development scheme is going to be a profitable concern or not. That is the way in which the issue which I have placed before the House is sought to be clouded. I want to know what is being done with the public funds; I want to know whether those funds are honestly and legitimately applied, or whether they are misapplied. As the time at my disposal is limited, I want to point out only a few instances. Thirty minutes is not sufficient to deal with the charges against a department which spends several crores of rupees. I will mention a few specific instances, which quite justify me in bringing this charge against the department.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I should like to make the position perfectly clear, so that the debate may be regulated according to constitutional procedure laid down in this House. All big reductions, such as the one which is being moved, namely a reduction of Rs. 61,99,000 are all motions for actual reductions; that is to say, the mover has to point out how these large reductions should be made in the various parts of the department's expenditure, and the general policy of the department is not allowed to be discussed on motions for large reductions. The honourable member Mr. Kambli has a motion for the reduction of Rs. 1 lakh, and though that is not a small amount, having regard to the large sums which the Development Department deals with, I will hold that that reduction of 1 lakh is a small reduction, and the whole policy of the Development Department could be discussed and criticised on that motion. This is the procedure that has been laid down all throughout the time that this Council has been at work, and I trust the honourable mover will put forward his reasons why he desires a lump reduction of Rs. 62 lakhs in the expenditure of the department.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: May I intervene for one moment, Sir? I do not desire personally to prevent my honourable friend from having an opportunity of bringing accusations against the department in open Council; but may I point out, Sir, that the reduction of Rs. 1 lakh is out of order, because I have reduced the demand by Rs. 10 lakhs. I do not wish to prevent my honourable friend from bringing these accusations in open Council, but I draw attention to that fact.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: If Government have no objection I am quite prepared to allow this motion of a reduction of Rs. 61,99,000 as a small reduction, justifying the consideration of the policy of the department. The honourable member is perfectly at liberty to deal with all the aspects of the Development Department.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: I am thankful, Sir, for this opportunity. Certainly, from the Government point of view, the reduction which I

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

have proposed will be a small one. When they are dealing in crores of public money, a few lakhs is certainly nothing. I will now give some specific instances. As I said, if I had sufficient time at my disposal, I would have given instances after instances which would have convinced this House that not only is there a misapplication of funds but misapplication of a nature which, under ordinary circumstances, in the course of a public enquiry, would have resulted in proceedings in a court of law. When I moved my last resolution I stated the particular instance of the indent which was sent by an Executive Engineer for steel bars of particular dimensions. I stated that that indent was altered by another engineer who changed the dimensions of the bars. The indent went to the manufacturers and steel bars of the value of Rs. 2,50,000 or Rs. 3 lakhs were sent up, but they were quite useless for the purposes of the Development Department. The result was that a second indent for bars of the required dimensions had to be sent, and those bars were eventually obtained. I still say that those bars of the value of Rs. 2,50,000 are lying with the Department undisposed of. On the last occasion the Director of Development stated that it was not a loss to the Government, but they are still lying rusting in the Matunga depôt, and I think they could not be disposed of. I should like to ask the Director of Development whether he can challenge this statement; I am quite prepared to go to the depôt and prove my case. I know that up to a recent date advertisements had been appearing in the press for the disposal of those bars, but they could not be disposed of. This is a mistake which has been admitted by the Director of Development in his own reply in the course of the debate. He admitted that there was a mistake, but that it was a "trifling mistake" of which a great deal has been made. But really, can this be called a trifling mistake—a deliberate alteration of the dimensions of the bars by a responsible officer which has resulted in a loss of Rs. 2,50,000 to the department, as the bars are lying rusting in the Matunga depôt? And yet, the Director of Development, with all his responsibility, has told this House that this is a "trifling mistake" of which a great deal has been made. I should like to have some further explanation as to how such a "trifling mistake" could have occurred; not a mistake in the original indent, but the original indent containing certain figures altered by another officer, for bars of dimensions which were not required for the Development Department. How did that trifling mistake occur? Why was this deliberate alteration made in the dimensions of the bars when the indent was already prepared by another officer? The indent, with the initials of the officer who made the alteration is lying in the records of the Development Department. That is why I challenge an enquiry. The only reply that we have received is that it is a trifling mistake—a trifling mistake costing Rs. 3 lakhs. I may tell the Government quite frankly and openly that there are ugly rumours in the city and in the whole of the presidency that the higher staff of officers have been receiving secret commissions from the manufacturers, and that is the reason why in this instance the department has incurred a loss of Rs. 3 lakhs.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Commission from whom?

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: From the manufacturers. That is the reason why stores are ordered out in larger quantities than are necessary, and stores which are not required are also ordered out. If you go to the surplus depot, you will find stores worth Rs. 6 lakhs lying undisposed of, and the Director of Development has to come out with advertisements in the press, and ultimately these surplus stores will be sold at a considerable loss. I could prove this by facts and figures if an investigation of the kind that I call for is granted.

Another instance is in regard to the acceptance of the tenders. I have got definite instances wherein particular contractors of foreign firms, that have come into existence almost simultaneously with the Development Department, have been favoured by the department by accepting their tenders, although their tenders were not the lowest. There are several contractors who offered tenders for Rs. 88,000 and Rs. 90,000 for building chawls but their tenders were not accepted, but a tender for Rs. 1,10,000 and over has been accepted from other foreign contracting firms which have started almost simultaneously along with the coming into existence of the Development Directorate. Why is that? If the honourable member the Director of Development wants an instance, I will give it.

Sir LAWLESS HEPPEL: Sir, I rise to inquire whether the honourable member will be prepared to give the House the names of the contractors.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: The tender for the Naigam road 13 chawls was given to J. C. Gammon. The tender for 88 thousand rupees was also offered, but the tender for one lakh ten thousand from J. C. Gammon was accepted. I should like to have an explanation for that. Why was this tender for 88 thousand from another contractor not accepted? There are several cases with regard to which I could give further details. I understand that there is an Italian firm which has been started almost simultaneously with the Development Directorate, which has been similarly favoured by the acceptance of its tenders; and there are instances where, after the acceptance of the tenders, higher amounts have been paid to the contractors even than the tendered amount. There are numerous instances, and I do not wish to weary the House with them. I only wish to say that in asking for an inquiry, I had particular information at my disposal. I tried to get at the Development Department in various ways. I first started a campaign in the public press, calling for an enquiry in regard to the scandals, but I failed to get the necessary information. My next step was to try to get information by means of questions in this House, but the replies given by Government were unsatisfactory, evasive and non-committal. My next step was to move a resolution calling for an enquiry of this nature. The resolution was moved, was passed by this House, but not accepted by the Government. Of course, I am not going to give it up, and my next step is the resolution which I am going to move, asking for the transfer of the whole department to the

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

Public Works Department, so as to bring it more under the control and supervision of this honourable House. I say, Sir, that in the beginning, a department which originally had been under the control and direct control of this House, directly under the Public Works Department, was by means of a manœuvring in legislation taken directly out of our hands and made a reserved subject. Of course, the Honourable the General Member will remember—and I reminded him of it on the last occasion—that he himself was of the same opinion in the year 1921, that the Development Department should properly have been a transferred subject. I hope, Sir, that when my resolution comes up for discussion the Honourable the General Member will change sides for the time being, read the opinion which he had given in 1921 and support the resolution that the Development Department should be made a transferred subject.

Now, coming to the administration of the department, I shall first take up the establishments. I would request the honourable members to look at pages 155 and 156 of the Blue Book, where they will get the figures of the establishment. After providing for so much establishment, do the Development Directorate seriously maintain that they have retrenched according to the demands of this House? The very first appointment under establishments is that of the Director of Development. In this connection, I do not wish, Sir, to refer to personalities. The Director of Development may be a very amiable gentleman, and he may be a very desirable gentleman. We are only considering his official capacity and his salary. I must say that I have nothing to say against him personally. There are some other officers on the opposite benches who might emulate his genial example. We are considering only his salary, which is Rs. 6,000 a month, or Rs. 72,000 a year. We have been crying against it from the very day that the Development Directorate started. I ask again, is that salary justifiable? The Honourable the General Member states that we have been gradually reducing our work considerably. I dare say that the work of the Director of Development has been curtailed in proportion, but there appears to be no curtailing of his salary. I am sure, even up to the last day when there may be only a few feet of the wall left to be finished, he will continue to draw this salary of Rs. 6,000 a month till then. I ask honourable members on both sides of the House, whether it is fair to the other honourable gentlemen on the opposite benches, and to the other officers in the service. Is it fair to them? Compare the salaries paid to the executive engineers and the superintending engineers and the assistant engineers in the Public Works Department, with those which are paid in this department, and you will find that it is almost cent. per cent. more than what we pay to the Public Works officers. After the Director of Development come the Deputy Director, the Deputy Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, the Chief Engineer, the Deputy Chief Engineer, the Executive Engineer, and the Assistant Engineer. I must say, Sir, ^{the secret commission} that I am thankful to the Director of Development, ^{for} why in this instance ^{the} the Commissioner in Sind, he does not ask for a ^{stea} ^{the}

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

inspection of his work. We ought to be thankful for that generosity on his part. But we would have been more thankful if considering our financial position, he had himself come forward and told this House "I really do not think I deserve this salary of Rs. 6,000 a month, and to set an example to my own subordinates, and in order that I may compete with them for retrenchment, I shall be prepared to accept a lesser salary". As it is, with what face can he go before his subordinate officers and tell them "I think your salaries are too high and they ought to be reduced; all the same I shall continue to draw my Rs. 6,000 a month"? Unless he makes a substantial reduction in his own salary, he cannot ask his subordinates to accept less. Therefore, we have to continue paying high salaries to these officers of the department.

Now, I come to the question of Indianisation. When the whole country is crying for Indianisation, look at the percentage of Indians employed in the higher offices. In this connection, if you consider the answers that have been given to the various questions that have been put to Government, what is the result? There are about 20 posts carrying a salary of Rs. 2,000 and upwards, and out of these 20, 19 are Europeans, and there is only one Indian. And you will find there one or two gentlemen who are given a salary of Rs. 2,000, who are Europeans without any qualifications, whereas numerous Indians of higher qualifications do not get more than Rs. 600 to Rs. 700 a month. We are also told in the reply of Government that out of 19 appointments carrying a salary of between Rs. 700 and Rs. 2,000, there were 13 Europeans and 6 Indians. That is the way in which the Honourable the General Member, an Indian member of eminence, is giving effect to the policy of Indianisation.

But, Sir, apart from these facts and figures, and apart from the protest against the Government not carrying into effect the resolution of the Council passed in the last session, I am prepared to point out, if there is time at my disposal, that there is still ample scope left, in this demand of Rs. 1,47,00,000, for effecting a reduction of at least Rs. 50 lakhs to Rs. 60 lakhs. On the last occasion, during the budget discussion, I moved a motion for the reduction of the total demand for the Development Department by Rs. 75 lakhs, but the Honourable the General Member would not be persuaded to accept that motion. He fought hard against it. It was carried to a division and it was lost. Now, look at the result. He himself declares at the end of the year that he was able to effect retrenchment to the extent of 90 lakhs. Instead of accepting with good grace the motion which was proposed by me asking for a cut of 75 lakhs, he vigorously opposed it stating that if the motion was accepted, the Development Department would be impossible to be worked. As a matter of fact he did work with that reduction and with the same efficiency or inefficiency of the past years. To-day, Sir, I know that the Honourable the General Member will again stand up before this House, but I would not go to give it up, and say that it will be impossible for him to incorporate with a cut of 61 lakhs. I would not go to move for the attitude of Government last year. Even with

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

this cut of 61 lakhs, the Development Directorate will continue as efficiently or inefficiently as in the past years, and this cut will only mean a saving for the poor ratepayers of this city and of this presidency.

The Development Directorate admitted that regarding the cement contracts it was a bad bargain, but that they could not get out of it. The Director stated :

“Under these circumstances, Sir, there is no doubt that if we were free at the present moment we could, taking advantage of the temporary difficulties of a struggling Indian industry, obtain cement at a substantially lower price than we are actually paying.”

Since then, Sir, one of the contracting parties applied to the Development Directorate to be freed from this obligation. The Development Directorate was given the opportunity to be free from this obligation so far as one of the contracting parties was concerned. They could have, if they liked, freed themselves from the obligation and obtained cement from outside at a cheaper rate. But what did they do? I find that the obligation of that contracting party was transferred to another company. One company which wanted to be free from the contract, transferred the benefits of the contract to another company and the Development Directorate accepted the transfer. They were not bound to do so legally. An opportunity was presented to effect a saving by getting out of a legal obligation, but they deliberately continued the obligation with another contracting party. I hope the Development Director will explain the circumstances. We may be making mistakes, because we are not allowed to pry into the facts and figures. It is possible that relying upon what we get from outside we may be making mistakes, but my information is that one of the contracting parties, who wanted to be free from their obligation, wanted to give the benefit of the contract to another party, and the Development Directorate accepted it.

Now, Sir, only yesterday the honourable member Mr. Pradhan made a motion for a reduction of 3 lakhs provided for unforeseen contingency, and the Honourable the Development Member at once accepted it. Supposing the honorable member did not move that motion, those three lakhs might have been spent or might have disappeared. Similarly, there are many other items which escape the scrutiny of the House and which could be cut out. Considering all these circumstances, Sir, a cut of 61 lakhs is certainly one which can be accepted by this House.

Question proposed.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City) : Sir, the Honourable the General Member gave us some facts and figures in regard to the Development Department. He pointed out that a large percentage of the lands which have been made available for sale have been sold. But if we take the whole commitment of the department, namely, all the lands which have been notified for acquisition, that is, the lands for which we have committed ourselves and which yet remain undeveloped, the amount of land that has been made available for sale will, according to my calcula-

[Mr. D. B. Adwani]

tion, be only about 5 per cent. of the total. The whole amount of land, Sir, is 14,000 to 16,000 acres, an area which will, I think, last us for nearly half a century. Now, I ask, Sir, is it a reasonable proposition, is it an economically sound proposition, to commit ourselves for developing lands which will last us for nearly half a century? In my opinion it is not. That is the first point which I wish to make.

The other point is that the present financial position of the Development Department is highly unsatisfactory. If we look to the annual income (I will exclude the proceeds from the sales of land which will be credited to the capital account) the annual receipts are first, sales of water, Rs. 1,15,000; supply of electricity, Rs. 21,000; and rent, Rs. 13,16,000, we get a total of 14½ or say 15 lakhs, according to the budget estimate for 1924-25. But really speaking 15 lakhs and odd cannot be realised as rent, because the revised estimates for the same year is only Rs. 7,20,000. If we take this into consideration, namely that there is an overestimate of 6 lakhs of rupees in rent, the average realisation from the Development Department comes to 8½ lakhs or say 9 lakhs. On the other hand, the interest that we pay on the capital already invested is Rs. 77,14,000. Against a realisation of 9 lakhs per year, we have to pay Rs. 77,14,000, which means a loss of nearly 68 lakhs. Now we are getting 20 lakhs from the cotton cess, and if we set off this against the loss, we still get a net loss of 48 lakhs. The actual loss is, however, 68 lakhs annually.

The other point which I wish to make is that this interest is added to the capital: it is not being paid out of the ordinary revenues. This House will remember that in the case of the Lloyd Barrage the Secretary of State has given us special permission to pay interest to the extent of 10 lakhs from the Famine Fund and 9 and odd lakhs out of capital. But in the case of the Development Department we charge such a huge sum as 77 lakhs interest per annum on the capital, which I think is a very ruinous policy from the financial point of view. This is just like declaring dividend out of capital. If we had a vigilant shareholder like Mr. Shamdasani, I think he would have taken us to a law-court, and would have said that the Bombay Government were declaring dividend out of capital. If we go on taking loans like this, we will be pursuing a very ruinous policy. The result will be that when we have stopped taking loans on account of these works, which will happen in the course of a few years, we will be confronted with the necessity of having to provide annually a sum of close upon a crore of rupees from our ordinary revenue minus some 20 lakhs or so which will be the annual income. I think, Sir, honourable members will agree that this is a very unsound proposition from the financial point of view, and I wish to enquire if any special permission has been obtained for charging interest to capital in this manner.

Then, Sir, if we take the realisations from rents into account, it will at once appear to us that the position is very disquieting. For example, the budget estimate for 1924-25 shows Rs. 13·16 lakhs as the expected realisations from the rents of our chawls, but the revised estimate for the

[Mr. D. B. Adwani]

current year shows Rs. 7·20. That is to say, whereas we expected to realise Rs. 13 lakhs, we are only getting Rs. 7 lakhs under the revised estimate—a difference of Rs. 6 lakhs. I wish to know which specialists calculated the amount of interest that was expected to be realised from the chawls. Similarly for 1925 a figure of 15 lakhs and odd is shown as the expected realisations, as if there would be a sudden demand for the development chawls, which does not seem to be justified in the absence of an explanation. My opinion is, judging from the position as it appears, and as I have put before the House in my brief remarks, that a revised forecast is absolutely necessary for this project, a definite forecast for the Bombay Development Scheme as a whole, including reclamation scheme, suburban schemes, and the industrial scheme. A revised forecast is absolutely necessary showing the amounts of the revised estimates, what income was expected and how far the expectations have been realised, and what will be the position in the near future. What, for example, will be the accumulated arrears of interest? Because we must remember that interest is at the present moment simply going on accumulating. Compound interest is being added and we are face to face with a very serious problem: In my opinion, Sir, looking to the position of rents, looking to the fact that only about 50 per cent. of the chawls that we have actually built are at present being occupied, the building programme should be stopped. No more buildings should be constructed until the present chawls are occupied.

Then, Sir, my honourable friend from Bombay has pointed out that the work of the department has decreased and that the Development Director should set an example by offering to have his salary reduced. My opinion however is that the Directorate should be altogether abolished....

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: You mean personally?

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: Yes, I mean the Directorate and not the department. The Directorate is not required. We have got superintending engineers who can correspond direct with the Government. Looking to the reduction of expenditure which has been effected, and looking to the decrease in the programme, we do not require the Directorate at all. We do not require the Director, we do not require the Deputy Director as well, we do not require the Deputy Secretary to Government for the Development Department. We may have only one Assistant or Under Secretary on say Rs. 800 or so; and if we make this change, we will save nearly a lakh and a quarter. It is my emphatic opinion that the Directorate is no longer required. The building operations should be totally stopped, and only such building operations should be continued as are required to complete the present buildings which are actually under construction, and for that purpose the engineering staff required will not be so great as shown in the note which has been supplied to us. We find—I am not referring to the Back Bay reclamation scheme because I do not feel competent to say anything about the staff required for that—for the housing scheme we have

[Mr. D. B. Adwani]

one superintending engineer, four executive engineers and three or more assistant engineers; and for the suburban scheme, one superintending engineer, three executive engineers and five assistant engineers. So much staff is unnecessary. The Honourable the General Member told us in his speech that he was going to stop the suburban schemes. If that is so, why is this establishment shown for the suburban scheme, costing over 2 lakhs, a great part of which is for work which the honourable member does not wish to carry out. Sir, a great deal of reduction can indeed be made in the engineering establishment—nearly 50 per cent.—which means that we can effect a saving of a lakh of rupees or even more. Under these circumstances, a cut of Rs. 61,90,000 is very reasonable and this House should support it.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Sir, I support the motion moved by my honourable friend from Bombay. The total debt to the end of 1925-26 for the development, including debt owing by public bodies would be in the neighbourhood of 38 crores of rupees, and out of this 38 crores, about 14 crores would be the provincial responsibility, that is, this Council's responsibility. We are concerned with this Council's responsibility for the 14 crores of the total debt. Now the revenue side, as has been often pointed out, even after four years of the working of the Development Department, is practically meagre. If we exclude the 20 lakhs, which is the cotton cess that is paid by the agriculturists the total revenue comes to about 16 lakhs and out of this 16 lakhs, there are over-estimates. Last year they over-estimated the revenue and got nothing, and this year also the same over-estimate continues. May I ask the Honourable the General Member how is he expecting to have all the chawls filled up in these times of depression when the mills are not working with double shift—that is, night and day—when most of the labourers employed in Bombay city are employed by himself (the General Member) and when his activities are reduced, I do not think there will be any tenants for the development chawls. I think the present activity of the labourers in Bombay is simply due to the temporary activity of the railways, Improvement Trust, the Port Trust, municipality and the Development Department, and if that activity goes away, then there will not be any activity for the labourers and perhaps I should think that even the buildings as they are at present will be more than enough. And considering this point, I should request the Honourable the General Member to reduce the amount on chawls at least by 15 lakhs. He has put down about 24 lakhs for building these chawls and except for the completion of the chawls that are already taken in hand he may save the expenditure of at least 15 lakhs on these chawls.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: We cannot.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: You cannot!

In all he has overestimated the revenue by 11 lakhs. I am really surprised on what basis he comes to the item of Rs. 15,44,000. That is, the rents from these chawls. To my mind the rents from these chawls

[Rao Sahab D. P. Desai]

are falling from year to year. How can you expect to realise the amount of 15 lakhs. I think a cut has to be made from the revenue side of the budget. I have noticed that the sinking fund in the Development Department is invested in the department itself. That is a very bad policy. The sinking fund money should be invested in Government loans. The sinking fund is intended for the extinguishment of the debt and, if it is spent in the concern itself the success of which is very doubtful, this amount also will go. I understand that the Honourable the General Member has remarked that the Colaba reclamation scheme will not be proceeded with.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : That has been cut out of the budget.

Rao Sahab D. P. DESAI : As regards the suburban schemes, I understand that there are already bungalows lying idle without occupants. I understand that in Bombay itself there are many places fitted with electric lights lying idle without people to come and occupy them. I am talking of Matunga....

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : That is Improvement Trust.

Rao Sahab D. P. DESAI : It is your child after all.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Are we right in discussing the Improvement Trust scheme here, Sir ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Certainly not. So far as I know, the Development Department has nothing to do with the Improvement Trust schemes. If the Government borrow money on behalf of the Improvement Trust and lend it to that body, it does not make it a part of Government or the Development Directorate.

Rao Sahab D. P. DESAI : Out of the 2 crores and 5 lakhs, the demand of the General Member, he has provided 5 lakhs for co-operative housing. If he were more sincere and if there was any need for encouraging building trade, he would not have set apart only 5 lakhs for co-operative housing but 50 lakhs or so for the housing of the labour and middle classes and stop the other activities. But it is clear they do not want it and from what I can see this is only an enticement for people who would not come forward. He wants to give encouragement by providing 5 lakhs only. I would suggest to him to either provide more if there is need or take away even this amount. There should be no enticement. With these remarks I support the motion for reduction which is not a heavy one.

Mr. G. I. PATEL (Ahmedabad Millowners' Association) : Sir, my honourable friend Mr. Nariman raised two important points in the course of his speech which I hope the Honourable the General Member, being a member of the commercial community and a business man himself, will take into consideration and in the course of his reply give the House

[Mr. G. I. Patel]

the information it desires on those two points. I would like to say a few words firstly about the manner in which these commissions are obtained. First of all, commissions are obtainable from the manufacturers by the persons who directly import articles such as machinery, etc. Secondly, commission is obtainable from somebody in England who canvasses the order; thirdly from some broker in this country through whom the order is placed. Lastly the commission is debited to the general expenses by Home firms and paid to some person in England in cash or in kind. So, it is very difficult to find out how this commission was obtained on certain particular orders. The honourable member Mr. Nariman has made out a case for at least some suspicion. I believe it cannot be proved legally how these commissions have been obtained.

In regard to tenders, favouritism can be shown in their acceptance. First of all a tender can be rejected on the ground that it was received late. After the tenders are opened there are ways and means to call upon the tenderer who has demanded high rates to revise his rates. Information may leak out, from the office or from the staff who are responsible for passing the tenders and that party will send in a further tender revising the rates under the plea that they misunderstood certain calculations and so on. If that party is a favoured party, the tender is accepted. If it is put to the executive to explain why the tender of the other man was not accepted, they would say that the tender came late or that the tender of the new party was accepted because the rates were revised. Lastly if tenders at higher rates are accepted deliberately, the plea would be that a particular contractor was not reliable and he could not be entrusted with such heavy contracts. These are the several ways in which favouritism can be shown and by which commissions can be obtained. But at the same time I may point out that it is very difficult to prove in a court of law that some commission has been given or that favouritism has been shown in particular cases. I request the Honourable the General Member to explain these points in his reply so that it may satisfy the House. If that is done, the House will be satisfied; otherwise, the suspicion will remain as it is, and my honourable friend Mr. Nariman will probably establish a case that there have been reasonable grounds for suspicion, though it is not possible to establish the guilt in a legal manner.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The Secretary of the Council has drawn my attention to the fact that the division on Mr. G. B. Pradhan's motion for a reduction of Rs. 25,200 contains a mistake. The report of the tellers was that there were 35 in favour of the motion and 34 against it. The Secretary counted them up, and finds that there are 35 votes on each side. Since the fact was brought to my notice, I have carefully scrutinised the division lists, and noted on the same paper both those who voted for and those who voted against, and the result is that there are 35 votes each way. The mistake presumably made by the tellers is due to the fact that Mr. Gibson's vote—he was one of the tellers—has been marked in such a way that it was overlooked in counting the total. Now, these

[The President]

incidents are rather unpleasant to deal with, and I hope honourable members will remember the remarks which I made on a similar occasion which occurred at the previous session of this Council in Poona. Two responsible officers of Government were in this case the tellers and this mistake has been made. The result, therefore, is that there is a tie. It is perfectly true that the President's announcement once made cannot be challenged by any one, but here is a question of keeping correct records of the Legislative Council, and it will never do to have in the division list 35 names each way and the total shown as 35 and 34. The records have got to be corrected, and in both cases 35 votes have got to be shown.

Then it comes to the question whether the motion was carried or lost. With reference to that, the principles which I have followed, namely, to vote in favour of the *status quo* will apply. You will observe that on page 156 of the Blue Book the sum of Rs. 25,200 which has been provided for assistant development officers this year is a reduction from Rs. 30,300 provided last year. Therefore the *status quo* is this reduced provision which, if it is to be disallowed, could only be disallowed by a majority of the House itself. In these circumstances, I have to vote for the Noes, for the retention of grant reduced from the figure which this House passed last year, and therefore I must declare the motion as lost.

(After recess.)

Debate on Mr. Nariman's motion resumed.)

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North): Mr. President, the motion that is before the House now gives me an opportunity of bringing forward the grievances which I have against this department. Sir, this honourable House has before it the interim report that has been prepared by the advisory committee and in that report honourable members will find some mention is made of some of the schemes from which you will notice, Sir, that the Government is going to curtail the programme which they had chalked out some years ago. The full programme was to provide six thousand single room tenements, but now the Government say that they have built 21 thousand single room tenements, and they are going to suspend their work because they now find that certain figures given several years ago are wrong. I humbly beg to bring to their notice that the figures to which they refer have nothing whatsoever to do with the industrial housing scheme. Sir, this scheme was undertaken not because there were so many rooms short of actual want, but because the method in which the industrial people were housed was very deplorable.

Sir, let me mention to this House what His Excellency has said in this connection when the question of development directorate was mooted for the first time. At that time on the 3rd of August 1920 he has stated:

"It is a sufficient proof of the horror of the conditions that two-thirds of the people of this city live in insanitary and airless one room tenements and that more than fifty

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

per cent. of the children born in this city die before they reach the age of 18 months. For all that makes home-life pleasant—light, air, space and cleanliness—it is indeed a city of dearth—for the children it is a city of death.”

To remove this difficulty a programme for industrial housing was undertaken.

The responsibility of Government at that time was also in view of His Excellency. He has stated :

“I venture to say that I have been into many of them (that is in the single room tenements inhabited by the working classes of Bombay). I have been into many of them and been in as close quarters to them as any member of this Council and any one who realizes the inevitable results of any delay in a measure of this kind now already too long delayed must recognize clearly the responsibilities of breeding up an unhealthy and unfit and aqualid race of people. Unless we give them better air, better light, better cleanliness, and better conditions, we shall not breed a race worthy of this great city. It is open to us to-day to do it.”

You will notice from these facts that at that time Government had before them the obligation which they owed to the working classes of Bombay. They wanted to make provision for them. The question of housing was not a new one. It was under the consideration of Government for the past 50 years. The history is a very interesting one. But I shall not engage the attention of this House with its details. Several experiments were made and they were given up one after another. While the City Improvement Trust was brought into existence to solve this question of sanitary dwellings for the working classes and when Government found that no satisfactory solution was brought about, they undertook that work themselves. Therefore I maintain that the decision which the Government have now taken, namely, to suspend the work to a future date is not justified by the circumstances. They should not tell this House that there was inaccuracy of figures because by the extracts which I have placed before you you will see at once that the average of rooms was not the question. The question was to make provision for better housing of these classes. Sir, the millhand lives in very bad sanitary surroundings. His life is very much shortened by his being employed in the mill for several hours in the day and then returning for rest to his insanitary room at night. Therefore if you have any care or sympathy for the suffering of the industrial classes on whose labour the city depends and to whose labour the city owes its prosperity, then it is plainly your duty to make full and adequate provision for their housing.

Sir, you will see that the expectation with which these single room tenements were undertaken by the development directorate is fully realized. I have stated in my dissenting minute that according to the analysis prepared you find that actually 90 per cent. of the rooms are occupied by the working classes. It is not only that, but the rooms that are provided for them afford them sanitary dwellings because the death rate itself is strikingly low.

In last year's report you have stated that the death rate in the development chawls was only six per cent. whereas in the same locality

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

in other houses the death rate was about 35. So, if these figures have any meaning, it is evident that if the labourers live in development chawls they live in more sanitary conditions. The death rate in those chawls is very low. Therefore, Sir, it is very necessary that Government should not suspend their operations but carry out their programme to the full. The Honourable the General Member in his opening remarks the other day said that the crux of the question was that the tenements were a dead loss to the Development Directorate. Now, Sir, in this connection let me mention that this loss is already made up by the cotton cess. This honourable House knows that all the cotton that is imported into this town is subjected to a cess and the amount realised thereby is about 20 lakhs. Now, Sir, you will notice that this 20 lakhs is being realised from the industrial classes of this city. They must be utilised for giving sanitary houses to the industrial classes themselves, because Government have come to the conclusion that they cannot use compulsion for making the millowners to provide sanitary houses to the working classes, and in that view they have imposed this cotton cess. Its proceeds are 20 lakhs and Government are not spending the full amount which they realise from this source on the provision of houses for workmen. I have not the correct figures with me, but I take it that even if they charge Rs. 5 as the rent for their one-room tenements, on the rooms they have actually built Government will not suffer a loss. Government are not suffering a greater loss than 10 lakhs, and the other 10 lakhs Government are utilising for other purposes. As a member of this House I feel it my duty to restrain Government from diverting the money which is earmarked for a particular purpose to some other purpose. Having regard to these facts I hope Government will come forward and alter their decision and carry out to the full the programme they have undertaken.

Then, another grievance which I have to place before this House is about the putting to auction of the shops which are built in the Development Directorate chawls. I had addressed a letter to the officers of the development directorate bringing to their notice that they were introducing a very pernicious system of putting the shops to auction. That system is a very pernicious system. The chawls are meant for the labouring classes; they are to be inhabited by labourers who expect that every necessary of life will be given to them at as cheap a rate as possible. And if the development directorate put the shops to auction, what will be the consequence? The shopkeeper will charge the excessive rent he pays to the development directorate on the articles he will sell, and those men who will be living in the development directorate chawls will have to buy their provisions at a high price. About this letter, I may further mention, Sir, that the Land Manager wrote to me to say that he would place the letter before the advisory committee. Several months have passed by, and as far as my knowledge goes, that letter has not been placed before the advisory committee, and their decision has not been asked for. Now, I humbly suggest that Government should not put the shops to auction.

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

The third point, Sir, is about the admixture of castes into public services. The honourable nominated member representing labour had asked only the other day what was the percentage of Hindu clerks belonging to the backward classes who were in the service of the Development Directorate. Let the Development Directorate to-day explain to this House why out of 200 clerks only 5 clerks belong to the Hindu backward class. Government have told us that they are introducing admixture of castes into the services, and that the claims of the backward classes for appointment to the public services are not being ignored. If that is a fact, I ask the Government benches opposite how is it that in the Development Department out of 200 there are only 5 who belong to the Hindu backward classes.

There are many other grievances which I have to make, but I do not think I will be justified in detaining the House any longer.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE (Bombay City) : Mr. President, I rise to support the rejection motion of my honourable friend Mr. Nariman. At the outset, Sir, I wish to thank the Honourable the General Member for giving us an opportunity of discussing this amount. I do not agree with the remarks of my honourable friend Mr. Nariman that he has given us this opportunity because he considers the amount to be trifling. Sir, I know the Honourable the General member for some time, and I can assure this House that he is the last to shirk any public or private enquiry. But when I say this, I must also say, Sir, that I was really surprised to find that the Honourable the General Member could not find his way to accept the resolution in this House for appointing a committee composed of members of this House. Last time when I spoke on the subject, I made it quite clear that although the members who formed the advisory committee were no doubt good and reliable men, we wanted a committee composed of members of this House which is the body responsible for the administration of this province and responsible to the taxpayers. I also made it clear, Sir, that we must have a committee composed of honourable members of this House and that this House could not put faith in any committee containing persons who are not responsible to this House. Sir, I have been a member of two committees within the last few years : one was the Rent Act Committee and the other was the Excise Committee. As a member of those two committees, Sir, I did realise the difficulty of the members in the committee who were not members of this honourable House. In such a committee, Sir, it is not possible to come to decisions which can command acceptance in this House. Further, if there are members in the committee who are not members of this House then these members have to rely upon the information that is placed before them and they try to do their best with that information only. Sir, I find from this report that has been placed before us that the first estimate of this reclamation work was made by the Tata Company to the extent of about 5 crores. Then we find that we have got Sir George Buchanan, who makes an estimate of about 3½ crores ; and now we find that the Development Department has put the amount at 7 crores and 12 lakhs. Sir, I am not

[Mr. Hooseinhoy A. Lalljee]

sure still whether this estimate is correct, and I would also like to draw attention to some other statements in the report in support of my arguments. I find on page 3 that it is stated that the Development Directorate is going to dispose of 265 acres of reclaimed land at Colaba to the Military Department at the price of Rs. 20 a square yard which will on the whole correspond to about Rs. 45 a square yard when developed, and I find on page 4 the statement that

“According to the forecast, on the basis of the present estimates, and assuming the sale of 265 acres to the Military Department in 1927, the actual cost (including interest) per square yard of net developed building area will be in the neighbourhood of Rs. 30, at the time when it is expected that land will begin to be available for sale to the public.”

Now, Sir, I want the Honourable the General Member to explain whether the land, when ready, would be costing Rs. 45 or Rs. 30 per square yard. This means, Sir, a difference of nearly 50 per cent. in the valuation. If that is so, I have got my doubts as to whether, when the scheme is developed, it will not cost much more than even Rs. 45 a square yard. If you look at this scheme, you will notice that no less than about one-third area is being given for military purposes. If that is so, I would ask the Honourable the General Member whether it is not right that he should ask the military people to contribute towards the open spaces, etc., which will give advantage also to their site, and whether that consideration has been taken into account, or whether the whole expenditure will all come out of the taxpayers' money. I need not, Sir, say much about the contribution that we are making to the Government of India and how we are being treated, because we have said it so often and we have said so yesterday also.

Now, coming to the Bombay city, I ask the Honourable the General Member, why he has not given the area with regard to the scheme No. 7, which is Hornby Road scheme. Nor has he given us the details about the 4 schemes that he is going to take up. I find that the Bombay scheme at Dadar is not going to give any profit to the Development Directorate. Then why is the Directorate taking up these schemes? Is it because you want that the municipality or the Improvement Trust should not take up their legitimate work and that you should keep on this Directorate?

Then, Sir, I am one of those who believe that this reclamation scheme ought never to have been taken, and even if it is now taken already, it should be finished soon. But the way in which it ought to be finished must be that we ought not to go in for a larger area than absolutely necessary, and I think the suburban schemes should not have been given up if those were intended for the benefit of the masses and for the purpose of removing congestion from the city. I must say as a member of the Bombay municipal corporation and as a member of the Standing Committee we were surprised when we learnt that the Director of Development had given his sanction to a variation in the cement contract from which we wanted to get out. We were thinking and we are still thinking that that contract was not a good contract, and when we

[Mr. Hoosainbhoy A. Lalljee]

enquired about this variation in the contract it was pointed out to us that it was the province of the Directorate, and therefore without consulting us he has given his sanction and now a great question has arisen. I ask the Honourable the General Member whether it is the right course to adopt, when at the suggestion of the Government, in order to meet the requirements of the Development Department, the municipality and other public bodies joined them and put confidence in them that they should allow variation in the contract without consulting them. Then what faith can we have in this department, if that is the way in which the department is working?

Then, I join my honourable friend Mr. Nariman in his complaint and protest that very little care is taken to utilise the services of Indian engineers. This work of the department is going on for the last four years now; if the honourable member the Director of Development were to try a few of our Indian engineers to take up the work, I am sure they could do that, and since we have now given a lot of encouragement to outsiders for the last three years, I hope and trust that at least some consideration would be shown to the people of the soil who are being taxed and whose people—the taxpayers—are being taxed. I hope, Sir, the Honourable the General Member will give a satisfactory answer with regard to this point and give due consideration to this suggestion. It is a fact well known to everybody that the people of this city look with suspicion at these schemes of the Development Directorate, and it is no use hiding it when it is being talked about everywhere in the city. I hope, Sir, that the Honourable the General Member will even now arrange to have a committee of this House to investigate into all these matters. There is not only the question which my honourable friend from Ahmedabad has referred to, but I do think that there are many questions which should be enquired into and investigated and I do really hope that the Honourable the General Member will not for any reason shirk any enquiry but will agree to it. Until he does so, I am sorry that this House cannot give its full support to his schemes.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Mr. President, I wish to expose the fallacies underlying the argument brought forward by the honourable member Mr. A. N. Surve. He said that the cotton cess was paid by the industrialists of Bombay. This would happen if the cultivator who is selling cotton had the power of dictating his terms. But if, on the other hand, the Bombay firms were dictating terms to the cultivator, then in that case the amount of tax by way of the cotton cess could be taken into account and the price could be determined accordingly and practically, therefore, the cess or tax comes from the pockets of the mofussil cultivator. Really speaking, the poor cultivator is not in a position to determine the prices of cotton. The prices of cotton are determined by the world conditions and at the same time Bombay being a great emporium of the cotton trade possessing so many big firms dealing in cotton, they would naturally be able to dictate the terms of the prices of cotton to the cultivators. Really speaking, this cotton cess,

[Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan]

it must not be forgotten, is a tax on the cultivators who produce cotton. It is a tax on the producers of cotton and it is not a tax on the industrialists of Bombay. In fact, for providing cheap housing in Bombay city the poor cultivators are being taxed ! It is a case of robbing Peter to pay Paul. Well, Sir, I should point out that this is a department in which there is practically no credit side at all, but throughout there is a debit side. If you look to the receipts, you find that the credit side is empty. The cotton cess is an item which is put forward as a decent income obtained by the Development Department. As I pointed out, this amount comes from the pockets of the cultivators.

Last year they anticipated that they would get 27 lakhs from the sales of land, but they only realised 7 lakhs and that, too, by giving loans to purchasers. This year they expect to get over 9 lakhs from the sale of land. To realise this 9 lakhs from the sale of lands, they have provided 5 lakhs for loans to purchasers in order to entice them to do so. Out of this 5 lakhs, they propose to allot three lakhs for loans to purchasers of land in the Bombay suburban area and 2 lakhs to co-operative housing societies. That is to say, in order to realise 9 lakhs from the sale of land, they have to advance 5 lakhs by way of loans to purchasers from their own pocket. If their expectations are realised according to them, the net receipts will be 4 lakhs after deducting 5 lakhs by way of loan, for which the interest will have to be paid by Government until the loans are recovered from the purchasers. For the realisation of this 4 lakhs, they maintain an establishment costing one lakh. There is a land manager on a salary of Rs. 2,500 and there is an assistant land manager and a personal assistant to the land manager, and so on. All this establishment they maintain in order to realise 4 lakhs of rupees from the sale of land. Last year they expected to realise 13 lakhs from rents ; but they actually realised 7 lakhs and this year they expected to realise 15 lakhs. I do not know what miracle is going to happen and how they are going to realise this 9 lakhs which they have estimated. I myself paid a visit to the Worli chawls. I saw the nice roads the like of which we cannot find anywhere else in Bombay. I thought to myself that the labourers, after their day's hard work, would stroll on the fine roads and enjoy the cool sea breeze. But I found some big people coming in motor cars.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : The promenade was constructed by the Improvement Trust and not by the Development Department.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : Really speaking I did not find any labourer there. What now happens is that the Government is spending money in Bombay at the cost of the poor cultivators. The fact that this is a famine stricken Presidency was taken into account even by the Meston Committee. They say that this Presidency must provide 63 lakhs every year for famine insurance, because this Presidency is more liable to famine than any other province. Take, for instance, Bengal. They provide there only 2 lakhs towards the famine insurance fund.

[Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan]

Instead of spending the money on schemes like the Bombay Development, the Government would be well-advised in spending that amount on works which will ward off the constant recurrence of famine. Crores after crores are being estimated and spent on the Bombay Development to the great detriment of the cultivators, who are the backbone of the finances of this Presidency. Of course, there is a divided opinion in the report of the committee as to whether the Bombay Reclamation work should be proceeded with or not. They say:

"The committee are aware that the financial results will depend not only on the price at which the land can be sold, but also on the rate of disposal. Whilst some members of the committee are emphatically in favour of advising that the work should be completed in any case, others consider that further information is necessary before a definite recommendation can be made."

That is the advice of even that committee which is not the sort of committee that was expected by the House to be appointed. Really speaking Government have to pay interest to the extent of 77 lakhs on the debts they have incurred. Practically, if you deduct the cotton cess, the income they get from the Development Department will not be more than 15 or 16 lakhs. The result is that the Government pay 60 lakhs of rupees as interest on account of the Bombay Development. If we calculate the interest up to 1932, when it is expected to become a paying concern, the progression of interest will be like 60 lakhs, 63 lakhs, 66 lakhs, 69 lakhs and 72 lakhs, and so on and if we take the mean figure and multiply it by 7, we will find that 5 crores of rupees will be required to cover the interest charges. A further capital of 94 lakhs has been sanctioned this year for the Bombay Reclamation. Nobody knows what will be the end. They say that because they have already spent 4 crores they must go on with the work. But I consider that if they want to spare us, let this 4 crores be written off and the whole department be scraped at this very moment. Then the Presidency will be saved. The amendment of the honourable member Mr. Nariman is very modest and I would request the House to pass the motion for the reduction.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I hope honourable members will remember clearly that within 12 days they have got to go through the whole of the budget.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): Sir, I feel it to be my duty to state to the House the opinion held by a moffusalite like myself regarding the Bombay Development scheme. So far as the demand for this department is concerned, I may frankly say at the outset that I was considerably surprised at the reduction which the Honourable the General Member has made therein of his own accord. During the course of the debate on the budget, we were repeatedly told by Member after Member and Minister after Minister that the whole budget was so framed as not to admit of the reduction of a single pie; but contrary to all those professions, I was surprised to find the other day the Honourable the Minister in charge of Local Self-government consenting to a cut of Rs. 4 lakhs, and the Honourable Member for the General Department now consenting to a cut of Rs. 10,66,000.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : We gave the reasons.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : Whatever the reasons may be, it clearly shows that the budget is not inelastic and that it must have had a margin for reductions and omissions. And the question now is whether the cut that is proposed by the honourable member Mr. Nariman is one that can be effected in the sum demanded, and with that object in view I propose for the consideration of the honourable the General Member certain figures. It cannot be gainsaid that unlike the last year the Government this year have not demanded an unprecedentedly large sum for the Bombay Development scheme ; and if they desire to have any definite suggestions for reductions and omissions from the non-official members, I would put forward certain suggestions which, I submit, do not and will not conflict with any of the schemes regarding the Bombay development. For instance, if the Honourable the General Member will kindly refer to page 139, he will see that there are three items proposed to be spent for works not yet commenced. The first item is of Rs. 9,99,000, the second item is of Rs. 2,80,000, and the third item is of Rs. 5 lakhs. These items are demanded for works not commenced. They come up to the total figure of Rs. 17,17,000. I do not see why these works should not be postponed till the next year. There is also another item of Rs. 5,55,000, for acquisition of land in the suburban tracts. We all know the history of the suburban schemes and the fate which they have met with ; and in view of the experience that we have got regarding them, it is extremely undesirable to acquire further lands and spend such a huge sum as Rs. 5,55,000 for the development of the suburbs. There is also another item of Rs. 9,11,560, demanded for repairs and maintenance of the schemes completed uptill now. We know, Sir, of the nature of the so-called repairs and maintenance of the works already done. I am sure that if the Honourable the General Member really applies himself to the task of cutting down this item, he could very well bring it down to Rs. 5,11,000, that is to say, he could easily effect a cut of Rs. 5 lakhs. Then the sum of Rs. 94 lakhs is demanded for works in progress ; and if he is seriously for cutting down the expenditure he can cut it by Rs. 14 lakhs without the least injury to the works taken in hand. From all these items, we can have a total cut of Rs. 41 lakhs. This is one point of view from which we can look at the sum demanded for the Bombay Development Department. But there is also another point of view, and it is as to whether or no this department will ultimately conduce to the welfare of the citizens of this presidency. Sir, I am constitutionally not so made as to bring about an artificial demarcation of interests between the villagers on one side and the residents of towns and cities on the other ; and so I do not propose to follow the line of argument that has been adopted by the previous speakers. I do say and hold that the city of Bombay has got a claim upon the finances of this presidency. But the real question which was only indirectly mooted by the mover of this motion, is to my mind not so much the expenditure itself, but something else. It is as to whether the interests of the people of this presidency are and will be subserved by this scheme. Looked at from that viewpoint, one cannot but say that they are not and

[Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar]

would not be so subserved. Let us take, for instance, the various officers that have been employed in this department. I have made a rough calculation in this behalf, and I find that the Bombay Development scheme supports in all 79 officers, getting more than Rs. 600 each, and out of them a very small number of posts has fallen to the share of the Indians. Personally I am not against large sums of money being spent on this department, provided they are usefully spent, and provided they contribute to the development of the indigenous talent in the presidency. But, as a matter of fact we find, Sir, that out of the 79 officers, there are hardly 10 per cent. to 20 per cent. of the officers who are in charge of the responsible work; and there is nothing in the whole budget to indicate that the low paid Indian officers are in the process of taking their proper place in the economy of the Bombay Development schemes. There is also one more consideration, which, I hope, the honourable House will not fail to take into account.

It cannot be denied that the administration of the Bombay Development Department is looked upon with great suspicion and distrust by the public at large. The public may be right or may not be right in doing so. It never demanded an advisory committee or its report; but it has demanded and is still demanding a committee of enquiry. And I really fail to see why the Government should fight shy of such a committee, and thus debar in a sense the public from getting into the inner working of the Development Department and from ascertaining the truth or otherwise of the various scandals regarding it. I would therefore request the non-official benches to insist upon the appointment of a committee of enquiry, in order to enable them to have a clear idea as to the working of the Development Department and as to the manner in which the money has been spent in the past and is proposed to be spent in future. With these remarks, Sir, I support the motion.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA (Bombay City, North): Sir, I understand that we are at liberty to discuss the general policy of this department on the present occasion. I do not know whether, in discussing the general policy of the department, I could say something about the Public Works Department. It seems to me that originally there was only one Public Works Department. It was like the spendthrift member of the executive family. Now, the Public Works Department appears to me to be divided into two or more departments. The Development Directorate is one of them. But it is not directly under the Public Works Department and so it does not come under the Minister who is in charge of the Public Works Department. It is separate. Now, that separation may not be justifiable under the Reforms Act. But my first complaint is that this separation is not necessary. It is doubly expensive to have two persons dealing with public works. Whoever represents it in the Council, being a layman, he is rather bound to act upon the advice of engineers in technical matters for lack of engineering knowledge. This often happens here. I find my honourable friend Mr. Cowaji, when he is put a question, is not able to answer it unless he turns to Sir Lawless Hepper, as a sort of a whispering gallery. Therefore it seems to me unnecessary waste of time,

[Mr. J. Baptista]

unnecessary waste of money in this division. Public Works ought to be under one responsible officer who ought to be the head of the Public Works Department as originally started. I do not know again whether the Barrage Director or whatever you may call him is another Public Works Department separate from this. I cannot make out whether the Irrigation Works so far as the Sukkur Barrage is concerned do or do not come under the Development Director or whether the Sukkur Barrage comes under the Public Works Department. However I know this much that it is not under the control of our Minister ; whether it is directly under some separate head or under someone else I do not know.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: It is in charge of the General Member.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA : So the Irrigation Department is under the General Member. I know that originally the Public Works portfolio used to be held by His Excellency the Governor. But now, the old lady—the Public Works Department—is in charge of the Honourable Minister and the young lady—the Development Department —is flung into the arms of my honourable friend Mr. COWASJI.

Now I shall deal with the Development Department so far as it is concerned with the backbay reclamation scheme. In my opinion there ought not to have been any Development Department and the development of Bombay ought to have been entrusted to the Bombay Municipal Corporation. But coming to the schemes, they are divided into two parts : one is the Backbay Reclamation and the other is Housing. I shall leave the Suburban scheme for the present out of question. I will deal with the Backbay Reclamation and Housing. So far as the Backbay Reclamation is concerned it has been severely criticised both inside this House and outside. It is partly due to the prejudice and partly to the natural anxiety of the people of Bombay. The prejudice is inherited. The people have not forgotten the old Backbay Reclamation and the misfortune that overtook them during the share mania of old Bombay. We all know that when the small enterprise of the Colaba Reclamation was undertaken by the Improvement Trust, Sir Dinsha Wacha thundered against it, yet though the scheme was small it turned out to be the best of all. At present this question is not whether the scheme should have been undertaken or not. It is useless to discuss that. It has been undertaken. It is a bold scheme. It required the spirit of adventure to embark upon it. If it succeeds, well and good ; if it fails it will be most unfortunate. But to-day the question is not whether we shall embark upon it, but whether we shall proceed further with it. We must remember that four crores and a half are spent already. If we stop it now, these 4½ crores will be thrown into the sea just as millions were thrown into sea for war. There is nothing to show for them except the wall stretching into the sea. Therefore the question reduces itself to this : Shall we have any part of the 4½ crores by proceeding with the work, or shall we throw away more good money after the bad ? We will be perfectly justified in stopping it if by proceeding the loss exceeds 4½ crores already spent.

[Mr. J. Baptista]

The committee was asked to express an opinion upon this point and my honourable friend has referred to the committee's report and particularly to my dissenting minute. I must confess I was thoroughly surprised and disappointed that the majority could not say without further consideration that 4½ crores will not be lost by going on with the scheme, what makes it worse is that the majority was composed of the officials themselves including the Development Director. I myself am one of those who can express positively and without the slightest hesitation the opinion that not only would we recoup these four crores and half by proceeding, but that there will be a profit, large or small. But if the officials themselves hesitate and are unable to express a definite opinion that the spent 4½ crores will not be lost, then the General Member would be justified in proceeding with the scheme until he has received their final opinion.

That is the position in which we are placed to-day by Report of the Committee and the Honourable the General Member so far as the Development Directorate is concerned. I do not think that it is a very satisfactory position. I do not think that one can take pride in that position, that the honourable member cannot say to-day that 4 crores will never be lost and give us a guarantee against such a loss. That is the undesirable position and must excite anxiety in the minds of the people of Bombay.

The next point is, shall we sanction the grant? So far as the figures are concerned it is useless for us to go into these matters. You may cut the budget but if you cut it this year you will have to provide it next year. You will save nothing by cutting, not even the interest. I have not the slightest doubt that although the budget shows large expenditure, it is impossible to spend half the grants demanded. It is useless to make cuts. What we ought to scrutinise carefully is whether the estimates are going to be exceeded. So far as the estimate itself is concerned and the expenditure, I must confess that the committee that is appointed has not investigated this matter. They are not in a position to estimate whether expenditure is rightly incurred, or whether there is any extravagance in any department. The committee is not appointed for that purpose. Personally I feel that these departments are very extravagantly paid. We know that the Director of Development is paid 6 thousand rupees. It is the highest salary after Governor's. It is higher than what is paid to the executive members of this Council. I do not grudge him that salary, but I should like to know whether it is the price of ability, or the price of honesty; of course it is absolutely necessary that the Director should be above suspicion and that the salary should be such as to ensure that he is above suspicion. But is such an extravagant salary necessary for ensuring honesty? Similarly the salaries paid to the engineers are very high. Besides, there are too many of them. I do not think that it is the function of the committee to investigate this aspect of expenditure, namely, whether the establishment can be curtailed. But that is one of the ways by which the expenditure can be reduced. I am one of those who think that it is not right for this Council or any committee of this Council to examine the detail working of this scheme. Nevertheless the

[Mr. J. Baptista]

public distrust is so great that it is necessary to investigate the expenditure and administration generally by a thoroughly well representative committee into full powers to go into the whole aspect of the question. It may be that the scheme will be profitable, but that does not justify extravagance. Our duty is to reduce extravagance and increase gain if practicable. Now, Sir, I have done with the Development Department. Of course, so far as the Sukkur Barrage is concerned, that does not come under the Development scheme : it will come under some other. I will not say anything about it now : I will say what I have to say when it comes on.

I am particularly concerned, Sir, with the housing scheme. Sir, you know that this Development Directorate really originated from the housing problem. Years ago the Governor was attracted by the conditions of the poor people of the city, and you know, Sir, how he proposed to solve it by the creation of the Improvement Trust ; how the Improvement Trust was designed to bring light and air and some sunshine into the houses of the poor people but when the Improvement Trust neglected it, we amended the Improvement Trust Act in order to find money for employers of labour in order that they might do their duty by their labourers. I think myself that the millowners and the other employers of the city were at one time, when the boom was on, quite prepared to undertake the housing of their employees provided they got money from Government at 4, 5 or 5½ per cent. interest. His Excellency Sir George Lloyd actually endeavoured to ascertain how far the millowners would be prepared to undertake this liability and I think, Sir, the Honourable Mr. Cowasji played a very prominent part in this matter of investigating how far they were prepared to do so, and he realised that they were quite prepared to do so. I do not know what advice he gave to Government. He has told me something in private which I am not entitled to disclose because it was confidential. The millowners were then in a flourishing condition. There was an industrial boom and they were selling shares of the face value of Rs. 500 for Rs. 2,500 or even Rs. 5,000. They were therefore quite prepared to build houses for their workmen if Government would lend them at 6 per cent. It was at that time that His Excellency the Governor,—perhaps upon the advice of my honourable friend (Mr. Cowasji Jehangir)—instead of getting the millowners to undertake the scheme decided to get it done departmentally. His Excellency the Governor lost the opportunity : he should have imposed the obligation upon the millowners, by letting them have the money at 6 per cent. If he had done so, we would have been perfectly safe and they would have done the work. A great mistake, a great blunder was committed by Government when they undertook the scheme themselves. Well, Government undertook the scheme, and they asked for money to build 50,000 tenements. We were all very happy ; we supported them ; we held public meetings ; and we asked people to subscribe to the loan liberally and Government undertook to construct 50,000 tenements for workmen. Well, what has happened to-day to this housing scheme ? The Honourable the General Member

[Mr. J. Baptista]

says "Oh! the census shows a reduction of occupants of one-room tenements from 70 per cent. of 1911 to 66 per cent. of 1921 census." He adds "many tenements in Directorate chawls are vacant". Therefore he concludes that 50,000 one-room tenements are not required. The programme is accordingly suspended and only 16,000 tenements are to be built now. I have studied the census; we have got to study the census. And we know that one-room tenements, by putting up a little washing place or a kitchen is easily converted into two-room tenements. This has happened in Bombay. The number of occupants in the so-called two-room tenements has increased from 10 to 14 per cent. in the exact equivalent of the reduction in one-room tenements. But the distressing fact is that the number of people living in rooms occupied by 6 persons and over has increased from 104,000 to 423,000 thus resulting in increased overcrowding. It seems to me any flimsy excuse is good enough for Government to get rid of the undertaking to build 50,000 one-room tenements. I do not like this pretence that rooms are not required. I should prefer an honest statement "no money". It is quite clear, Sir, that the original estimates have gone wrong; we are told the estimates did not originally include the value of land; it only included the construction of chawls. It may be so. I do not know. But the engineer who failed to take into account the value of the land in the cost of construction was not worthy of his hire. At all events nobody ever expected that the tenements would fetch the economic rent. That the economic rent would not be realised was recognised by Government from the very beginning. The cotton cess was imposed deliberately for the purpose of meeting the deficiency. I do not know whether the cotton cess that is available for this purpose is utilised to the full. (Mr. A. N. Surve: It is not utilised.) If they have not, then of course they are not doing their proper duty. They should have utilised it to the fullest extent possible, reduced the rent to that extent so that the workmen could come and live there. Instead of doing this the Directorate is repeating the mistake of the Improvement Trust. Originally the Trust undertook to build a large number of chawls; but they did not build them. They built only a few. They suspended chawl-building, but the most distressful aspect is that when the cost of construction rose high the Trust speeded its programme of building. The result was we had fewer tenements at a most higher cost. You know, Sir, what happened in the Trust—and now history repeats itself and we hear the Honourable Mr. Cowasji Jehangir say there is no necessity for 50,000 tenements. Now, Sir, any one with the commonsense even of a beetle would know, that the people do not go there because they cannot afford to pay the rent. Some people have quoted the statistics of the Labour Office. I have gone through the statistics of the Labour Office. They say they earn Rs. 50 each. They do not earn even Rs. 30. They say the whole family earns. But what is the whole family? Surely, the father, the mother and two children do not all earn. Whoever heard such nonsense? Well, Sir, the truth is that they cannot afford to pay the rent. What I advise

[Mr. J. Baptista]

the Development Director to do is this : reduce the rent to the extent that the deficit can be met from the total now available from the cess, and see whether the chawls are full or not. If they are full, they will not suffer the loss from vacancies: It is absurd to keep 40 per cent. of the tenements vacant. It is better to rent them at Rs. 5 and let them be full. Let the poor people live there. If you build more chawls and need more money, then increase the tax. But as the times are hard, use the total money now available for the purpose of reducing the rent for these poor people. Now, Sir, I do not know whether what my honourable friend said is a fact, but I am anxious that the rural areas should not be taxed. I do not know whether the incidence of this cess is going to them. We thought that it would come from the trade and we thought that the trade was able to bear it. Whatever that is, Sir, this tax is not being utilised for the purpose for which it was intended. I say to Government : use it ; do not keep it waiting in your strong boxes at the present moment. That is not the right way to use that money. By and by if you see that you cannot meet the deficit caused by the building of chawls and the lowering of rents, increase the cess. I realise that it will not be possible to do so now. I realise, Sir, that the mill industry is passing through a time when we ought to give them further time. I wish that the excise duty could be removed. Whatever that is, I do not see any immediate necessity to tax them to-day. Let the honourable member give an undertaking that he will use the money for the purpose of reducing the rent so that the vacant rooms may all be filled. That is the right thing to do, and I hope they will do it.

That, Sir, brings me to one serious matter. We all know how far it is an effort for the workmen to make both ends meet. The Abkari department gives them no food ; the Abkari department gives them drink. I will deal with the Abkari department later. At present it is well known that the mortality in one-room tenements is very heavy. It is well known that the infant mortality in the city is the largest, 660 out of 1,000. To-day we are told it is 440. I do not really understand how it could drop from 660 to 440 in a couple of years, because the condition of the city has not improved. Therefore, Sir, I appeal to the Honourable Member and I appeal to the honourable members on this side that for the sake of humanity, in order to save the lives of these men—because the more lives are saved the more produce will be forthcoming, and in that way contribute to the wealth of the city—from a humanitarian point of view I appeal to them to put these chawls in proper order and to give the men an opportunity of dwelling in these tenements. I say the present policy of the directorate is absolutely unjustifiable, prejudicial to the interests of the city, and not in accordance with their own undertaking. Every one knows that the chawls are built for men who are not utilising them. Other people are utilising them.

After all, Sir, trade cannot complain, because when the workmen are employed here and housed in this way, it saves the wages ; otherwise the employers might have to pay the wages. They act and react in so many ways that it is not possible to come to any definite conclusion. But I

[Mr. J. Baptista]

ask, Sir, my honourable friend not to keep this money away, utilise it, advertise that you will give these rooms at the lowest possible rent so that the difference can be made up from this amount which can be available. If he does that, the people concerned will be content and will bless him, and I myself would be ready to bless him for that. I am quite sure that this side of the House is quite willing to allow the Honourable the General Member to spend this money in the way I have suggested. Now let not my words be "a cry in the wilderness." Let them fructify in the heart of the General Member and he will deserve the blessing and gratitude of the industrial workers of Bombay.

Sir LAWLESS HEPPER : Mr. President, as an Executive Officer of Government it is not my business to discuss questions of Government policy. But I will try and deal with certain points affecting the work of the Development Directorate which have been raised in the course of this debate. The honourable mover has allowed himself to make vague charges, which he is quite unable to substantiate, against a number of responsible Government officials. I think, Sir, that this House will agree that it is very much to be regretted that such charges should be made. It is perfectly well known that, all over the world, cases of corruption and so on occur, and it may be within my honourable friend's experience that he has met them more often than I have. But at the same time it seems to me to be absolutely wrong that mud should be thrown in this sort of way, merely in the hope that some of it will stick. In my opinion, Sir,—and I speak with the experience of 31 years of service in this country—there is only one person more despicable than the anonymous letter-writer, and that is the man who is prepared to make vague charges and insinuations against the integrity of public servants, charges which he has no real reasons to believe are justified, and which he is not in a position to prove.

Having said so much, Sir, I will try and deal with the very few and unimportant specific cases to which the honourable mover of this motion has referred. The first case is the old one of the steel reinforcement for the foundations of the Worli chawls. This has already been discussed in detail on a former occasion and I should have thought that my honourable friend was fully aware of the position. He says that, owing to a mistake of one of the Directorate officers, instead of ordering from England a large quantity of steel bars of $\frac{5}{8}$ th of an inch diameter the bars were ordered of $\frac{3}{8}$ th of an inch diameter, and that, as a result of that mistake, a further lot of $\frac{5}{8}$ th of an inch diameter steel bars had to be ordered and the $\frac{3}{8}$ th of an inch diameter material is now lying surplus and rusting. I say, Sir, that that statement is absolutely incorrect, and, knowing that the honourable member must be aware of the facts, I submit that in saying that it is incorrect I am using language of considerable moderation. The actual position is that when the mistake was discovered, the design of the piles was altered so as to make use of the $\frac{3}{8}$ th of an inch diameter material, and, owing to the increased section of the steel, it was possible to decrease the amount of cement. The result was that the piles cost exactly the same as they would have

[Sir Lawless Hepper]

done if the ½th material had been used, and they are equally as strong. It is true that there is a certain quantity of surplus material lying at Matunga. But that surplus is due to the curtailment of the programme, and is in no way due to the mistake to which the honourable member has referred. I might add, Sir, that as the steel was imported from England free of duty, and having regard to the duty which is now imposed, Government do not expect to make any loss on that surplus. Then, Sir, the honourable member referred to the question of the cement contracts. Last year one of the cement companies was unable to supply in accordance with its contract with Government. The agreement with Government specifically provides what is to be done in cases of that kind, and the share of this particular firm was transferred to another firm in strict accordance with the terms of the agreement. Government were not free, under the agreement, to buy the share of this defaulting company in the open market.

Then, Sir, I think the honourable member referred to tenders, and complained that contracts were not always awarded to the lowest tenderer. That is perfectly true. No authority which calls for tenders ever undertakes to give the contract to the lowest or to any tenderer. There must be some discrimination in cases of that kind. But there are very few instances within my knowledge, in the Directorate, where contracts have not been given to the lowest tenderer. Contracts have been awarded to tenderers other than the lowest only when it was definitely in the interests of Government to do so.

Then, Sir, the honourable member has referred to a personal matter. It is in connection with establishment charges, and since he, and some other honourable members also have done so, I may be pardoned if I refer to this matter myself. Astonishment has been expressed that my salary is Rs. 6,000 a month. Members may be aware that before I was invited to take up my present appointment I had been for twelve or fourteen years the Agent of the G. I. P. Railway. In that appointment my pay was Rs. 4,000 a month. I was also in receipt of a military pension. I was also receiving the benefits of the railway provident fund as well as various allowances. My emoluments totalled approximately Rs. 5,000 a month. I was most reluctant to leave that appointment, having been engaged in railway service all my life, and I did not feel that I was called upon to do so unless I was offered a substantial increase. The increase I was offered was a salary of Rs. 6,000 a month, inclusive of all allowances, and entailing the suspension of my pension. The agreement was for a term of 5 years, which expires next November. In the absence of further sanction to the present scale of salary the permanent pay of the appointment then becomes Rs. 4,000 per mensem. I have recently been informed by Government that in view of the present conditions they would not be prepared to go to the Secretary of State for an extension of the agreement under which the Director receives Rs. 6,000 a month. I have been asked whether I would be willing to continue in the appointment for another two years on the sanctioned permanent pay of Rs. 4,000 with a reduction of 10 per cent., on the

[Sir Lawless Hepper]

salary on account of house-rent, or a net salary of Rs. 3,600. I have informed Government that I am prepared to accept that rate of salary. I think that is sufficient answer to the honourable member who asked what retrenchment is proposed in my own case.

The honourable member representing Karachi city has referred to the fact that our receipts are much less than we expected. I do not think Government can be blamed for the depressed conditions which exist at the present time. This condition applies to all business concerns. If we have not realised our expectations, there are many industrialists in Bombay who are in the same position. But whilst it is true that our receipts have been less than our anticipations it should also be noted as has been pointed out by the Honourable Member in charge of the Department, that we have made great reductions, and are still trying to make reductions, in our expenditure.

Then, Sir, the honourable member representing Bombay city has referred to the remarks in the report of the advisory committee in connection with the proposed sale of 265 acres of reclaimed land at Colaba to the military department. He pointed out that the proposal is to sell land at Rs. 20 per square yard whereas it is mentioned in another part of the report that when the reclamation is completed and we are in a position to begin to sell land to the public the land will have cost about Rs. 30 per square yard. This arises out of the difference between gross area and net developed area. We propose to sell about 265 acres of land at a price of Rs. 20 per square yard overall. But that corresponds as stated in the report to Rs. 45 per square yard in terms of net developed area. Suppose the land is not sold to the military but to the public. First of all you will have to deduct say one-third of the area for roads and open spaces. Then, you will have to spend a considerable amount of money in constructing roads, drains, etc., and time will be taken for these roads to be made during which period you will be paying interest. For the reasons indicated it will be found that a rate of Rs. 45 per square yard of net building area corresponds with Rs. 20 per square yard of gross area.

Now, Sir, the honourable member representing the Ahmedabad district has stated that the roads at Worli are too wide and costly. As a matter of fact we have not made any roads there. Those roads belong to the Improvement Trust. We have entered into an agreement with that body that they should construct two main roads throughout the area, one of a breadth of 60 feet and the other of a breadth of 40 feet. They are the only roads that have been made, and I think the honourable member must have been referring to one of those roads, or to the Improvement Trust seaface road. We have to construct small roads to serve separate groups of chawls at Worli but we have not yet started their construction.

The honourable member for Kaira was very lugubrious about the possibility of getting any one to reside in the chawls we have built. He asked how we are going to get the 15 lakhs we have estimated as receipts next year. We cannot say what we will get. Our estimate must be

[Sir Lawless Hepper]

made on an intelligent appreciation of what is likely to happen. We know that during the coming year the whole of these chawls will be completed. There is no doubt that the locality is not popular at present, because construction is still going on. As I have already stated the smaller roads have not yet been completed, and the open spaces have not yet been laid out. The area is very extensive. It has not yet been levelled and building materials are still lying about. There is no communication either by tram or by rail. I do not think it is possible to form an estimate of what the future prospects of the scheme will be until it is more advanced. This time next year we shall be in a better position to say whether we are likely to get the rents we expect.

The honourable member for Bombay City, North, complained of the auctioning of shops in chawls and also that his letter on this subject had not been placed before the advisory committee. The letter was placed before the advisory committee and, it was decided that the system of auctioning shops, followed by the Improvement Trust, was a correct one. The honourable member's argument was that the excessive rate of rent that the shopkeeper would be compelled to pay in auction would be reflected in the high prices he would charge for commodities. There is a fallacy in this, for if the shopkeeper tries to sell his commodities above the rates that other shopkeepers charge, he will not be able to sell his commodities at all. It is an economic question. If the shopkeeper charges a higher rate people will not buy from him.

I may refer to certain remarks made by my honourable friend Mr. Baptista. He says that we shall never get the chawls filled until the rent is reduced. I think it is necessary to consider the question as to what are the classes for whom these chawls were built. The object of Government was to complete 50,000 tenements for the working classes and if the working classes are the millhands, and artisans of many kinds then I think they can, in most cases, pay the rent we ask. But I quite agree with the honourable member that, besides what can strictly be termed working classes, there is a large floating population of casual labourers in Bombay which is at present very largely unemployed. Most of these people are earning 12 annas to 14 annas a day and I do not see how it is possible, when the cost of building is so high, to provide sanitary housing accommodation in Bombay at a rent which they can afford to pay. I think, Sir, so far as the actual and real working classes are concerned, they can afford to pay these rents, and I believe that when the schemes are completed it will be found that they will do so. I have nothing more to say on the various points that have been raised. I trust this House will not accept the motion.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Has the Director of Development got anything to say about the question of Indianisation ?

Sir LAWLESS HEPPEL : The reason why the number of Indians in the higher posts appears to be very low is that the majority of our high-paid appointments are in the reclamation branch, and they are connected with the working of the dredging plant. Now, it is not

[Sir Lawless Hepper]

possible for us to get, at present anyhow, Indians who are experts, or who understand the working of this class of plant. In fact it is with the greatest difficulty that we have been able to get employés who are trained to this work in England, and some of the men that we got out recently have not had much experience, and are only now becoming used to the working of this machinery. In the case of the housing and suburban divisions, we have now two Superintending Engineers, and we shall shortly, in about six months, have only one. We have six executive engineers, of whom four are Indians, and of the assistant engineers all are Indians. I am hoping that we may find increased opportunities for Indian engineers in the Reclamation Branch. We have two assistant engineers in that branch, one of whom has been very favourably reported on, and I hope that an opportunity will occur before long for promoting him. As I have already pointed out in the executive grades, and in the grades below, except in the reclamation branch, the Directorate is almost entirely staffed by Indian officers.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member the Director of Development in the course of his speech read out some remarks from a piece of paper. I was unable to follow those remarks, but there is an impression produced upon my mind that it was personally offensive to the honourable mover of the motion. I hope no such remarks were made intentionally as regards the honourable member.

Sir LAWLESS HEPPER: I was expressing my feelings in the matter. I had certainly no intention of.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I have to draw the honourable member's attention to Chapter V, Standing Order 7 (2) (ii) and (iii) of the Standing Orders, under which no honourable member is allowed to make a personal charge against a member or use offensive expressions. I did not quite follow those remarks; otherwise, I would have called attention to them. I cannot allow any offensive remarks to be made against any honourable member.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: I wanted to raise this point when the honourable member.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: As those words are in writing, will the honourable member read them out again?

Sir LAWLESS HEPPER: Yes, Sir. What I said was: "In my opinion, and I speak with the experience of 31 years of service in this country, there is only one person more despicable than the anonymous letter-writer, and that is the man who is prepared to make vague charges and insinuations against the integrity of public servants, charges which he has no real reason to believe are justified and which he is not in a position to prove." I had no intention of making any offensive remarks against anybody, but I submit that in view of the statements which were made by the honourable member (Mr. Nariman) and by the honourable member representing the Ahmedabad Millowners' Association, I was quite justified in using those words.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Those words are clearly offensive. I must hold that they come within the Standing Order which I have mentioned. If the honourable member intended to apply those words to these two honourable members, as he has admitted he did, I will ask him to withdraw them.

Sir LAWLESS HEPPEL : In view of your ruling, Sir, I am quite prepared to withdraw the words.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South) : Mr. President, I may frankly state that in the course of my speech, while referring to the salary of the Director of Development, I had paid him a personal compliment. I stated that he was a gentleman of very amiable character and amiable disposition, and I also stated that I should desire that his example might be emulated by some other gentlemen on the opposite benches. I find, Sir, very shortly after those remarks, that those remarks were not deserved. So far as this debate is concerned, as the leader of the Swaraj party said yesterday, I am not going to follow the example of the Director of Development. I would remember the words which the leader of the Swaraj party spoke yesterday that we must remember that we are Indians and that courtesy, personal particularly, so far as personal allegations are concerned, is inborn amongst Indians. If it is wanting in other nations, we cannot help it. But I must refute, and very emphatically refute, the charge which the Director of Development has sought to make against me without indulging in any strong language, since he has already withdrawn his remarks. I might have used much stronger language.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : That incident is closed.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : I have treated it as closed, but it is open to me to refute the charge which I consider to be unfounded. He says that I made vague allegations without having any reasons to believe them and without being prepared to prove them. I refute those charges, and I will ask the honourable House, particularly this side of the House, to judge whether I am in the right or they (the Government) are right. I never expressed my inability or reluctance to prove them. I demanded a public enquiry, which I have been calling for for the last 12 months. And I have had a resolution passed, asking, requesting, appealing to give me an opportunity to prove those charges. They refused it. Does it lie in their mouth now to say that I am not prepared to prove the charges? I am prepared to prove them at any moment, but give me an opportunity to do so. They can indulge in any number of abuses they like, but not having given me an opportunity to prove my charges, it does not lie in their mouth to say that I cannot prove my charges. I have got information and materials, but if Government are not prepared to give me an opportunity to prove them, they must take the verdict of the public which is certainly against them and which they deserve. (Interruption). I am not going to take any notice of the mutterings from the other side.

Coming to the merits of the question and the charges that I have made, I find, Sir, that they have been admitted. All the charges have been admitted, although they were "indefinite and vague". What is

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

the explanation ? Has the honourable member the Director of Development, in the heat and excitement of the language that he has used.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Please do not refer to it now.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : In the heat and excitement forgotten to make any defence ? What is the explanation that he has given of the charges that I have made, not vague but specific, not anonymous but made in person by me standing before you, call it despicable or what you like. I am here to discharge my duty. The charges are specific, made in my own person, openly, and without any anonymity about them. How have the charges been met ? They have not explained how that little, trifling error occurred. What is the explanation that we want—how the figure in an indent which was already prepared by another officer happened to be changed and altered by another officer. The facts are admitted that the figure was altered, perhaps by some method or other, but the loss which would undoubtedly occur may have been averted. On account of the cleverness of some other gentleman, it is plausible that the loss is averted, but the fact remains that an indent figure was deliberately altered, but still the bars did arrive and they were of the size which was not required. On account of this serious mistake they did alter their plan. These are facts. No matter the loss. The mistake occurred and the question is, was it a real mistake or was it anything else ?

Then the honourable member the Development Director has stated that there have been instances in the very few cases and that is my complaint that the heads of the departments, have not kept themselves in direct touch with the inner working of the department so as to be able to correct the mistakes which they might have been able to detect. He accepted that there has been a loss ; ordinarily, in other commercial firms we would have expected greater care than these trustees of public funds. He has admitted that it is a transaction which resulted in not accepting the tender of the lowest standard ; I ask whether in the ordinary course of business such a transaction would not require some explanation. The facts have been admitted that they have accepted higher tenders for good reasons. But are they good reasons ? I do say that the tenders were accepted at much higher rate than Rs. 30,000 per chawl, while lower tenders were not accepted. From our point of view we state that there were very good reasons. You did not give us these reasons, you did not give us an opportunity to examine your records or those gentlemen as to why they did not accept the lower tenders, and you turn round and say that we are not prepared to prove the charge. I refute that charge. I cannot state to-day what I have stated before, but I am prepared under all the circumstances standing alone as I do, with all the record and the staff in their possession, I am still prepared to prove if they give us an opportunity that the assertions that I have made are true.

Now, Sir, as regards the other points that have been raised I was surprised that so many arguments have been raised, the honourable member from Poona pointed out figure by figure how retrenchment can be effected. I am glad to hear the announcement that the salary of the

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

Director is to be reduced. I would have been more glad if I had heard that he had made that proposal voluntarily. But as it is this reduction has been imposed upon him and that loses all its grace, but all the same we are glad that a little saving is effected. But I regret that there is no other saving which is expected by similar reduction made from the salaries of other officers.

Then, Sir, we are waiting for that announcement even if it could be made after a few months about the claims of Indians so far as the services are concerned. Apart from the reduction in the salary of the staff I am more anxious to hear an announcement of the claims of Indians. My honourable friend from Poona has put a pertinent question on the point. He must be aware of the feelings in the country. It is Indian money spent on Indian soil. It is not such a special department as they could not find Indians to manage. It might have been so in the beginning, but I can name a number of Indians in this city and that several of these gentlemen are ready to be employed in this department. I do not wish to make out a racial question. I put it on the question of claim. They claim it in their own country. Other nations claim it in their own country. Why should not Indians claim it in their own country? So far as services are concerned first preference should be given to Indians, and failing Indians it matters not whether they come from Timbuctoo or any other country.

As regards the final vote, I am not going to appeal to any honourable member. I will not canvas for a single vote. Honourable members know their responsibility. They have heard both the sides and I leave it to their good judgment to judge which side they vote for. I am addressing both the sides. I hope they will give a vote that will only enhance their self-respect in the sense that your resolution has been flouted and no reason has been given, and secondly on the merits I claim that this motion should be accepted.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Mr. President, my honourable friend Mr. Nariman has made or tried to make a great point of Government not having appointed a committee in response to his resolution. But, Mr. President, that is old history, and I did not wish to rake up that old subject again, and although I merely alluded to it in my opening remarks, my honourable friend compels me to again remind the House of the circumstances under which that resolution was carried and what undertaking I gave on that occasion. The resolution which has been submitted to the Advisory Committee is a very wide one, and gives every member of the committee an opportunity of going into the working of the department in detail. Such a resolution.....

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: Sir, on a point of information, will the Honourable the General Member state what were the terms of reference to the Advisory Committee?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: I will read them:

"That in view of the conclusions arrived at during the period of war boom that the land available in Bombay was inadequate having proved erroneous, this Council recommends to Government that a committee with a non-official majority, be forthwith appointed to enquire into the activities of the Development Department as to how far and in what directions such activities should be continued or eliminated."

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

I contend that this reference gives a member of the Advisory Committee every right to go into every detail as to the expenditure on suburban schemes or any other schemes. Well, Sir, when the honourable member Mr. Nariman moved his resolution, some honourable member from the opposite side desired that honourable members of this Council should be associated with the Advisory Committee, and on account of the unanimous expression of opinion from all honourable members on the opposite benches, Government invited four honourable members from the opposite side to join this committee to dispose of this particular reference. One of these honourable members was my honourable friend Mr. Nariman. Another was my honourable friend Mr. Hooseinbhooy A. Lalljee. These honourable members refused to serve on the Committee, and now the honourable member Mr. Nariman comes forward and asks and demands to know why they were not given an opportunity of going into all his allegations. He has had the opportunity and he has not availed himself of it, and I contend he has deliberately not availed himself of it. There may be reasons best known to himself ; but I feel now after his speech to-day that he only desires to make allegations in this House, vague allegations, and does not wish to place himself in the position of being called upon to prove them down to the hilt. And that is the reason why he refused.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : Sir, on a point of information, was the Advisory Committee to which the honourable member referred appointed in terms of that resolution of this House or prior to that resolution ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangir : My honourable friend Mr. Jayakar knows the circumstances of the case completely, and he has heard the debate which took place. It was my honourable friend who suggested that these four names should be added to the committee ; that committee was appointed long ago ; the reference that I have spoken about was made before the resolution was moved. But the four gentlemen were invited after the resolution was passed.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE : Sir, the Honourable the General Member has said that I have refused to join the Advisory Committee. I say I was never invited to join. I wanted to join a committee that was suggested by this House ; and if the Honourable the General Member will read my letter, the Council will be convinced.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : If you will permit me, Sir, I want to give an explanation. When this invitation was issued to me, I made a reference to Government whether they were prepared to have my resolution referred to the committee. I made it quite clear in the correspondence that if Government gave me an opportunity of investigating into the working of the department I was prepared to join it, but that I was not prepared to join a merely advisory committee to consider whether the works should proceed or not. My suggestion to have my resolution referred to the committee was not accepted, and the investigation was not accepted. That was the reason why I could not accept the invitation.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Mr. President, it is quite true that my honourable friend Mr. Nariman did ask one question before he refused to serve. But the fact remains that he refused to come on to this committee and investigate all these allegations which he has now made. He could have gone into the question whether there was bribery and corruption amongst the staff, whether our officers received commissions from manufacturers. He did not desire to do that, and several honourable members on the opposite side and some honourable members on this side have a very shrewd idea as to why he refused, and, now, Sir, to come forward and make allegations of the character he has made, to say that our officers take commissions

Mr. G. I. PATEL : I did not refer to it.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : I do not include my honourable friend Mr. Patel.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : So far as Mr. Patel is concerned, the question is disposed of. He never made the allegation.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : I must state that the honourable member representing the Ahmedabad Millowners' Association never made any allegations. I say, Sir, if those allegations are to be made in the House, I want my honourable friend to mention the name of only one officer. The law protects him : he cannot be sued for libel if he mentions names in this House. Let him mention the name of only one officer who has taken commissions and one manufacturer who has given them. I am not asking for a dozen names. I am asking only for one instance. Let him mention it, and if he can conclusively prove it, I undertake to see that that officer is dismissed and the manufacturer is openly exposed. Let him give the name of one officer and one manufacturer and prove his case, and see if Government do not take exemplary steps which will be an example to the rest of the officers of Government. But, Sir, I have grown old hearing allegations of this kind, not only in Government service, but as a commercial man. I have grown old hearing allegations made against my own private servants, my managers and others. How often have I been told that they were corrupt ; how often did I try to catch them and failed ? I have found that most of those allegations were made by interested people, because an officer had refused to do something, and most allegations came from dismissed servants. Most probably if we go a little further into these allegations, we will find that they have their source and foundation in dismissed servants of Government, servants most probably who have been dismissed because their honesty has been doubted, and who in their turn try to fling mud at those who remain in Government service. I ask my honourable friend, in the interests of Government, in the interests of the opposite benches, to give one name to me privately, if not publicly, and I promise him that I will give him every assistance, and I feel sure my honourable friend sitting behind me (Sir Lawless Hepper) will also give him every assistance to try and prove any allegations, not only in public, not only before this House, but even privately. I am prepared to say that I will take such action as will give him satisfaction, provided

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

he proves his allegations. But I will ask him not to make such allegations till he is prepared to mention the names either openly or privately.

Now, I will just come to the question of cement contracts, which have been criticised both in the standing committee of the Corporation and in this House. My honourable friend the Director of Development was on leave when this occurred, and, therefore, he was not in any way responsible for this transaction. I think honourable members are fully aware of the terms of the contract that Government have made with the four cement companies. At least the Standing Committee of the Municipality were aware of those terms. One of these cement companies was not working to the satisfaction of either the agents of the company or to the satisfaction of the Development Department, and we saw there was every possibility that they would not be able to turn out cement of the quality we required and which they had guaranteed to supply. And although we have got a chemist to examine all the cement that comes from these factories, it is always unsatisfactory to know that we get cement from a factory which may at any moment be unable to turn out the required quality. In the contract there is also a term that if any one company out of the four fails to fulfil the terms of the contract, the full amount required by the Development Director is to be distributed amongst the other three. Therefore, we were prevented from getting rid of this company altogether and from going into the open market for one-fourth of the quantity we required. But there was another cement company which was prepared to take the place of this company which was really tottering, and they came forward with very good terms. They offered to supply cement as cheaply as any of the other companies and of the same quality, and we had actually to go to the other three companies and obtain their sanction before we could substitute the new company instead of the old one. If they had refused the sanction, the three cement companies could have divided our demand of cement among themselves and we could never have been able to go into the open market for one-fourth of the quantity, according to our agreement. Therefore, Mr. President, I contend that the Government did the best they could under the circumstances in substituting a sound company producing good quality (An Honourable Member: What is the rate?). It is a sliding scale. The honourable member can find that from the proceedings of the last session when the honourable member the Director gave details about it.

Now, Sir, the Director of Development has already dealt with a good many of the points that have been raised. I will now deal with a few points raised by my honourable friend Mr. Baptista. He has blamed Government for having constructed these chawls themselves. He said that they should have left it to the owners of factories, when they were prepared to take the responsibility. There is some truth in what my honourable friend has said. There was a time when it might have been possible to persuade the millowners of Bombay to take up some chawls on long lease, paying a part of the loss that we will have to face on these one-room tenements. But I regret to say that that scheme fell through

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

as the Government of India did not approve of it. Therefore, it was no fault of this Government that that scheme did not go through. The Government of India felt that one of the results of that scheme would have been that industrialists would have been owners of very large properties in Bombay; of land which would have been acquired under the Land Acquisition Act or from the Improvement Trust, and they thought according to the views held by many politicians, both in England and in India, that industrialists should not be given facilities to own large properties. That, Mr. President, was the reason which prompted the Government of India to refuse this scheme. The next best thing had to be done, and a tax was levied and it was always intended and always thought, that a part of the tax, if not the whole of it, would come out of the pockets of the millowners of Bombay and that the millowners of Bombay were being made to pay their contribution towards these chawls through this tax. There is always a difference of opinion as to the incidence of taxation and I have already explained this question only a few months ago. But, Mr. President, we cannot go on discussing the incidence of taxation. It is a subject which we can discuss for hours and hours, and years and years and yet we may not be able to agree. It was discussed, believe me, *ad nauseum*, when this tax was introduced. The owners of factories contended it would come out of their pockets; the agriculturists contended that it would come out of theirs. I refuse to enter into that discussion. The incidence of taxation cannot be discussed in a few minutes. But it was always the intention of Government that the millowners should make a contribution towards these chawls. My honourable friend Mr. Baptista has charged us with not keeping faith in the matter of spending money out of this cotton cess. Every rupee of that part of the cess which was intended to be used for the housing of workmen, will be and is being used for that purpose, but owing to the rise in the cost of building material, labour and other things, the estimates have risen and the chawls are costing Government more now than we thought they would in 1918 and 1919. Therefore, the same amount of cotton cess does not go as far as we thought it would in 1918. If my honourable friend opposite is prepared to persuade this House to increase the cotton cess, as he says we ought to in his minute of dissent, Government will certainly consider the question. Government are committed to no definite policy as regards the increase of the cotton cess. They are committed to only one definite policy; that policy is that they will not construct any more tenements until the tenements under construction have all been finished and occupied and there is a further demand for them. Once the tenements under construction are finished, once we know the actual cost, once we know what actual rent we can get for them, then it will be time to consider both for this honourable House and for Government whether we should construct any more chawls. That is the policy of Government. But if my honourable friend is under any misapprehension that Government propose to use that part of this cotton cess which is earmarked for industrial Housing, for any other purpose than meeting the loss on these

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

one-room tenements, he is entirely mistaken. But we cannot lower the rent unless we have some surplus from the cotton cess which will enable us to do so. If we go on building one-room tenements which will swallow up the whole of the cotton cess, then how are we going to lower the rent? Without other sources of revenue, how can we build other rooms?

Mr. J. BAPTISTA: By way of explanation, Sir, I would just state that my point was that you were getting so much from this cess: Are you using that amount to no other purpose but to reduce the rents? Are you using the full amount that you receive from this cess or not?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: We are using the full amount. There may be a lakh or more left over. There may be only a couple or two or three lakhs left over. It is nothing, it is a flea-bite. We are using every bit of this cotton cess, and if honourable members will just realise that we are bearing a loss of about Rs. 5 per room, they will appreciate the position. We are letting the rooms at Rs. 10-8 and the economic rent per room is really Rs. 15-8 or Rs. 16. We are losing that difference of Rs. 5 or Rs. 6 per room every month, and all that loss has to be met by Government from the cotton cess. I can guarantee not to use a pie out of that part of the cess earmarked for tenements, for any other purpose than meeting the loss on these tenements.....

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: On a point of explanation, my honourable friend Mr. Baptista's point was, if I understood him right, that this amount of 2 or 3 lakhs, or whatever it is, which the honourable the General Member says is left over, should go towards a further continued reduction of the rents for these tenements. What is the honourable member's answer to that?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: My answer to that is this. Till all these chawls are completed and we have seen what they actually cost us, we cannot go into this question of lowering the rents. But in the interval if Government come to the conclusion that more rooms ought to be built, then they cannot reduce the rent. Until the present tenements are all completed and until we know what they actually cost, we cannot immediately go and lower the rents. But I do promise to consider the question and I may state that personally I am inclined to favour the proposal to lower rents if it is possible to do so; but unless I have all the figures worked out and placed before me, I cannot and Government as a whole cannot come to any conclusion on this important question.

Now, Sir, there is just one more point that I should like to refer to, as my honourable friend has referred to it in his reply. He talked about accepting the lowest tender and the reply to that was that invariably the lowest tender has always been accepted in the Development Department but there may be an exception here and there, and there are always very good reasons for it. We will be ready always to place before this House the reasons if honourable members will only ask why an exception was made in any particular case. But my honourable friend said in his reply that we had refused to accept the lowest tender for some one room tenements. I do not know what case he refers to; he stated that

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

the lowest tender was Rs. 30,000 lower per chawl than the tender we had accepted. Now, Sir, in reply to that allegation—I do not know what he is referring to—may I just inform the House that a chawl costs about Rs. 90,000 and if the Development Department accepted a tender which was higher than the lowest by Rs. 30,000, then there must be something wrong in my honourable friend's information.

Now, Sir, since the last budget discussion in this honourable House, I think at least a large number of my honourable friends who view our actions impartially will be pleased to admit that we have done our best to retrench, and if we had not done so, we could not have placed the budget which we have placed before you to-day. We could not have shown a reduction in this current year of about Rs. 60 lakhs and made a demand for 1 crore and 18 lakhs less than we did last year. Under these circumstances, I do hope that this honourable House will pass the demand. We have undertaken to do our best, and I think, we have given some proof of our *bona fides*—all I say is that we will continue our retrenchment policy throughout the next year, but we can give no guarantee as to the exact amount of retrenchment that we can make. As we go on examining one item after another, we will go on retrenching wherever possible and the House may rest assured that the retrenchment policy of Government will continue.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA: By way of explanation, does this reduction of Rs. 60 lakhs mean that the expenditure is to be reduced by 60 lakhs, or is it going to be postponed till another year?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: No; it is the abandoning of schemes, with a consequent retrenchment in establishment.

Question put: That the total demand for Development be reduced by Rs. 61,99,000. House divided. Ayes, 33. Noes, 48. Motion lost.

Division No. 7.

Ayes.

ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
ANGADI, Mr. S. N.
BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JOG, Mr. V. N.
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.
KARKI, Mr. M. D.
KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.
MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS.
NANAL, Mr. B. R.

NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
PATEL, Mr. D. N.
PATEL, Mr. G. I.
PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
POWAR, Mr. M. B.
PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
SAHERA, Mr. H. D.
SAPTARSHI, Mr. C. M.
SARDESAI, Mr. S. A.
SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
SURVE, Mr. V. A.
SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI.

Tellers for the Ayes: Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI and Mr. G. I. PATEL.

Noes.

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
AHMAD, MOULVI RAFUDDIN.
BHURGRI, Mr. J. M.

BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
BIJARANI, Khan Saheb SHER MAHOMED
KHAN.
BOLE, Mr. S. K.

Noes—contd.

| | |
|--|---|
| CLAYTON, Mr. F. | LINFORD, Mr. J. W. |
| COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B. | MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUARO, Mr. |
| DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A. | MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V. |
| DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K. | MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A. |
| FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS. | MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J. |
| FRAMJI, Mr. K. S. | OWEN, Mr. A. C. |
| GHOSAL, Mr. J. | PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED KHAN. |
| GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH. | PATIL, Mr. D. R. |
| GIBSON, Mr. R. E. | PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E. |
| GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A. | Pir RASULBAKSH SHAH. |
| HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C. | PRATT, Mr. F. G. |
| HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE | SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH. |
| HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS | SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB. |
| HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B. | SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO, Mr. |
| HUDSON, Mr. L. S. | SHINDE, Mr. R. D. |
| JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V. | SURVE, Mr. A. N. |
| JATOL, Khan Saheb HAJI SERAI IMAN BAKSH. | THOMAS, Mr. G. A. |
| JATOL, Khan Saheb KAREMBAKSH. | TURNER, Mr. C. W. A. |
| JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI. | WILES, Mr. G. |
| KAY, Mr. J. A. | WOODS, Mr. E. E. |
| LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S. | |

Tellers for the Noes : Mr. J. A. KAY and Mr. L. S. HUDSON.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Sir, I made a demand for Rs. 1,47,75,000. With the reduction of Rs. 3 lakhs, I now ask for a demand of Rs. 1,44,75,000.

Question put and demand granted.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Mr. President, I ask for a demand of Rs. 2,91,000 under the head 56A, Capital outlay on improvement on public health. Out of this money Rs. 1,10,000 will be spent on the Poona drainage works, and Rs. 1,81,000 on the improvement of the Poona water-supply. The Poona water improvement scheme is a self-supporting scheme. There is a great demand for more water, and in order to meet that demand we are going to have this improvement. But, at the same time, in order to make the scheme self-supporting, we are raising the rates from 6 annas to 8 annas per thousand gallons. I hope, therefore, the House will grant the demand.

Question proposed.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind): Sir, I rise to a point of order. Unless the Government gives a definite statement, I do not know how we can deal with these grants. If you refer to page 251 of the White Book, you will find that the total under 56A, Capital Outlay on improvements on public health, is Rs. 25,63,000. It consists of 10 items, the first two and last four of which as given there are transferred and the remaining four are reserved.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: From the papers that are placed on my table I find that the amounts constituting the demand are Rs. 1,000, Rs. 70,000, Rs. 40,000 and Rs. 1,80,000, which are all transferred. There is no amendment to any one of the items.

If there is no amendment to the demand, it would be much better to put it separately, as there are two different members of Government

[The President]

dealing with the two departments, one transferred and the other reserved. There are amendments to the reserved part of it.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : There is an amendment with regard to the transferred part also. It is one of the new items shown in the Blue Book with regard to which there is a motion.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I think, Sir, the demands of the transferred departments are separate from the demands of the reserved departments in the Blue Book though shown together on page 251 of the White Book.

An Honourable MEMBER : Sir, the Council clock has stopped. It is now three minutes to seven o'clock.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : As it is 7 o'clock, I will now adjourn the House till to-morrow, and we will deal with the subject then.

The Council is now adjourned to 2 p.m. to-morrow, Wednesday, the 4th March 1925.

4 MAR. 1925]

Wednesday, the 4th March 1925.

The Council re-assembled at the Town Hall, Bombay, at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, the 4th March 1925, the Honourable the President, Sir IBRAHIM RAHIMTOOLA, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
 ABDULPURKAR, Mr. N. A.
 ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
 AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
 ANGADI, Mr. S. N.
 BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
 BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
 BHURGRI, Mr. J. M.
 BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
 BIJARANI, Khan Saheb SHER MAHOMED KHAN
 BOLE, Mr. S. K.
 CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
 CLAYTON, Mr. F.
 COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
 DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
 DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
 DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
 DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
 DEV, Mr. S. S.
 DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
 FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
 FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
 GHOSAL, Mr. J.
 GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH
 GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
 GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
 GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
 HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
 HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
 HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
 HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
 HUDSON, Mr. L. S.
 JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
 JATOI, Khan Saheb HAJI SERAI IMAMBAKSH
 JATOI, Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH
 JAYAKAR,, Mr. M. R.
 JEHANGIR the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
 JOG, Mr. V. N.
 JOSHI, P. G.
 KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.

KARKI, Mr. M. D.
 KAZI INAITULLAKHAN
 KOKANI, Mr. G. J.
 KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
 LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
 LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.
 LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 LINFORD, Mr. J. W.
 MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUERO, Mr.
 MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
 MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUKHI, JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
 NANAL, Mr. B. R.
 NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
 NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
 NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
 OWEN, Mr. A. C.
 PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
 PATEL, Mr. A. E.
 PATEL, Mr. D. N.
 PATEL, Mr. G. I.
 PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED KHAN
 PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
 PATIL, Mr. D. R.
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 PIR RASULBAKSH SHAH
 POWAR, Mr. M. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 PRATT, Mr. F. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSENALLY M.
 SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
 SAPTARSHI, Mr. C. M.
 SARDESAI, Mr. S. A.
 SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH
 SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
 SURVE, Mr. A. N.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.
 SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI

THAKOR OF KERWADA, the
 THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
 TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
 VELKAR, Dr. M. B.
 WILES, Mr. G.
 WOODS, Mr. E. E.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order. Questions.

AHMEDABAD MILL ACCIDENT.

* Mr. S. K. BOLE: Will Government be pleased to state (a) whether any inquiry was made regarding the mill accident that took place in Ahmedabad in the month of July last?

(b) If so, what were the conclusions arrived at?

(c) What was the amount of compensation paid to the families of those who were killed and to those who suffered injuries?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: (a) and (b) Already replied to.

(c) A total amount of Rs. 16,910 was paid as compensation. Out of this Rs. 16,565 were paid to the dependents of those killed and Rs. 345 to those who suffered injuries.

BIRTH PLACE OF SHIVAJI.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware that the fort of Shivneri near Junnar, which is the birth-place of Shree Shivaji Maharaj, is in a dilapidated condition;

(b) if so, do they propose to take any steps in the matter; and if so, what steps do they propose to take?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: (a) Yes.

(b) Government have undertaken repairs to the building in which Shree Shivaji Maharaj was born.

EDUCATION OF THE DEPRESSED CLASSES.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state the amount annually spent on the education of the depressed classes during the last three years in East Khandesh.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Information has been called for.

PAY OF PATILS IN EAST KHANDESH.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state whether they have taken any steps to increase the remuneration of patils in East Khandesh, and, if so, what steps have they taken?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: No.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI : Why ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Because there is not much money.

Mr. D. R. PATIL : Is the question of financial stringency applicable to patils as well, though they get small remuneration ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : It is applicable to everybody.

GIRNA WATER SCHEME.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have received any representation from the Jalgaon Municipality in connection with Girna water scheme either for a loan or for a grant ?

(b) What is the result of that representation ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : The answer is in the negative.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR SCHOOL BUILDING BY PEOPLE OF AVANE.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the names and number of villages in East Khandesh which have deposited with Government subscriptions raised for school buildings ?

(b) What are the amounts of subscriptions raised for such purpose by the people of Avane, in Jalgaon taluka, and Hated Khurd and Budruk in Chopda taluka respectively ?

(c) With whom have these sums been deposited ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Information has been called for.

HIRED SCHOOL BUILDINGS IN EAST KHANDESH.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of villages in East Khandesh where schools are held in hired buildings ?

(b) In how many of such cases are the villagers required to pay the rent ?

(c) In how many of such villages have the villagers applied to the deputy educational inspector, East Khandesh, for the grant of the rent ?

(d) How many of such applications have been refused and what are the reasons therefor ?

(e) Has the district local board, East Khandesh, made provision for the payment of the rent in any such cases ?

(f) Are Government aware that a civil suit has been instituted against one of the school panchas of the vernacular school at Pimpalgaon (Hareswar) in Pachora taluka for the recovery of the rent of the hired building used for the school ?

(g) Is it a fact that several applications by the school panchas of this village for the grant of the rent were submitted to the deputy educational inspector, East Khandesh ?

(h) If so, what replies were given to them ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Enquiries are being made.

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS AT AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, POONA. :

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state whether they intend to add a complete course in agricultural economics to the curriculum of the Agricultural College, Poona ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: It is understood that the question of modifying the curriculum of studies for the degree of B.Ag., so as to make provision for a full course in agricultural economics is now under the consideration of the University. Provision for teaching the revised course approved by the University will be made by Government.

TIDES IN THE NORTHERN PART OF KOLABA DISTRICT.

Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI (Bombay City, South): Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that owing to the recent abnormal tides a good many khari lands and their bunds in the northern part of the Kolaba District have suffered damage ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Yes.

Mr. V. A. DABHOLKAR: What are the causes of these abnormal tides ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: That is more than I can answer.

Mr. V. A. DABHOLKAR: Is Government taking any steps ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: I am afraid Government is not taking any steps to prevent abnormal tides.

Mr. V. A. DABHOLKAR: Is it due to Back Bay Reclamation ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: I am not aware.

EDUCATIONAL GRANTS TO LOCAL BOARD SCHOOLS IN KAIRA DISTRICT.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state the amount of grant given by them for local board schools in the years 1920-21 and 1923-24 in the Kaira district for each of the following :—

- (a) purchase of furniture,
- (b) school prizes,
- (c) prizes to backward classes,
- (d) scholarships,
- (e) school library,
- (f) repairs to school buildings, and
- (g) construction of new buildings ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Information has been called for.

SAVINGS ON ACCOUNT OF VACANT POSTS OF TEACHERS IN KAIRA
LOCAL BOARD SCHOOLS.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state what saving was effected by keeping the posts of

teachers vacant in the Kaira local board schools during the year 1923-24 and during the current year up to the end of January 1925 ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Information has been called for.

RETIREMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS OF THIRD YEAR TRAINED TEACHERS IN GUJARAT.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state how many third year trained teachers have retired in 1923-24 and during the current year in Gujarat and how many new third year trained men have been newly appointed during these years ?

Will Government be pleased to give also similar figures for second year trained teachers during the same period in the Northern Division ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Information is being obtained.

SCIENCE TEACHING IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state how many recognised grant-in-aid and Government secondary schools are there where science is taught in this Presidency and how many of them were visited by the Inspector of Science Teaching in the year 1923-24 and during the current year ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Information is being obtained.

INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS BY INSPECTOR OF DRAWING AND CRAFT WORK.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state how many schools the present Inspector of Drawing and Craft Work visited in the year 1923-24 ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Information has been called for.

NATURE OF CRAFT WORK INSPECTED BY THE INSPECTOR OF DRAWING AND CRAFT WORK.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state the nature of craft work inspected by the Inspector of Drawing and Craft Work and the places where it is taught ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Information has been called for.

CO-ORDINATION OF WORK BY PRINCIPAL OF THE SCHOOL OF ART AND THE CONSULTING ARCHITECT TO GOVERNMENT.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state whether the Principal, School of Art, and the Consulting Architect to Government work in co-ordination ?

If so, how often was the advice of the Principal obtained by the Consulting Architect to Government ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Information has been called for.

**EXECUTION OF THE WORK THROUGH THE AGENCY OF THE
SCHOOL OF ART.**

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state whether any work was entrusted to the students and Principal, School of Art, for execution in any of the public buildings during the last four years; and, if so, the nature of the work executed through the agency of the School of Art?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Information has been called for.

BUNGALOW OCCUPIED BY MR. FERN OF THE SCHOOL OF ART.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the bungalow occupied by Mr. Fern of the School of Art is now used for keeping European boarders? If the answer is in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state whether the Principal, School of Art, has approved such a use of a public building within his compound?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Inquiries are being made.

**GOVERNMENT LAND BROUGHT UNDER CULTIVATION IN WEST
KHANDESH.**

* Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many acres of Government land have been newly brought under cultivation in West Khandesh in 1922-23 and 1923-24;

(b) the number of persons to whom the said land has been given for cultivation;

(c) how many of these persons are Hindus and how many are Mahomedans?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) Land given out for cultivation:—

| Year. | Permanent. | | Temporary. | | Total. | |
|---------|------------|----|------------|-----|--------|-----|
| | A. | g. | A. | g. | A. | g. |
| 1922-23 | 3,115 | 14 | 30,457 | 21½ | 33,572 | 35½ |
| 1923-24 | 5,165 | 28 | 47,442 | 8½ | 52,607 | 36½ |

(b) Number of grantees —

| Year. | Permanent. | Temporary. | Total. |
|---------|------------|------------|--------|
| 1922-23 | 121 | 2,528 | 2,649 |
| 1923-24 | 289 | 4,100 | 4,389 |

(c) Number of Hindu and Mahomedan grantees —

| Year. | Hindus. | | Temporary. | Total. |
|---------|------------|--|------------|--------|
| | Permanent. | | | |
| 1922-23 | 108 | | 2,432 | 2,540 |
| 1923-24 | 275 | | 3,941 | 4,216 |

*This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

Mahomedans.

| Year. | Permanent. | Temporary. | Total. |
|---------------|------------|------------|--------|
| 1922-23 | 13 | 96 | 109 |
| 1923-24 | 14 | 159 | 173 |

PRIVATE TUTORS.

* Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether any circular has recently been issued restricting the right of guardians of boys attending Government high schools to engage private tutors?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to lay a copy of the circular on the table?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) and (b) No such circular as is referred to in part (a) of the question has *recently* been issued. One was issued in 1910 in connection with the following Rule No. 1 of the General Rules of Discipline for Government schools published in Government notification, Educational Department, No. 1570-A, dated the 4th August 1909:—

“Parents or guardians who send their boys to Government schools must understand that by so doing they agree to delegate to the Head Master and the Educational authorities the control which they are entitled to exercise over such boys in all matters connected with such schools, and that in all questions of school discipline both inside and outside the schools the decision of those authorities is final.”

SHAHADA GOMAI CANAL IN WEST KHANDESH.

* Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(1) Whether they are aware that the Shahada Gomai Canal irrigates eight villages?

(2) Whether it is true that in 1923-24 the people of six out of these eight villages applied for the canal water and that their applications were granted?

(3) Whether it is true that shortly after it rained and the people of those six villages did not require the canal water and did not actually use it?

(4) If so, whether it is true that nevertheless water charges were recovered from the people?

(5) If so, what amount was thus recovered?

(6) Whether it is true that the Irrigators' Association, Shahada, recommended that the amount should be refunded?

(7) If so, has any action been taken on such recommendation?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: (1) There are eight branch channels of the Shahada Channel which irrigate lands in eight villages.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

(2) Applications for temporary irrigation for rabi season of 1923-24 were received from eight villages and not from six only and they were all granted.

(3) There was rainfall during the rabi season and the lands under some of the villages were not in need of canal water and in some cases canal water was not actually used.

(4) Demands for water rates were made as per Rule 26 (2) of the Bombay Canal Rules, 1922, published in the *Government Gazette* of the 8th February 1923, and also advertised locally by the local Public Works Department and Revenue officers.

(5) The aggregate sum demanded under the Rule 26 (2) referred to above from various irrigators under the Channel amounts to Rs. 916-15-0 as per assessment papers.

(6) and (7) The President, Gomai Pat Committee (Irrigators' Association), Shahada, had submitted certain cases for remission but as they came under the Rule 26 (2) referred to above, he was informed that no remission could be recommended.

Mr. S. S. DEV : Do Government then admit that the rules are so oppressive that although the agriculturists do not use the water, still they are required to pay the charges ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : They are not so oppressive as the honourable member tries to make out. The canals are there ; they use the canal water when they want it ; they do not use the water when they have good rainfall. The taxpayer pays for the canals all the same. If they once apply for water, then, even if the Almighty gives them rain, still they have to pay for the canal water.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI : Is not revenue being collected from these people though the water is not given to them ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : I do not think the revenue covers the water rates.

PROMOTION IN PROVINCIAL POLICE SERVICE.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District) : Will Government be pleased to state (a) whether any, and if so, what, decisions have been arrived at on the recommendations contained in paragraph 7, chapter III, annexure 16, of the Public Service Commission, relating to the promotion of persons directly recruited to the Provincial service ?

(b) Whether any senior officers of the Provincial Police Service have been passed over by their juniors on the ground that they were too senior to be appointed Assistant Superintendents of Police, and, if so, whether Government intend to take any action to redress the grievances of such officers ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : (a) The decision is that 11 per cent. of the total number of superior appointments in the Indian (Imperial) Police Service should be recruited by promotion from members of the Provincial Police Service but no part of this percentage has been specifically reserved either for Deputy Superintendents of

Police directly recruited or for those recruited from the rank of Inspectors. Selection for superior appointments is determined by seniority and merit irrespective of the method of recruitment.

(b) This question does not arise as it has been decided that Deputy Superintendents of Police should normally be promoted to superior posts in the Indian Police and not as Assistant Superintendents of Police. In *exceptional* cases when Deputy Superintendents of Police are promoted as Assistant Superintendents of Police, their promotion is reckoned against the 22 per cent. of posts reserved for direct Indian recruits and not against the 11 per cent. reserved for Deputy Superintendents of Police.

REPORT BY THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO ENQUIRE INTO THE
GRIEVANCES OF PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state (1) whether the committee appointed on 17th March 1924 to report on three issues regarding the case of primary teachers has submitted its report?

(2) If not, when is it likely to report?

(3) How many local bodies were consulted whether they would be able to bear the financial burden consequent upon the adoption of the Sathé-Paranjpye scale of pay?

(4) How many of them have replied in the affirmative and how many in the negative?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (1) No.

(2), (3) and (4) Information has been called for.

Mr. S. S. DEV: From whom has the information been called for?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: From the secretary of the committee.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: May I know the reasons why the report is not ready?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The report was ready. It was signed by the chairman, and it must be under circulation to the members.

Mr. S. S. DEV: Who is the chairman of the Committee?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Myself.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: Is it not a fact that the report has not even been sent to the members of that committee?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I am not aware of that. I will ask the secretary.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: Who is the secretary?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Mr. Hesketh.

Mr. S. S. DEV: Do not the chairman and secretary meet often?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Yes.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : May I know how many months it is since the report was signed by the chairman ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I cannot give the exact date.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : Approximately ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : It is more than two weeks.

VETERINARY DISPENSARIES IN WEST KHANDESH.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many veterinary dispensaries there are in West Khandesh and where they are located ;

(b) whether they are aware that there is no such dispensary at Nardana ;

(c) whether they are aware that the people of Nardana and of adjoining villages keenly feel the want of such a dispensary.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN :
(a) Five. They are located at Dhulia, Shirpur, Nandurbar, Sakti and Shahada.

(b) Yes.

(c) No. Under the rules for the working of the Civil Veterinary Department veterinary dispensaries are maintained by District Local Boards or Municipalities and Government gives grants-in-aid towards the maintenance.

The people of the area in question should therefore approach the District Local Board, West Khandesh, if they desire to have a dispensary at Nardana.

KITCHENS FOR TRAVELLERS' BUNGALOWS.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware that travellers' bungalows are very often used by people who are strictly vegetarians ?

(b) whether they are aware that there are no kitchen rooms attached to these bungalows which can be used for cooking vegetarian food and for dining purposes ?

(c) whether they are aware that the want of such kitchen rooms causes great inconvenience to those government officers and others who are vegetarians and are entitled to occupy the bungalows ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN :
The information has been called for.

STRICTURES AGAINST THE POLICE.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District) : Will Government be pleased to state whether any circulars or instructions have been issued to Magistrates and Judges directing them not to pass any strictures against the police in open court ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : The attention of the honourable member for the West Khandesh District is requested to High Court Circular No. 2800, dated the 19th September 1922.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN VILLAGES WITH A POPULATION OF 500
AND OVER IN WEST KHANDESH.

* Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state (1) whether there are any villages in the West Khandesh with a population of 500 or over which have yet got no schools?

(2) If so, will they be pleased to furnish names?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (1) Yes.

(2) A list† giving the names of such villages is laid on the Council Table.

AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS IN THE PRESIDENCY.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many agricultural schools are there in the presidency?

(b) where are they located?

(c) in what year was each school opened?

(d) the number of students for whom there is accommodation in each school?

(e) the number of students attending each school?

(f) the total annual expenditure over each school during the last three years? and

(g) how much of that expenditure was met by Government and how much by local bodies?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) Six.

(b) and (c). The location of, and the number of students at, the schools in 1922-23 are given below—

| | |
|---------------------|----|
| Loni | 49 |
| Devi Hossur | 21 |
| Godhra | 28 |
| Jambul | 25 |
| Dhulia | 10 |
| Surat | 15 |

(c) The schools were opened as follows—

| | |
|---------------------|---------|
| Loni | in 1910 |
| Devi Hossur | in 1914 |
| Jambul | in 1917 |
| Godhra | in 1920 |
| Dhulia | in 1922 |
| Surat | in 1922 |

| | |
|---------------------|----|
| (d) Loni | 50 |
| Devi Hossur | 30 |

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† Kept in the Secretary's office.

| | |
|----------------|----|
| Jambul | 30 |
| Godhra | 30 |
| Dhulia | 30 |
| Surat | 30 |

(f) and (g) The information will be found in the appendices to the reports of the Department of Agriculture for the years in question and in the Civil Budget Estimates of those years.

WATER ALLOWANCE AT NANDURBAR AND PAROLA.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware that generally from January to July every year drinking water at Nandurbar in West Khandesh and Parola in East Khandesh is not available within a mile from those places ?

(b) whether they give water allowance to their servants of the lower grade at these two places ?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: (a) Generally from February to July every year drinking water at Nandurbar is not available within a mile to the people who live in the Eastern and Northern parts of the town. As regards Parola the answer is in the negative.

(b) No.

Mr. D. R. PATIL: As regards (b), what is the reason for not giving water allowances to these poor servants ? Is the reason for it financial stringency ?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: I shall ask for notice of that question.

Mr. S. S. DEV: Is not the case of the Nandurbar servants very hard ? (No reply.)

PROVINCIAL POLICE SERVICE.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state (a) in what year the Secretary of State and the Government of India accorded sanction to a percentage of appointments in the superior cadre of the police service being reserved for members of the provincial police service ?

(b) What that percentage was and in what year effect was first given to those orders by the substantive promotion of provincial service officers ?

(c) If there was any delay in giving effect to those orders the reasons for the same ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that the original percentage of reserved posts in the superior scale was in 1921 raised to 11 per cent. or 8 appointments ?

(e) How many of these reserved appointments are to-day filled by officers promoted from the provincial service (i) substantively, (ii) officiating ?

(f) If any remain to be filled substantively, why they are not being filled immediately ?

(g) Whether since 1921, any of those 8 reserved appointments have been filled by the substantive promotion of officers of the grade of assistant superintendents of Police ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : (a) and (b) The Government of India issued orders in 1907 that the number of Deputy Superintendents permanently promoted to district charges should not exceed 5 per cent. of the number of Superintendents. It worked out to 1.6 or two appointments out of the cadre in the Bombay Presidency. Effect was first given to the orders in 1918. No percentage of superior appointments was definitely reserved till 1921 to Provincial Police Officers.

(c) It was not possible to give practical effect earlier because the Assistant Superintendents of Police recruited before the issue of the orders of 1907 had a prior right to be provided with District Superintendentship.

(d) The number of reserved appointments was raised to five when the percentage was raised to 11 per cent. in 1921.

(e) and (f) All of them are held substantively by members of the Provincial Service. Acting appointments are in addition made as required by the exigencies of the Public Service.

(g) None of those substantively appointed has yet retired.

MUSIC IN THE GANPATI PROCESSION AT NANDURBAR.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that on 30th August 1924, a public notice was issued at Nandurbar stating that owing to the tension of feeling between the Hindus and Mahomedans the playing of any kind of music before mosques was undesirable and prohibiting every kind of music including the playing of even Tipris while the Ganpati immersion procession was to pass in front of mosques at Nandurbar on 7th September 1924 ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that only four days later on 3rd September 1924, another public notice was issued cancelling the previous notice in so far as it related to the prohibition of the playing of Tipris ?

(c) If the reply to (a) and (b) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state the grounds for thus altering the original notice.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The District Magistrate did not hold " Tipris " to be musical instruments.

Mr. S. S. DEV : May I know who then had issued the first notice ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I cannot give you the name of the officer without notice.

AYURVEDIC DISPENSARIES AND SCHOOLS.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many Ayurvedic dispensaries and schools there are in the presidency ;

- (b) how many of them are exclusively maintained by local bodies ;
- (c) how many of them get any pecuniary help from Government ;
- (d) what is the total amount of such help rendered ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) and (b) No.

(c) and (d) Information is being obtained.

GRANTS TO VILLAGE PANCHAYATS IN THE POONA AND KOLABA DISTRICTS.

* Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District) : Will Government be pleased to state what grants were made to each village panchayat in the Poona and Kolaba districts by Government and by the district local boards concerned for the years 1922-23 and 1923-24 ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : No grants have been made by Government. As regards District Local Boards' grants the information is contained in the attached statement.†

KHED VILLAGE PANCHAYAT ELECTION.

* Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether their attention has been drawn to an article published in the *Kesari* dated 2nd September 1924, on the election of the members of the Khed Village Panchayat ?

(b) Did the Collector of Poona receive any memorials from any inhabitants of Khed, taluka Khed, district Poona, complaining against irregularities in the said election and praying for a fresh election ?

(c) If so, what action has been taken or is intended to be taken thereon ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : (a) No.

(b) A memorial was received by the Collector through the President, District Local Board, Poona. The facts of the case are briefly as under :

On a resolution passed by the Village Panchayat of Khed for the exclusion of Wadis from the village, the President, District Local Board, Poona, proposed that the number of Members of the Panchayat should be reduced from 11 to 9 in proportion to the population as decided in the Board's previous resolution passed in accordance with section 4 of the Village Panchayat Act, and that owing to the change in the boundaries of the Village Panchayat, a fresh voters' list should be prepared for the curtailed area and fresh elections held. Out of the 11 Members only one was a resident of a Wadi and he could not continue as member under section 6 (c) and the Collector held that under section 10 of the Village Panchayats Act, the term of office of the Members already elected was ordinarily 3 years and that a Panchayat could only be superseded for the reasons given in section 36 of the Act, which did not exist in the case.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 50.

Although under section 4 of the Act the power of determining the number of persons of whom the panchayat is to consist vests in the District Local Board that body has no power to vary the number so fixed during the pendency of the triennium for which a panchayat has been elected. The Collector has therefore now been asked to fill up the vacancy of the 11th member who was disqualified under section 6 (c) of the Act.

SURVEY SETTLEMENT IN INAM VILLAGES.

* Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): (a) Will Government be pleased to furnish the names of those inam villages of the Khed Taluka of the Poona District in which no original survey settlement has yet been introduced ?

(b) Have Government taken any steps to persuade the inamdars of such inam villages to get the survey settlement introduced into their villages ?

(c) If so, what are the difficulties put forth by such inamdars regarding the introduction of survey settlement into their villages and what steps have Government taken to remove their difficulties ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) (1) Askhed budruk, (2) Goregaon khurd, (3) Chikhalgaon, (4) Torne budruk, (5) Pangri, (6) Palu, (7) Bhavdi, (8) Surkundi, (9) Kanhewad budruk, (10) Kanhewadi khurd, (11) Ghotavdi, (12) Dehane and (13) Viram.

(b) All possible steps have been taken from time to time to persuade the inamdars to get survey introduced in their inam villages but without effect.

(c) Some inamdars put forward imaginary difficulties with a view to avoiding survey operations. A few others refuse to accept a survey in order to evade the payment of remuneration to village officers at an increased scale which is inevitable after the settlement is made. The main difficulty in the case of many inam villages is the present rule under which no survey can be introduced without the consent of all recognised sub-sharers. It is almost impossible to get all sub-sharers to agree to settlement owing to differences and quarrels among them.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR: Are Government considering any measure for compulsorily introducing survey settlement into the unsurveyed Inam villages in spite of the opposition of some of the sub-sharers in those villages ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: I should like to have notice of that question.

GRANT OF PASTURE LAND TO RETIRED POLICE INSPECTOR, HAVERI CIRCLE.

* Mr. V. N. JOG (Dharwar District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that about 68 acres of pasture land situate at Kerimattihalli in the Karajgi taluka, Dharwar District, set apart

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

for cattle has been granted to the retired Police Inspector, Haveri Circle, very recently ?

(ii) If so, will Government be pleased to state whether the rayats of the said village of Kerimattihalli were consulted before the grant was made as to whether there was land sufficient for grazing cattle ; and if so, whether they were in favour of the grant being made ?

(iii) Will Government be pleased to state (a) what is the total quantity of pasture land in Kerimattihalli after this grant, (b) what is the number of cattle in the village, and (c) what are the total acreages of cultivated and cultivable land in the village ?

(iv) Will Government be pleased to state what useful service the said Inspector of Police rendered to Government or to the public to deserve the said grant of land ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : (i) No land has been granted to the retired Police Inspector, Haveri Circle, but an area measuring 54 acres and 14 gunthas of pasture land situated at Kerimattihalli has been sold to him.

(ii) The villagers were consulted and they had no objection to the sale. There is sufficient grazing area for the needs of the village.

(iii) (a) the total pasture area now left to the village is 258 acres and 32 gunthas,

(b) the total number of cattle in the village is 449,

(c) the total cultivable area is 1,493 acres and 21 gunthas out of which 1,226 acres and 25 gunthas were cultivated last year.

(iv) No free grant was made.

ALTERED ASSESSMENT IN EAST KHANDESH.

* Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the existing rates of altered land revenue assessment in the East Khandesh district, and

(b) whether any separate rates of altered assessment exist for working quarries in East Khandesh and if so, what are those rates ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) Standard rates of altered assessment have been fixed for some villages under Government Resolutions No. 291, dated 11th January 1911 and 6258 of 3rd July 1911 as shown below :—

| Names of villages. | Taluka or Peta. | Standard rate |
|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | | per acre. Ra. |
| Amalner | Amalner | 16 |
| Jalgaon | Jalgaon | 20 |
| Dharangaon | Erandol | 16 |
| Chalisgaon | Chalisgaon | 16 |
| Pachora | Pachora | 16 |
| Satare | Bhusawal | 25 |
| Bodwad | Bhusawal | 16 |

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

| Names of villages. | Taluka or Peta. | Standard rate per acre. Rs. |
|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Yawal .. | Yawal .. | 12 |
| Tongaon .. | Bhadgaon .. | 10 |
| Karab .. | Bhadgaon .. | 10 |
| Bhusawal .. | Bhusawal .. | 25 |

For the remaining villages altered assessment is charged under rule 81 of the Land Revenue Rules, viz. :—

For villages in Class I .. Rs. 10 per acre or 10 times the agricultural assessment, whichever be the greater.

For villages in Class II .. Rs. 5 per acre or 5 times the agricultural assessment, whichever be the greater.

For villages in Class III .. Rs. 2 per acre or 3 times the agricultural assessment, whichever be the greater.

For villages in Class IV .. Re. one per acre or twice the agricultural assessment, whichever be the greater.

For villages in Class V .. The agricultural assessment only.

(b) Special rates for quarrying have been sanctioned under Government Resolution No. 7471-B of 28th March 1923 for the following villages and are given below :—

| Village. | Taluka. | Rate sanctioned per acre. Rs. |
|----------------|------------|----------------------------------|
| Manyarkheda .. | Jalgaon .. | 80 |
| Nimkhedi .. | Do. .. | 160 |
| Meherun .. | Do. .. | 160 |
| Jalgaon .. | Do. .. | 160 |
| Pimprala .. | Do. .. | 160 |

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : May I know whether any objections were called for before these rates were sanctioned ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I should like to have notice.

Mr. D. R. PATIL : May I know whether there are any special reasons for fixing the rate of altered assessment for Satara and Bhusawal at Rs. 25 ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I should like to have notice. This was fixed in 1911.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : May I know whether this Government Resolution was issued under the Land Revenue Code ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Yes ; I believe so.

Mr. D. R. PATIL : Is it a rule of Government to invite objections before revised assessment is sanctioned ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I have already stated that I should have notice of the question.

INTEREST ON TAGAI LOANS THROUGH CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact the tagai loans advanced through the co-operative banks to members of the co-operative societies are in practice charged an interest at more than nine and three-eighth per cent. per annum?

(b) If so, whether these loans are advanced for the purpose of land improvement?

(c) whether it is a fact that the tagai loans advanced to ryots by Government directly through the revenue authorities are charged interest at $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum?

(d) If the replies to (a), (b) and (c) be in the affirmative, do Government intend to take any action as regards (a)?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: (a) The rate charged by co-operative societies on tagavi loans out of the amounts advanced to them through co-operative banks is the same as their ordinary lending rate.

(b) The answer is in the affirmative.

(c) The rate of interest on loans advanced by Government directly through revenue authorities has recently been reduced from $8\frac{1}{2}$ to 7.29 per cent.

(d) The Registrar has already advised societies to modify their bye-laws so as to allow them to advance tagavi loans at the same rate at which Government advances such loans to ryots directly. Societies have been modifying their bye-laws accordingly and are thus enabled to advance these loans at 7.29 per cent.

LOCAL BODIES: INTRODUCTION OF COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state what local bodies have so far actually introduced compulsory education?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The honourable member's attention is invited to clause (a) of the reply* given to question put by Mr. Shankarrao Jayaramrao Zunzarrao (Thana and Bombay

* The following question and answer were printed in the 1st List of Questions and Answers:—

EDUCATION IN MUNICIPAL AREAS.

Mr. SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts): Will Government be pleased to give a statement of—

(a) the municipalities that have introduced free and compulsory primary education,

(b) municipalities that have made primary education free, and

(c) the municipalities that have imposed an educational cess or rate?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) Byadgi, Bandra, Satara, Surat and Dhulia.

(b) Northern Division—Ahmedabad, Ankleshwar, Bhiwandi, Dakor, Kalyan, Modasa, Rander, Thana.

Central Division—Alandi, Islampur, Sholapur.

Southern Division—Athni, Haliyal, Honavar, Matheran, Panvel, Sirsi, Hyderabad.

Sind—Hyderabad.

(c) The honourable member is referred to the Honourable the Minister for Local Self-Government.

Suburban Districts) at the last session of the Legislative Council. No other local bodies have since introduced free and compulsory primary education within their areas.

EXCISE REVENUE.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state the amount of excise revenue derived in 1923-24 from "foreign liquors" manufactured in this Presidency?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: The honourable member is referred to Imperial Return 1 appended to the Presidency and Sind Excise Administration Reports for the year in question. Separate figures of license fee for imported and Indian made foreign liquors are not available.

MUNICIPAL TEACHERS, RANEBENNUR.

Mr. S. T. KAMBLI (Dharwar District): Will Government be pleased to state:—

(a) Whether the Ranebennur municipality gave notice under the provisions of the District Municipal Act to take back four of their teachers in 1924?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to give the date of the said notice?

(c) Whether Government have transferred the said teachers?

(d) If not, why not?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Enquiries are being made.

APPOINTMENT OF A HEAD MASTER OF PRACTISING SCHOOL, DHARWAR.

Mr. S. T. KAMBLI (Dharwar District): Will Government be pleased to state:—

(a) Whether the predecessor in office of the present head master of the practising school attached to the training school at Dharwar was a non-Brahmin and whether the present head master is a Brahmin?

(b) If so, what were the reasons for transferring the said non-Brahmin teacher and appointing a Brahmin in his place?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Information is being obtained.

SCIENCE OF FOOD PRESERVATION IN KANARA.

* Mr. M. D. KARKE (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to state (a) whether they are aware that in a public meeting held at Kumta in the district of Kanara on the 10th February 1924, when the Horticulturist to the Government of Bombay, delivered a lecture on the development of fruit industry, a resolution was unanimously passed by the people assembled requesting the Government to consider the question of the introduction of the science of food preservation in all grades of the schools in that district?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state whether any steps have been taken in that direction ?

(c) If not, do Government intend to take any steps in this connection ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) Yes.

(b) No such steps have yet been taken by Government.

(c) It is proposed to have a simple lesson on the subject of scientific food preservation drafted which will be considered for insertion in text-books which may be hereafter compiled for use in schools with an agricultural bias.

Mr. M. D. KARKI: When will the proposition and consideration contained in reply (c) be translated into action ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I cannot give the exact time ; but we are going to have a lesson drafted.

FORFEITURE CASES IN KANARA IN 1922-23.

* Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in 1922-23, 28 cases of forfeiture occurred in connection with the realisation of the land revenue in Kanara ; If so, how many of these cases occurred in each of the talukas or pethas and what was the area forfeited in each case ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Ninety-two cases of forfeiture occurred in that year. Information regarding the number of cases in each taluka or petha and the area forfeited in each case is furnished in the appended statement†.

GRAZING GROUND BROUGHT UNDER CASUARINA PLANTATION.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): With reference to the reply paragraph (2) of my question No. 16 regarding casuarina plantation on the 21st July 1924 (Council Debates, Volume XII, page 70), will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the area that has been brought under casuarina plantation at Maskeri and Gangavali in the Kumta Taluka was previously set apart for grazing ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: The area under casuarina plantation at Maskeri and Gangavali (Village Nadumaskeri) was included in the area set apart for grazing. As, however, it was merely a sheet of sand, of no use for grazing, it was taken under a Working Plan and converted into a casuarina plantation, due provision having been made at Honnebail for grazing.

Mr. M. D. KARKI: How is it then that Government said in reply to my question on 21st July 1924 that no grazing land was included in the casuarina plantations ? How far is Honnebail from Maskeri and Gangavali ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: I do not know.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† Vide Appendix 56.

Mr. M. D. KARKI : May I know the area of the sheet of land referred to in the reply ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : A few acres.

NEWSPAPERS IN KARNATAK.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state the number, the names and periods of existence of the Kanarese as well as English daily and weekly newspapers and periodical journals and magazines respectively, now in existence in the Bombay Karnatak ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : A statement* containing the information asked for is placed on the Council Table.

DHARWAR KARNATAK VIDYA VARDHAKASANGHA.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the literary institution known as Karnatak Vidya Vardhaka Sangha, Dharwar, is a registered institution ?

(b) If so, whether they aid it by any grants and if so, what are the amounts that have been annually contributed by them during the last ten years :—

(i) towards the construction of the building,

(ii) for the purchase of books, and

(iii) for other purposes ?

(c) whether it is a fact that the building of the institution remains incomplete for want of sufficient funds ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) The information has been called for.

AFFORESTATION OF LAND SUITED FOR COCOANUT PLANTATION IN KANARA DISTRICT.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that in 1881, the Collector in charge of the Honavar Taluka suggested that the area under casuarina plantation at Kasarkod in that taluka should be offered to private enterprise for raising cocoanut gardens (*vide* papers relating to the first revision settlement of the Honavar Taluka, page 77) ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the plantation is being rendered free from casuarina ?

(c) If so, do Government intend to dispose of the open area in any manner ; if so, how and on what conditions ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : (a) No. In 1881 there was no casuarina plantation in Kasarkod. The nursery of casuarina was started at Kasarkod in 1882. What the Collector stated in 1881 was that 468 acres of the land called Pulan were then lying waste in Kasarkod and that he hoped that much of that waste land would be taken

* Kept in the Secretary's Office.

up as it was quite suited for cocoanut gardens. Presumably the Collector's hope was not realised for several years because it was not till 1897 that the area was declared as Reserved Forest.

(b) It is proposed not to carry out any fresh planting from the current year, but the matter is not definitely settled. If no planting is done the area annually exploited—about 12 acres—will be available for disafforestation.

(c) If disafforested, the area will be disposed of in such manner as may seem most suitable at the time.

Mr. M. D. KARKI : Why did not Government raise cocoanut plantation instead of casuarina ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Government consider that cocoanut plantation would not do there because people themselves did not come forward for years to take it up.

Mr. M. D. KARKI : Did they think that the casuarina plantation would yield more than the cocoanut plantation ?

(No reply.)

MALAV TALAO, DHOLKA.

* Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities)
(a) Will Government be pleased to state in which year the Malav Talao at Dholka was declared to be a protected monument ?

(b) What amount has since been spent by the Archæological Department on its repairs ?

(c) Are Government aware that the attention of the Superintendent, Archæological Survey, has been drawn by the municipality of Dholka to the necessity for immediate repairs to some important portions of the Malav Talao ?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state what action has been taken in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : (a) In the year 1915.

(b) No expenditure has so far been incurred by the Archæological Department on its repairs as it is declared protected in class II (b) which means that it is to be preserved from further decay at the expense of the owners who are the Municipality of Dholka.

(c) Yes.

(d) Preliminary inspection of the monument has been made and a scheme is being prepared for its preservation.

LAND ACQUIRED FOR P. R. TRAINING COLLEGE.

* Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities) : Will Government be pleased to state whether any land was acquired for the P. R. Training College when the Urdu classes were first attached to it in 1914 ? If so, for what purpose do Government intend to utilize such land ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Land was acquired for the extensions to the P. R. Training College when the Urdu Classes were

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

first attached to it in 1914. Part of the land has already been utilised for the extensions and the part which is not required for this purpose is proposed to be transferred to the Mahalaxmi Training College for Women, Ahmedabad, for use as a site for a building for the Girls' High School which is under contemplation.

SUBSEQUENT INCREASE IN LIQUOR RATION.

Mr. G. K. MAVLANKAR (Ahmedabad City): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the ration declared at the time of auction sales of liquor licenses for nine months of the year 1922 in the Ahmedabad District was afterwards increased?

(b) If so, did they recover the proportionate increase in the license fee from the licensees?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) No.

(b) The question does not arise.

LEGAL REPRESENTATION IN WATAN MATTERS.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts): (a) Will Government be pleased to state if they are aware that the Commissioner, Northern Division, did not recently allow a pleader to appear before him to argue a case regarding watan matters?

(b) If so, do Government intend to take any action? If so, what action do they intend to take?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) and (b) In the absence of details Government are unable to give any reply.

WILD PIGS IN SALSETTE.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether when a piece of cultivable land is not cultivated owing to wild pigs any remission of assessment is given?

(b) Will they please state whether any steps have been taken to destroy wild pigs in the Salsette Mahal, and, if so what steps have been taken?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) No cases of the nature mentioned have arisen in Salsette.

(b) Gun licenses are being issued freely to the cultivators for the destruction of wild animals doing injury to crops.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: Has not a single case of the nature mentioned arisen in Salsette? On the strength of whose report is the reply based?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Inquiry was made from the authorities concerned and the reply is based on their report.

Mr. D. R. PATIL: Are there any rules for allowing remission of assessment if these pieces of land are not cultivated owing to the wild pigs?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: That is the question which relates to the revenue department.

LAND FOR SEWAGE FARM AT BHAGUR.

*Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is true that survey Nos. 25, 26, and 29 situate within the limits of Bhagur and belonging, the first to Mhalu Krishna Godse and the other two to Narayan Nana Patil Godse, both inhabitants of Sausali, taluka Nasik, were acquired by Government in 1917 for the purpose of a sewage farm then proposed to be established at Deolali Cantonment ;

(b) whether it is true that the project of the sewage farm was subsequently abandoned ;

(c) whether it is true that on the petitions of the abovementioned owners, the Collector of Nasik promised to restore the lands in case they were not required for the sewage farm ;

(d) whether it is true that the abovementioned owners refunded the amounts of compensation at the instance of the Collector, on an understanding that their lands would be restored to them afterwards ;

(e) whether it is true that subsequently they were informed that the lands could not be restored and the amounts refunded should be taken back ;

(f) whether it is true that they took back the amounts under protest and have appealed to the Commissioner, Central Division, in the matter ;

(g) whether Government are aware that only a very small portion of these lands is at present used for depositing *kachra* and that the rest has been given out on lease for cultivation ;

(h) whether Government are aware that there are other lands belonging to the cantonment adjoining to these lands which could be used for depositing *kachra* if necessary ;

(i) what action has been taken on the petitions made to the Commissioner, Central Division, by the abovementioned owners ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. METHA : (a) The lands referred to were acquired in 1917 for "Cantonment purposes".

(b) The General Officer Commanding, Bombay District, intimated in August 1922 that the sewage farm scheme was in abeyance, but would shortly be reconsidered.

(c) They were informed that if it were finally decided not to carry out the scheme and to relinquish the land, they would be given an opportunity of re-purchasing it.

(d) Through a misunderstanding of the communication received from the Military Authorities, the amount of compensation paid to the persons referred to, was received back from them and the Military officers were asked to hand over possession of the lands to their respective owners.

(e) The Military Authorities pointed out that there was some misunderstanding and that there was no intention of relinquishing the lands. The owners were therefore informed that the lands were required

* This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

by the Military Department and could not be relinquished by them and that the amounts paid by them would be refunded to them.

(f) Yes.

(g) All the land is required for trenching for the deposit of *kachra*. Only a portion of the land is actually used for the purpose at a time but the site under trenching is to be changed periodically to prevent the earth from becoming surcharged with manurial substance and thus more land is required. The land not actually under trenching is cultivated by a rapid succession of crops for the same reason.

(h) There are no suitable lands belonging to the Cantonment adjoining the lands which can be conveniently used for depositing *kachra*.

(i) The petitioners have been informed that their lands are still required by the Military Authorities and that they cannot therefore be restored to them.

TRANSFER OF SUBORDINATE SERVANTS OF GOVERNMENT.

* MR. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to state, whether there are rules, orders, or conventions, which require that talatis, primary school teachers and other subordinate servants of the Government should be transferred after a certain period ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : There are no such rules, orders or conventions in respect of any subordinates except those of the Judicial Department. As regards the latter there is an order of 1900 that except for special reasons they should not be left in the same station for more than five years.

TAKING OF OATH BY MINISTERS.

MR. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to state whether the Ministers are required, on assuming their offices, to take any oath ? If so, is it the same as, or different from, the oath which Members of the Executive Council have to take ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Yes ; the form is the same as for Members of the Executive Council.

MUNICIPALITY AT BHAGUR.

MR. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Will the Honourable the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether a municipality has been established at Bhagur and, if not, when it will be established ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Yes.

CONFISCATION OF PERSONAL INAMS ON ACCOUNT OF NON-CO-OPERATION.

* MR. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state in how many cases has the Government been pleased to resume or confiscate the personal inams or taluks of certain inamdars or talukdars since the year 1920 on the ground that those inamdars have taken part in the non-co-operation movement in the Presidency of Bombay ?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the names of such inamdars or talukdars and the extent of the inams or taluks thus resumed or confiscated?

(c) Is it a fact that taking part in the non-co-operation movement has been declared to be a breach of the conditions in the *sanads* relating to such inams or taluks?

(d) Were any inquiries made and opportunities allowed to the inamdars or talukdars before such action was taken?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a), (b) and (c) Four cases. The requisite information is contained in the statement* placed on the Council Table. No such declaration has been made. Each case is considered on its own merits.

(d) Yes.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN: With regard to the answer to (a) it is stated in the remarks column of the appendix 57 that the share of the inamdar in the vatan land held by his father was resumed by the levy of full assessment. Are we to understand that the estate has been resumed although the vatan is now in the name of the father? Is it a fact that the father has been punished for the sins of the son?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: I should like to have notice of that question. I cannot tell you off-hand.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA: Is it owing to the change of system that Government have introduced or is it for taking part in the non-co-operation movement of the son of the inamdar that the father's inam lands are resumed by the levy of full assessment?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: The honourable member's question is not quite clear to me.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA: I want to know whether it is because the Honourable the Revenue Member considers the non-co-operation movement disloyal that the inam is resumed or whether it is because of the change in the system?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: I must refer the honourable member to the Honourable the Home Member for answer to that question.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM: Is it not a fact that the inam villages of Durbar Gopaldas of Dhasa are confiscated by Government for taking part in the non-co-operation movement?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: That does not arise on this question.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR: Is it the constitutional procedure to confiscate an inam without making any such declaration especially when, as is stated by Government, taking part in the non-co-operation movement has not been declared to be a condition in the *sanad*?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: No such declaration is made.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR: That answer is there and what I ask is, is it a constitutional procedure to confiscate an inam when taking part in the non-co-operation movement is not declared to be disloyal?

* Vide Appendix 57.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Surely all that must depend on the merits of each case.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : Do I understand that the Honourable the Home Member is responsible for these orders ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : No, not for these orders.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : Does the Honourable Member in Charge consider that taking part in the non-co-operation movement is a crime to be punished indirectly in the manner ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I do not see that that follows. It has been stated that Government has made no such declaration.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : Is it the policy of Government to rank the non-co-operation movement as disloyal to Government ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : The question entirely depends upon what form the non-co-operation takes. Government have laid down no general rules and they must consider each case on its own merits.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : Then I understand there is no general policy ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : There is such policy as I have mentioned.

The THAKOR of KERWADA : Will the honourable member inform the House what are the specific charges against this son of the inamdar ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I must have notice of the question.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : May I ask whether Darbar Gopaldas is a talukdar or not ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I am afraid that is a political question. I must ask the honourable member to give notice to another Department of Government.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : The question refers to talukdars and inamdars. I want to know whether Durbar Gopaldas is considered to be a talukdar or not.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I should like to ask for notice of the question.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : Notice is already given.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : By the resumption of the lands as mentioned in the statement, is the House to understand that Government have non-co-operated with these non-co-operators ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I am afraid I cannot advise the House as to what they should understand.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : May I know why the name of Durbar Gopaldas is not added in this list, though his lands have been confiscated for his taking part in the non-co-operation movement ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I understand that Durbar Gopaldas is not a talukdar in British India.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI : Has the Government the right to take action beyond the terms of the original sanads ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I should think not.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : Who is responsible for taking action against Durbar Gopaldas ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Government have stated that he is not a talukdar within British India. That being so, no further questions about that particular talukdar can be asked.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : Has the Government of Bombay authority to take action in respect of Durbars who are not within British India ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I submit, Sir, that the question is out of order, on the ground that it refers to something outside British India.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI : Do I understand that action taken in this respect has been taken in terms of the sanads, in accordance with the terms of the original sanads ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Yes.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : May I know who has passed those orders, the Revenue Department or the Judicial Department ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : They were passed by the Government of Bombay.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : But which Department ? The Revenue Department or the Judicial Department ? We want to know who is responsible.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Surely, the Government of Bombay is a corporate body.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : But may I know whether these orders were issued in the Revenue Department or in the Judicial Department of the Bombay Government ? Of course, I know that the Bombay Government is responsible for these orders, but they issue orders in the Public Works Department, the Revenue Department, the Judicial Department, and so forth. I want to know whether these orders were issued in the Revenue Department, the Excise Department, in the Department of Agriculture, or the Judicial Department.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : In reply to the very long speech of the honourable member, I would say that the orders were issued in the Revenue Department, but they were passed by the Government of Bombay.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : Did my honourable friend have any chance of applying his mind to the merits of these cases ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I do not remember in what year the orders were passed, but if they were passed during the time I have held office, then certainly I have applied my mind to the merits of the cases.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : Were the orders issued on the sanction of the Honourable Member in charge of the department ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : That has already been answered.

FINE ON LATE PAYMENT OF REVENUE.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that the one-fourth fine has been levied by revenue officers in the several talukas of the district of Satara on default by the khatedars in the payment of land revenue due for the first instalment even though the amount was paid before the expiry of the period fixed for the payment of the second instalment and if so under what provision of law has such fine been imposed ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the total amount of this one-fourth fine recovered by revenue officers in the Satara District during the years 1921-22, 1922-23 and 1923-24, respectively in each taluka of this district ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) Yes. Fine was levied under section 148 of the Land Revenue Code.

(b)

| Taluka. | Total amount of fine recovered during the year | | | Total. |
|-------------|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | 1921-22. | 1922-23. | 1923-24. | |
| Karad | | Rs. a. p. 5 4 0 | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. 5 4 0 |
| Patan | | | 8 15 0 | 8 15 0 |

GRANT OF GOVERNMENT LAND FOR MAHOMEDAN COMMUNITY IN RATNAGIRI DISTRICT.

* MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD on behalf of Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(1) Whether it is a fact that they have not granted any plot of land for the benefit of the Mahomedan community in the Ratnagiri district ?

(2) (a) Whether it is a fact that Government have refused to grant a piece of land out of the camping ground in the village of Rajapur, district Ratnagiri, for the purpose of a hostel for the Mahomedan students in the Ratnagiri district ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the same plot of ground was granted to the High School Committee of that village ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the temples belonging to the communities of Bhandaries, Parits and the Marathas situated on the above plot of ground have been demolished by Mr. Kulkarni, Head Master of the High School, with the help of Mahomedan coolies ?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (1) No.

(2) (a) and (b). In February 1923, the High School Committee at Rajapur applied for the open plot of the old camping ground adjoining the premises of the High School for use as a play-ground, the want of which had been keenly felt. The Mahomedans of Rajapur applied for the same plot for a hostel for Mahomedan students. No reply was received to the inquiry of the Collector whether funds were available. The Police wanted the ground for parades and did not want it built upon. The Collector granted the ground to the School on the conditions required by the Police, as he desired also to retain the amenities of the town by keeping the ground as an open space. The High School is not denominational, there being ten Mahomedan gentlemen on its committee and several students in the school.

(c) There were no temples on the plot. There were two ruined stone structures without any significance. In order to make the ground suitable as a play-ground, they were demolished under the orders of the Head Master of the school with the help of Hindu coolies.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Will the honourable gentleman tell us whether the land was actually granted to the High School when the request was made by the Mahomedan community ? It is stated in the reply that three parties applied for the land. Who applied first ? Is the Honourable Member in a position to state that ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I could not answer that question off-hand, without notice.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : May I ask the Honourable Minister for Education whether he visited Rajapur and consulted the Mahomedans there on the question ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : No.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Were you approached to lay a foundation stone on that land ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Yes.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The honourable member cannot ask the question in that form, by addressing the Honourable Minister as "you".

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Will the Honourable Minister for Education please say whether he was approached for laying a foundation stone on this land ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I rise to a point of order, Sir. The question was put to the Revenue Department, and the supplementary question must be addressed to the Honourable Member in charge of that department.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The supplementary question is put to the same Member, but any other Member of Government is entitled to reply if he wishes to do so.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I merely raised that point because the question, I understood, was addressed to the

honourable Minister for Education and not to my honourable friend the Member in charge of the Revenue Department.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : The Honourable Minister for Education has answered the question. As the Honourable Minister for Education has answered the question, may I ask the Honourable the Revenue Member on what considerations this was done. When Government did not give the land to the Mahomedans, was the Honourable Minister for Education consulted in the matter? The Honourable the Revenue Member has just told us that no piece of land was given to the Mahomedans, and we have just learnt that the Honourable Minister for Education was approached by the Mahomedans to lay a foundation stone over that piece of land. Can the Honourable the Revenue Member give any explanation as to this ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I cannot give any explanation. I do not know what happened between the Minister for Education and the representative of the Mahomedans of Rajapur.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, I should like to make a statement, to clear away any misunderstanding. Some of the Mussalmans approached me to lay a foundation stone, not on the camping ground alluded to in this question, but in some vacant space in the bazaar. As the Government Order handing over the plot to the Mahomedans was not produced, I requested the leaders to excuse me from laying the foundation stone. I know nothing about the camping ground ; I have not seen it, and I do not think any Mahomedan gentleman approached me about laying a foundation stone on this camping ground.

TURF CLUB LICENSE.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD on behalf of Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North) : Will Government be pleased to state whether they receive any premium or other consideration for annually renewing the license to the Turf Club ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : There is no license fee, but the Club is subject to the Entertainments Tax.

THE SATHE-PARANJPYE SCHEME.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD on behalf of Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North) : Will Government be pleased to lay on the table the replies received up-to-date by them from the municipalities and the local boards in respect of the Sathe-Paranjpye Scheme in answer to their inquiry in this connexion ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Government have made no such enquiry as is referred to in the question.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : May I ask if that is a correct answer ? Is it not a fact that several replies that were received from municipalities and local boards were put before the committee by the Chairman, who is the Honourable the Minister ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Government made no enquiry. The secretary of the committee made the enquiry.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : Is the secretary of the committee not a Government official ? Has he not made enquiries in his official capacity ? The committee was appointed by this House ; the secretary of that committee is a Government official, and he did make enquiries of municipalities and district local boards.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The honourable member should realise that the secretary of a committee appointed by Government is not Government.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : The chairman of the committee is the Honourable Minister ; the secretary of the committee is the Director of Public Instruction, and that gentleman, under the orders of the chairman or the members of the committee makes enquiries, and the replies that are received from the municipalities and local boards are placed before the committee. But the reply here states that no such enquiry has been made.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : Did the Secretary make the enquiries on his own account, or with, or without the approval of Government ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The enquiry was made at the suggestion of the committee.

Mr. S. S. DEV : Did not the resolution under which that committee was appointed make a reference to the committee to make such enquiry ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Surely, honourable members realise the distinction between a committee making enquiries and the Government making enquiries.

BUILDING GRANTS FOR URDU SCHOOLS.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD on behalf of Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state to how many primary schools in the Ratnagiri district building grants have been given during the past fifteen years, together with the amounts given to each ?

(b) How many of such schools were Urdu schools ?

(c) Is it a fact that so far not a single Urdu school has received a building grant from Government in the Kolaba district ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Enquiries are being made.

PROHIBITION OF GANAPATI PROCESSION IN SHOLAPUR.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD on behalf of Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North) : Will Government be pleased to state the reasons that led them to prohibit the last Ganapati procession in the Sholapur City ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Government did not prohibit the Ganapati processions and Ganapati processions were taken

out by the mill hands. Some members of the public however did not do so as a protest against rules relating to processions issued under the District Police Act.

IMPORTATION OF FOODSTUFFS IN RATNAGIRI DISTRICT.

Mr. V. A. SURVE (Ratnagiri District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state what quantities of foodstuffs have been imported by sea into the Ratnagiri District through each port during each of the last 12 years ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : A statement* showing the quantity of foodstuffs imported by sea at ports in the Ratnagiri district during the years 1917-18 to 1923-24 is appended. Similar figures for previous years are not available.

PRINCIPAL'S BUNGALOW, GUJARAT COLLEGE.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the old principal's bungalow attached to the Gujarat College, Ahmedabad is reserved for the senior science professor of M. R. Science Institute ?

(b) If so, will they be pleased to state who is the occupant of the said bungalow at present ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) No.

(b) This part of the question does not arise.

BEHAVIOUR OF THE RETURNING OFFICER OF THE NORTH DASKROI TALUKA.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether protests were made to the Collector against the behaviour of the returning officer of North Daskroi taluka of Ahmedabad district at the time of the counting of votes at the election for the district local board on the 3rd December 1924 ?

(b) Will they be pleased to state whether the Collector had to interfere and entrust the counting of votes at the Daskroi taluka local board elections on the 4th December 1924 to the members of his own office ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Information is being obtained.

NEW SCHOOLS FOR DEPRESSED CLASSES.

† Mr. R. S. NEKALJAY : Will Government be pleased to state the number of new schools for depressed classes that are proposed to be started during the current year in each district of the Presidency ?

* Kept in the Secretary's office.

† This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The following statement gives the information required :—

| Name of the district. | Number of schools for Depressed Classes proposed to be started. |
|-----------------------|---|
| Ratnagiri | 1 |
| Nasik | 4 |
| Satara | 10 |
| Sholapur | 5 |
| Ahmednagar | 1 |
| East Khandesh | 10 |
| West Khandesh | 5* |

* Present classes will be converted into independent schools.

(*Further discussion on demands for grants resumed.*)

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind) : Mr. President, I rise to move :

Reduce by half—Item No. 226 (Budget page 228).

This relates, Sir, to an item of grant of Rs. 1,81,000 for the distribution system of the Poona Cantonment water supply. This is an item which requires considerable explanation, and, therefore, I formally move its reduction by half.

Question proposed.

Mr. K. S. FRAMJI : Sir, I do not understand what the object of the honourable member is in proposing this cut, but if he merely wants the history of this water supply system, I shall be very glad to give it. The Poona water works were constructed some 40 years ago and it cannot be expected that the same size of pipes and the same service reservoirs will supply a very much larger quantity of water which is required on account of the increase in population and increased rate of consumption. It has been estimated that since 1914 there has been an increase in consumption of water of 55 per cent. nearly, due to increase in population and increased rate of consumption. The time has now come when, owing to the considerably increased demand of water, the necessary improvements and additions to the distribution service must be made. The same size of pipes cannot be expected to carry the same amount of water as they did 40 years ago.

The working expenses have also increased by nearly 75 per cent. since the last 8 years due mainly to the increased liability of some Rs. 20,000 per annum for chemical treatment of water since the installation of the rapid filtration plant at a capital cost of nearly Rs. 2 lakhs, and also to the general rise in the cost of labour and all materials. The Sanitary Engineer has submitted certain proposals for additions and improvements which are estimated to cost about Rs. 10 lakhs. They consist

[Mr. K. S. Framji]

mainly in providing new main pipes in various parts of the Cantonment to increase pressures and flow of water, new settling tanks to store water for a 4-day canal closure need high service reservoirs and so forth. As honourable members know, the water works derive their water from the Mutha canal and that has to be closed periodically and therefore there has to be sufficient storage of water during such closures. All these items go to increase the cost of these improvements, and in order to meet them and save Government from loss, it was proposed by the Sanitary Engineer to increase the water rate which was fixed about 40 years ago at 6 annas per 1,000 gallons to 9 annas. Government therefore appointed a committee of seven members, 4 officials and 3 non-officials, to thoroughly investigate the matter. They submitted a unanimous report that the rate should be increased from 6 annas to 8 annas for the metered supply to the bungalows, but that the existing rates should be retained for tap supply in the bazar area. These rates are being introduced immediately.

Now, Sir, as I have stated the expenditure proposed is ten lakhs, and that expenditure is proposed to be distributed over five years. The full increased estimated consumption will not come about for another 6 to 7 years. Taking the figures of expenditure on running the water-works and maintenance, including the capital cost, the proposed new capital cost as well as the depreciation charges, the total running expenditure would be Rs. 29,50,000 for a period of eight years. And the increased rates which will be applicable during that period will bring in a revenue of Rs. 29,50,000, practically the same amount. Whereas the revenue at present is only Rs. 2,40,000, it will eventually increase to Rs. 4,12,000 in the year 1932-33, so that for the next eight years, the two items, that is running expenses including depreciation charges and interest on capital, and the revenue, will be the same. And thereafter there will be a large surplus of revenue.

There is only one other point I wish to refer to. I presume the intention of the honourable member in moving this cut, is to effect retrenchment in expenditure. But, Sir, in a work of this nature, it will be false economy if any retrenchment is effected. Practically the whole of the estimated amount will go towards the purchase of pipes and lead, and a very small percentage utilised in labour charges for laying them. If we restrict our expenditure we can either buy just sufficient pipes for the amount available and keep them over till the rest of the money is forthcoming in the following year, or we could purchase a smaller number of pipes and lay them in position. In either case the work will not be useful, and as water cannot be let down till the whole system is complete the increased revenue expected from increased consumption will not be realised. A work of this nature must be carried through after it is once undertaken and I trust the full amount will be passed as demanded.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD (Central Division): Sir, from the audible portion of the honourable gentleman's speech I gathered sufficient information to be able to say that the expenditure that has been proposed by the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government was really a

[Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad]

necessary one. I think the object of the honourable member who proposed this cut was not to effect a cut, but only to get more information on the subject. Now, that the information has been supplied, I hope the honourable member will withdraw the motion.

Mr. G. I. PATEL (Ahmedabad Millowners' Association): Some of the points are not quite clear to us. It is stated here that Rs. 1,81,000 is technically to be sanctioned, and it is further stated in the previous line: "A comprehensive scheme for these improvements estimated to cost Rs. 10,26,704 is under the consideration of Government". Are we to understand that by sanctioning this amount of Rs. 1,81,000 we are committing ourselves to the total amount of ten lakhs ultimately? Secondly, it is stated: "It is expected that this increase will ensure a suitable return on the new capital expenditure". What is the amount of this suitable return? Is it 5 per cent. or 7 per cent. or 10 per cent. This method of getting a suitable return so far as I know, is vague. If they are going to introduce it in Poona, I would like to know what suitable return it would bring.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: Sir, in view of the explanation given, I will withdraw the motion.

Question put and leave granted.

Question put:

That a sum of Rs. 2,91,000 be granted under Expenditure charged to Revenue, Public Health (Transferred), capital outlay on Improvements on Public Health.

and agreed to.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Sir, I beg to ask for a grant of Rs. 12,72,000 under Public Health (Reserved), Capital outlay on improvements on Public Health, under B. Expenditure charged to Capital.

Question proposed.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): Sir, I beg to propose:

Omit provision for acquisition of land for re-siting of the Arsenal and Magazine at Karachi—Rs. 2,50,000 (Civil Estimates 251).

I find, Sir, that this item is brought under Public Health. As a matter of fact this is a development project on the same lines, though of course on a smaller scale, as the Bombay Development scheme. A certain area of land has got to be developed, and some public buildings are to be put up there. Moreover, there is no description whatever, either in the Blue Book or in the White Book. Now, the land we are going to develop belonged to the Military department, and they have been paid or are to be paid, according to the honourable member, a sum of 30 lakhs. Because the Honourable Member referred me to Mr. Mirams' report, I find that he has estimated the cost of construction of roads, drainage, electric lighting, etc., at Rs. 20,00,000. This will be found on page 17 of the report on the Development of Karachi by Mr. Mirams. Then the building of the Arsenal will cost 10 lakhs. Besides this it is proposed to spend 2½ lakhs on the acquisition of the site. Therefore the total cost will come to 62½ lakhs. We have not got any other details except this one page of the report of Mr. Mirams. Now Sir, this is not a project estimate. This is only a

[Mr. D. B. Adwani]

report of Mr. Mirams, one of the Government officers, on the development of Karachi. The Government must give to the House some explanation as to the expenditure of no less than 62½ lakhs of rupees. I ask whether it is fair or reasonable to expect any legislature with a sense of duty and responsibility, to pass this item. Last year we were asked to pass an item for the Lloyd Avenue: but unfortunately I was not here and so could not oppose that item. This is not only a road in the development area but it extends beyond to the inhabited area of Karachi involving the taking up of a portion of the garden against which the public have expressed their opinion. It involves also the demolition of the compound of Sind College and the bungalow of the Principal. In the absence of any details we cannot be expected to have a knowledge of the inner workings of the Public Works Department, or of the Health department or any other department under which this project is proposed to be executed.

Then, Sir, it appears to me that projects of this description ought to be entrusted to the local bodies. In former years Government handed over to the municipality all lands available in Karachi; and it is only right and fair that all lands within the precincts of a large town over amenities of which the municipality is incurring a great deal of expenditure should be handed over to that body for development. Apart from this question, the Karachi municipality has put in a claim for 1,40,000 sq. yds. of the land which they had in previous years handed over to Government for the purposes of the Military Department. Now that the Military Department has handed over the whole of the land to the civil authorities it is only fair and just that the Karachi municipality should get back its own land. This is a considerable area of 1,40,000 square yards, or more than 30 acres of land. If this land is handed over as it ought to be what would Government realise from this scheme? Looking at the rate at which Government are spending money and looking to the fact that the land has been divided into large plots of 3,000 square yards each, it is not going to be a paying project and we are probably going to have a Bombay Development scheme on a small scale.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Sir, I think that I should give a little bit of the history of this case in order to enable honourable members to see that the project is not being rushed through in the manner in which it has been tried to be made out by the honourable member opposite. In the first place I should like to mention that I do not believe that he as a member of the Karachi municipality takes any exception to the project as such. On the contrary every local authority and every public body of importance in Karachi has been apprised of this project, has asked for this extension, has asked for this land in order to do away with the congestion that at present exists in Karachi.

The project is as old as 1911. It has been under discussion since that time. Before the reforms came into existence an agreement was made between the Government of India and the Government of Bombay by which this land, known as the Artillery Maidan was taken over by the local Government. The sanction was actually given to it by the Secretary of State in 1920, therefore, before the reforms came into existence. The

[Mr. C. V. Mehta]

scheme was that the plot of ground covering about 180 acres should be taken over by the local Government and also the cost of rebuilding an arsenal should be borne by the local Government. Thirty-one lakhs was estimated as the cost of construction and cost of the land as well as the re-siting of the new arsenal. This Government was not to be responsible for more than 31 lakhs to the Government of India. As a matter of fact Rs. 10,67,000 have already been paid : 2 lakhs in 1920-21 ; Rs. 2,50,000 in 1921-22 ; and Rs. 5,76,000 in 1922-23. Now, the military authorities expect to spend on the rebuilding of the arsenal 10 lakhs in 1925-26, and 2½ lakhs for the acquisition of the site on which this arsenal is to be constructed. I do not think it is quite correct to say that we have only one report of Mr. Mirams with regard to this scheme. As a matter of fact the honourable member is probably aware that since the first report there has been a further reduction in the estimated cost of development. The honourable member referred to the first report of Mr. Mirams wherein the figure is stated as 20 lakhs. That figure has been considerably reduced. We have been watching the development and the expenditure on it and we are trying to reduce it as much as possible. The reduced figure which Mr. Mirams has subsequently supplied stands at Rs. 14,00,000 odd on drainage and roads and lighting, etc., and also on laying out of gardens. I do not think the honourable member is correct in saying that the public of Karachi will be deprived of the open spaces that are at present included in the garden. As a matter of fact considerable amount of this land will be kept as open space for people to use in the artillery maidan. But the width of the avenue has been considerably reduced and the length of that avenue is at present under consideration, and we hope to see that the estimates at present put down by Mr. Mirams are not exceeded, but if anything they might be reduced.

That this scheme has been within the knowledge of all public bodies in Karachi is evidenced from the fact that a conference was held with the municipality and other public bodies to consider what should be charged for water charges by the municipality. I believe that other conferences were held where the whole scheme was fully gone into, but I am afraid I am unable to give the details of them. At this conference the Commissioner in Sind was there as chairman, and there were also present, the Collector of Karachi, the President of the Karachi municipality, Mr. Jamshed Mehta, the Executive Engineer, Major Johnston and the Chief Officer, Mr. Lewis of the Karachi municipality.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMED : What was the date of the conference ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : It was so late as August 1924. So that the municipality were fully represented in their President as well as the chief officer. Formerly this project had also been sent for consideration to the various commercial bodies in Karachi and they also had an opportunity of expressing their opinion on it. Mr. Mirams has also stated in his estimate the money that we are likely to receive after the development of this maidan takes place ; the estimated area of land that will be

[Mr. C. V. Mehta]

available for sale is 106 acres. Here I may mention that the dispute which the Karachi municipality has raised about the land that they ought to have is not 140 thousand square yards but 120 thousand square yards: it comes to about 25 acres which is less than one-fourth of the area that will be for sale. I do not think it is desirable at this moment to go into the merits of the dispute which exists between the Karachi municipality and Government. It is a matter that can only be decided in another tribunal, because we feel that the Karachi municipality have not got much of a claim to this land under the special circumstances of development. It is perfectly true that development projects should be as far as possible undertaken by the local body. We should have been very pleased if the Karachi municipality had undertaken this development, but it means a very large sum of money to be put down and it is very doubtful. Indeed the Karachi municipality felt that they were in a position to put down this sum in addition to the heavy expenditure on development. Otherwise they would have asked for carrying it out. The period for sale of the land has been taken at a conservative estimate by Government. Mr. Mirams has for the purpose of his calculation taken so long a period as 20 years. He values the total receipts when the whole area is sold at the end of 20 years, at one crore and 48 lakhs, and he arrives at the present value of this amount on a 5 per cent. basis only at 80 lakhs and 10 thousand rupees. The value of land occupied by the court of the judicial commissioner is 17 lakhs 81 thousand. The project therefore will show a profit of 34 lakhs and 45 thousand, and if we exclude the value of the land occupied by the judicial commissioner's court, there ought to be according to these figures a net profit of 16 lakhs 62 thousand rupees.

There is one more point to which, Sir, I should like to refer and that is the fact that the Council has all along been apprised of this project. It is not that this has been placed before them for the first time.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Is that so ? What portion did you get last year ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. METHA : Last year we got 95 thousand rupees from the budget for payment to the North Western Railway for certain building of theirs which stood in the artillery maidan, and as I said 10 lakhs and 70 thousand have already been paid in the various years that I have mentioned to the Government of India. There is also this fact to remember that in a long debate that took place about 2 years ago if my memory serves me right, the question of judicial commissioner's court was fully debated in this Council and these courts were to be located in the artillery maidan which was to be developed in keeping with the imposing buildings that would be put up for the judicial courts. So that, Sir, it will be evident to the honourable members opposite that whenever an opportunity has occurred the Council has been taken into confidence and all the items have been placed in the budget. If there is any further information that is wanted I will be pleased to supply it, but I do want the Council to remember this fact that there was an agreement with the Government of India which

[Mr. C. V. Mehta]

agreement we must carry out and the payment asked for must be made to the military authorities in the terms of the agreement sanctioned by the Secretary of State in 1920.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City) : Sir, I do not wish to press this matter any further, but I want to say that the Karachi municipality would have been pleased to take this in hand, but Government has had an eye to business, and with their usual greed for land, they desire always to carry on development projects which ought properly to be handed over to local bodies. I also desire to bring to the notice of this House the fact that it is not fair that projects of this character should be put before this House in this manner. I wish to repeat that we have had no particulars with regard to this project with the exception of a report of Mr. Mirams which has not been supplied to the honourable members of this House, but which the members are at liberty to buy for themselves. I asked the Superintendent of the Government Central Press to supply me with a copy of this report, and he referred me to the Karachi municipality and the Chief Officer of that municipality charged me Rs. 3 for it. This is the manner in which projects of this character, involving the cost of lakhs of rupees are being placed before the House. I ask, is it fair? And we are told that there is a revised report—not a project estimate of any sort, but only a revised report—by Mr. Mirams, which we have never seen before and about which I hear for the first time in this House.

Then, Sir, there is one point about which I should like the Honourable Member to give me some further information, and that is whether this Arsenal is not to be re-sited at the Drigh Road, and whether Government have not land of their own available at Drigh Road. If Government land is available there, I cannot understand why Rs. 2½ lakhs should be charged to the public exchequer.

A reference was made to the Gardens. I have seen myself that a portion of the Burns Garden, which has been existing for a very long time and which is quite outside the Artillery Maidan area, has been taken over, because this road has been extended to the area which is an inhabited part of Karachi. There have been protests against this action of Government; but the road has been taken beyond the limits of the Artillery Maidan and has struck off a good bit of the Burns Gardens and a corner of the Sind College compound; and we understand that the bungalow of the Principal of the College is also to be knocked down. Public opinion is against this; and I would in any case like to have information about it.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Mr. President, I understand that the specific information which my honourable friend wants is why it is necessary to spend Rs. 2½ lakhs over the site. As I explained, the actual place where the arsenal should be rebuilt is not a matter for the option of this Government. It is entirely determined by the military authorities, and if they say that they want to have it at a particular place only, we must acquire that place. It is not a matter which

[Mr. C. V. Mehta]

we can determine. If the site which they want does not belong to the Local Government, it would have to be acquired, and it is for that purpose that this amount has been put in.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: Government, I believe, has a vast amount of land at Drigh Road?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Government does know that the land does not belong to the Local Government; that the military authorities have asked that the arsenal should be built on a particular site which they approve of and which does not belong to Government, and therefore has to be acquired. We have no option in it. That was the point that I wished to explain.

Then, another point which the honourable member made, rather supports the view that Government take. Apparently, he agrees that this is going to be a profitable business.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: I do not.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Then I do not see how he could claim on behalf of the municipality that they would be very willing to take this up.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: The municipality would be able to do it cheaper than Government.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: It means that if the scheme is properly watched, it is going to be a profitable business, and I can assure my honourable friend that every endeavour will be made to watch this project as much as possible.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: Sir, I beg leave to withdraw my motion.

Question put and leave granted.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): Mr. President, I beg to move:

"Omit provision for construction of the New Arsenal at Drigh Road, Karachi, Rs. 10,00,000."

Question proposed.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: Sir, I would like to have information from the Government, whether we have to pay this amount to the Government of India in the Military Department. If we have got to build for the Military Department, have detailed estimates been prepared for these buildings estimated to cost Rs. 10 lakhs?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Sir, the arrangement is that we have to make payment to the military authorities for (1) the value of the land that they have made over to the Local Government, (2) the building of the arsenal, and (3) the siting of the arsenal, which is limited to Rs. 31 lakhs. We do not care how they build, or what expenditure they incur, but we have to pay not more than Rs. 31 lakhs.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: I ask for leave of the House, Sir, to withdraw the motion.

Question put and leave granted.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Sir, I ask for a grant of Rs. 12,72,000 on Public Health, Reserved.

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Mr. President, I rise to make a demand for Rs. 3,21,42,000. I do not know whether any honourable member in this House desires to know how we come to this figure of Rs. 3,21,42,000. (Honourable members: We want to know.) Honourable members will notice that on page 110 of the Blue Book and page 4 of the White Book, under 55, Irrigation, the whole expenditure is put down at Rs. 3,74,55,000. From this has to be deducted the non-votable items which come to Rs. 14,32,000. Again, we have to deduct the charges for establishments, Rs. 30,64,000, which will be discussed under head 41, and Tools and Plant Rs. 8,12,000, which will also be discussed and considered by this House when my honourable friend the Minister moves his demand under head 41. If you deduct all these amounts that I have just mentioned, we come to the figure of Rs. 3,21,42,000. Sir, on page 110 of the Blue Book, there is a very concise and clear explanation of this demand. Honourable members, if they have read the Blue Book, will have noticed on what schemes we want this capital expenditure. I may here again remind honourable members that under head 55 we are making a demand for money to be used from loans and not from revenue. Under heads XIII and 15, it is from revenue. The Blue Book clearly states on what schemes we propose to use this amount, and I shall not weary the House by going into those details again.

Mr. President, during the general discussion, there was some criticism of the large works which Government are now undertaking, but I do not propose to reply to those criticisms in detail just now, as I shall have several opportunities of speaking when honourable members move their reductions. But I would like just to mention one or two points that have been raised. My honourable and young friend the member for Larkana stated that the officers we were employing on the Lloyd Barrage were inefficient. He also stated that several if not all of our officers only did five months' work in the year. Mr. President, I may be allowed to express the opinion that I do not think my honourable friend is in a very good position to judge of the efficiency of these irrigation officers. But if he had complained that we had denuded the other parts of the Presidency of the best irrigation officers and put them on to the Lloyd Barrage, his criticisms might have required some answer. We have taken the best officers we could find in this Presidency and put them on the Lloyd Barrage. But we have also seen that none of the other big works will in any way be neglected, as they are now practically being just finished off. Government, I need hardly say, are most anxious that the work on the Barrage should progress satisfactorily and quickly, and to assure ourselves, that is, the Government, that the work was progressing satisfactorily, we have asked the best authority on irrigation in India to pay a visit to the works and to report on them.....

An Honourable MEMBER: Who was that authority?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangir : That authority was Sir Frederick Gebbie, who is the Inspector General of Irrigation, an officer of the Government of India.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : Did he visit the works ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangir : Well, Sir, Sir Frederick Gebbie, who is now the best authority on irrigation in India, did pay a visit to these works. He was there in the middle of last month—about a fortnight ago—and he has submitted a comprehensive report and I propose to read out some parts of this report, but they will be very short extracts.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : Why not supply a copy of it to the House.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I think that will be the best thing to do.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangir : Yes ; I shall be very pleased to do that. I shall only content myself for the present by reading out very short extracts which go to meet all the criticisms that were made. Sir Frederick Gebbie says :

“The staff has been mainly employed on the preparation of detailed plans and estimates and there appears to be some misapprehension regarding the necessity for these plans and estimates and their nature. They are absolutely essential and are in no sense revised estimates as some seem to think. No project estimate for a system of canals covering thousands of square miles can possibly be prepared in sufficient detail to be used as a construction estimate. An attempt to use a project estimate for construction purposes was recently made in another province with most unfortunate results and, as I will show later, the same results would have ensued if work on some of the Barrage Canals had been begun without detailed plans and estimates.”

“To show the absolute necessity for detailed plans and estimates, I give the two following instances :

Dr. Summers—(whom most honourable members who come from Sind know)—claimed, and it is admitted, that the plans, and estimates for the Rohri Canal were prepared with the greatest care ; but when this line was laid out on the ground it was found that several deviations had to be made in Khairpur State to avoid graveyards, mosques and large villages. Elsewhere by making certain changes, a better and cheaper alignment has been found. Owing to these floods on the left bank of the Indus last year, the Indus River Commission is about to construct certain flood embankments and the area commanded in the Nawabsha district will be appreciably reduced by the construction of these bunds. If the construction of this canal had been commenced before the preparation of proper detailed plans and estimates money would merely have been wasted.”

“I have enquired very carefully into the progress made in the preparation of these detailed plans and estimates and have examined all available plans, etc. Taking the project as a whole, 75 to 90 per cent. of the field work has been completed. If the necessary additional establishment is provided all the plans and estimates should be completed and sanctioned during the next hot weather and construction should be in full progress by the beginning of October.”

I will again just take the liberty of drawing my honourable friends' attention to these few words : “If the necessary additional establishment is provided”. Now, Sir, he goes on to say :

“The Rohri Canal is in the most advanced stage and the completion of estimates is now being delayed for want of establishment. There appears to be a common belief that the establishment employed is excessive ; but this is quite wrong. This belief is probably due to the fact that people do not see earth being shifted, bridges being built, etc., but as I have tried to explain a vast amount of preliminary work is necessary before construction can be begun, if money is not to be wasted. This preliminary work does not catch the eye of the public and it is therefore assumed that nothing much is being done. The time has arrived when additional establishment is urgently required and I strongly recommend that it should be provided at once to make certain that construction can be begun next October.”

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

I believe the last few lines are for my special benefit ; they are :

"It will be false economy to crimp establishment at this stage and, as soon as construction is commenced, all this establishment, and more, will be required to supervise work in the field."

In conclusion he says :

"Finally, in my opinion excellent progress has been made and all work in hand is being economically and efficiently carried out."

Well, Mr. President this is the report that this Government called for. They specially asked Sir Frederick Gebbie to go to Sukkur and investigate the progress of work.

An Honourable MEMBER : How long ago was that ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : A fortnight or three weeks ago.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : On a point of explanation, Sir. I remember reading some little time ago a report of a lecture or a report by a gentleman called Mr. Wright who happened to be an engineer himself, in which he made some very stringent criticisms, to which my honourable friend the Finance Member made what he considered to be a satisfactory reply. Can the Honourable the General Member tell us something about that criticism ? I think the House would be interested to know something about it.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Yes ; it was a lecture before the Royal Society of Arts. Well, with regard to that criticism, my honourable friend (Mr. H. S. Lawrence) who had replied to that criticism could inform you more accurately than I can. But all that criticism which Mr. Wright compressed in the lecture at the Society of Arts was given expression to in this country and outside this country on a former occasion and it was on account of that criticism that several other authorities were called in to answer Mr. Wright and to dispose of Mr. Wright's objections and criticisms. Therefore, what Mr. Wright said at the Society of Arts was nothing new. It was repeating what he has said on more occasions than one before. Well, Sir, we will be able to give you a complete answer quoting from authorities as good as, if not better than, Mr. Wright. All those objections of Mr. Wright and of Dr. Summers were considered by the Secretary of State before he sanctioned the scheme. They were raised before the scheme was sanctioned ; they were considered by the Secretary of State, and I may inform my honourable friend opposite that the Secretary of State took considerable time before he gave his decision. I presume—I do not know for certain—he consulted his own experts. But I do know that he refused to sanction this scheme till further information and further facts and figures were supplied to him by the Government of Bombay. The further information and the further facts and figures were supplied to him by the Government of Bombay, and it was only after considering the reply submitted by the Government of Bombay, and the objections raised by Mr. Wright and men of the same class, that the Secretary of State sanctioned the Sukkur Barrage.

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

Well, I do not desire to detain my honourable friends very much longer. But I would remind honourable members that the question whether the Lloyd Barrage is a necessity or not is rather old history. This Council considered the Barrage project and passed the scheme. If we re-open the question of necessity on every possible occasion in regard to these big schemes that Government undertake, I may inform my honourable friends opposite with due respect that it creates in the minds of many feelings of apprehension and distrust. After the Council has sanctioned a big scheme Government raise the loan and undertake it. If the same questions that were once discussed and disposed of are discussed over and over again, and amendments are moved for the reduction of huge amounts, it creates apprehensions in the minds of many that at any moment the Council may throw out the budget demands and stop these huge schemes putting this presidency and its people to a considerable loss. Well, I for one am confident that honourable members have no such intentions. I feel confident that they do not desire that any one of these big schemes which Government have undertaken with their approval for the benefit of the agricultural classes of the presidency, should be stopped, hampered or delayed. The Council do not desire that. But I would remind my honourable friends opposite that that is not the impression that some of these big cuts on these demands give to people outside this honourable House. We who know our honourable friends opposite are confident that they have no such intention, but others outside who do not know my honourable friends as well as we do, carry away a wrong impression. That is an impression which we should not give either to this presidency or to countries outside it.

Mr. President, I will not now detain the House very long.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: You have already taken half an hour.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Sir, you will remember I was not allowed to speak during the general discussion and so, I will.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: You are quite welcome.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Now, Sir, some of my honourable friends opposite take a very long time to marshal their criticism and they put their criticism very forcibly, and I must be allowed, Mr. President, and I hope the honourable members will give me the indulgence of hearing my case fully. If I cannot put it briefly, it is my own fault. But I do hope that they will bear with me.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The Honourable the General Member has the right of reply on every motion that is put before the House.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Sir, if I speak now, I will save the time of the honourable House by not replying to them at length at the time the motions are put.

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

Now, Sir, I will not detain the House any longer. (An honourable member: Coal contracts.) If the honourable member asks a question, I will reply.

Now, Sir, I will now come to a question that has been touched upon by some honourable members opposite, and which has created considerable apprehension in the minds of some of my friends in Sind. I hear echoes of this apprehension in this House. I mean the policy that Government is going to adopt with regard to karia reductions. This is a burning topic especially for the zamindars of Sind. But I feel sure that honourable members opposite will also be interested in the past history of this controversy. Mr. President, karias are outlets on main canals or distributaries through which zamindars get their water on to their fields. On the size of these karias depends the quantity of water that a zamindar can draw off from the main supply. Naturally the more water the zamindar on the head of the canal draws off.....

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA: Sir, is this relevant?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Is the amount for karias included in the demand?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Yes, Sir.

Well, Sir, I was just saying that the more water that is drawn off by zamindars at the heads of canals the less flows to the tails. There has been for a considerable number of years a considerable amount of agitation.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO: This is quite a separate question, Mr. President.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: The point is this, Sir. Many of the grants for karia heads are included in this demand, and a large number of amendments have been moved to cut them out. The major portion of the amendments are directed against these provisions for karia heads. Therefore, it will be saving the time of the Council if I address the House now. I hope honourable members who belong to the presidency proper will bear with me a little time longer, because this is really a question which does affect the interests of my honourable friends the zamindars of Sind. It is time that my honourable friends opposite took a little interest in this question which affects the prosperity and happiness of my honourable friends the zamindars of Sind.

Now, Sir, I was just saying that the more water that is drawn off from the head, the less goes to the tail. The zamindars at the tails have been agitating for some time and strongly represented that they must get more water at the tails. We are all agreed—both the zamindars and the Government officers—that more water should be given to the tails of the canals. There is no difference of opinion about that. But the difference of opinion comes in in connection with the question as to how that is to be effected. Government have had this matter under consideration for some years. Conferences have been held consisting of Government

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

officers, both Revenue and Public Works Department which have sat for days and reported to Government. The last conference took place in 1923, and they reported in favour of *karia* reduction. But Mr. President, the zamindars of Sind who are at the heads of the canals do not agree with the conclusions arrived at by this conference. The zamindars at the heads of the canals are of the opinion that the remedy suggested by the conference, namely, the reduction of the *karia* heads, will not bring about the results anticipated by our officers. The zamindars are of opinion that it is silt clearance and silt clearance alone that is necessary. They feel strongly on the point, and they feel that by silt clearance alone we shall get more water to the tails of the canals. Our officers are of opinion that it is throwing money into the canals : it is waste of money. There is this clear difference of opinion between our officers and the zamindars, especially the zamindars at the heads of the canals. Government have now come to the conclusion that the time has arrived when the interests of the zamindars at the tails of canals should no longer be neglected but unfortunately they form the poorer class among the zamindars. I am sure my honourable friends opposite representing the Sind zamindars are in agreement with Government that the grievances of the tail zamindars should be redressed. But Government have not yet come to any definite conclusion as to what policy should be adopted. Although a layman, I have tried to study this question to the best of my ability and we now think that whatever steps we take for the benefit of those zamindars those steps should be such that while benefitting those at the tail, should in no way injure the interests of those zamindars who are represented here by my honourable friends opposite. Government have come to the conclusion that before they decide the policy of *karia* reduction they should try the experiment of having *karias* reduced on two canals this year : one on the left and one on the right bank. Government came to the conclusion in November last and announced their policy. They propose also to make an experiment as regards the clearance of silt on two canals : one on the right and one on the left bank. No further steps will be taken till the results of the experiment are known. I will mention the names of the canals : *karia* reduction will be in the case of only one small canal—Mubarak *ex* Dad ; the experiment of silt clearance will be carried out in the case of three canals and they are : Murad *ex* Naul Kali and Mubarak *ex* Fuleli on the left bank, and Kakolwal in the Western Nara District on the Right Bank. When we have seen the result of these experiments, Government will consider the question and will decide the policy. But we do desire to carry with us in whatever policy we adopt the zamindars of Sind because the measures we may take are for their benefit. If the steps we take do not meet with their approval Government will be considerably handicapped. We want to carry the zamindars with us and it is for that purpose that these experiments are to be made. The orders for these experiments were issued in November last. But I may state that there are certain demands included in the budget for *karia* reduction. I assure honourable members that it was never the intention of Government to utilise one rupee of

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

these provisions for Karia reductions. It was their intention to use the money for the experiments I have mentioned.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I should like to know whether the honourable member will take some more time. If he will take more time, I think we should now adjourn for tea.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: I will not take more than two or three minutes, Sir.

If more money is now required for that purpose Government will come to the honourable House for a supplementary grant. In the meantime Government are prepared to withdraw all these demands for the present.

Because you were very anxious, Mr. President, I have now finished.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I am not suggesting anything. It is for the Council to decide whether a speech is too long or too short and they have got the constitutional remedy in their own hands. I have nothing to do with it.

(After recess.)

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO (Larkana District): Sir, I beg to move:

"That item No. 214 (Blue Book), Rs. 5,000 for constructing sluices over Zamindari Karias be omitted."

The remark made on this item is as follows:—

"As there is deficiency of water at the tails of canals it is very necessary to construct *pucka* sluices there to take the place of *katcha* sluices in the upper reaches which are drawing water much in excess at present. The work is thus essential for the proper distribution of water."

I submit Sir, that this remark itself is a fictitious one. I quite disagree with the P. W. D. and so does every zamindar of Sind in their policy of reduction of kaira heads, a policy which is being initiated by the P. W. D. officers this year, and will be encouraged more and more every year.

The honourable member, at the representations of the Sind members, came down to Sind and held two conferences one at Hyderabad and the other at Sukkur. In these conferences, about three hundred or over zamindars of head, tail and mid attended. They all in a body with the exception of only three or four protested against this policy of reduction of sluices. Those few exceptions which came forward to corroborate the statements of P.W.D. officers, were either related to the subordinate officers of the P.W.D. or were set up at their instigation, having direct or indirect connection with them.

It is said by the honourable member that only head zamindars protest but not those of the tail. I in reply to that, would submit, Sir, that I myself possess fairly good area of the extreme end of Rawala, which is a distributary from western Nara. I get less water, not enough to cultivate my land, and I have never come forward to say that the sluices of zamindari karias above mine be reduced. What I have said and am going to repeat even now is that the tail of Raymah be widened and improved to the entire satisfaction of the tail people.

[Mr. Mahomed Ayub Shah Mahomed Khuhro]

Here is my friend Khan Sahib Karimbuksh Jatoi, who is a representative from the same district, who possesses a good deal of area at the tail of canal. He says the same thing. So are some other members as well.

The Honourable Member says that he has issued orders that for the sake of experiment these canals may be done silt clearance to the satisfaction of the zamindars concerned and sluices be reduced on one canal. What I hear from my friends is that they, in order to prove that the experiment proved an absolute failure and that they are fully justified in initiating this policy of reduction of sluices, have selected such hopeless karias for silt clearance that they can never improve them. I know at least one distributary out of the three selected for experiment, and which is in my district, it is Kakal-mahs, I am positive that this distributary can under no circumstances be improved. It has numerous zigzags. So as soon as the water waters it is silted up. It can only improve if they change its whole construction and design it as a straight canal, taking off all its zigzags. Those who possessed lands over it have either arranged some other source of water supply or have preferred leaving lands uncultivated than to bother over it.

Similarly, the branch selected for the reduction of sluices is, I am told, such that the lands at its tail are low-lying and they require only a little more supply of water than what they get now.

I submit that the object of this sort of selection is simply to show at the end of the year that the experiment proved a failure. So it is obvious from this underhand policy of playing with the just rights and the claims of the agriculturists, that this their new policy is already proved a faulty and oppressive one, before they can put it to taste.

It is said that the Sind members of this Council seem to have either their lands at the head of canals or have sympathy with those of head alone.

In reply to that, Sir, I would submit that this is the grievance which was felt by my predecessors, the members of the last term of Council, and it is the grievance felt by me and my colleagues in the present lot. Many of them have not been returned this time. So, how is it possible that only those who possess lands at the head are returned to the Council and not those who possess at the tail. Besides we are representatives of the head people as well as the tail people. We owe a great responsibility to our constituency and are here to echo their voice here.

So, Sir, I in all earnestness urge the House to support me in this motion and the rest half a dozen motions for omission of the same nature.

Khan Bahadur S. N. BHUTTO (Larkana District): Sir, I rise to support the motion moved by my honourable friend from Larkana district. Before going into the details, I will request my honourable non-official friends to consider this question very carefully. Sir; irrigation in Sind is on quite different lines from what it is in the Presidency. When Government officials are drafting smaller demands in the budget perhaps our non-official members on occasions never consider

[Khan Bahadur S. N. Bhutto]

what serious effects these budget items will have on the public of Sindh. The reason is that they have no personal knowledge to realize the difficulties and hardships of the landed class in Sind. Sir, this policy of Government was started first in the year 1907. There was an Executive Engineer in charge of Begari Canals. He took fancy to reduce the sluices of private karias. May I ask the honourable member in charge whether when this policy was started there was any complaint made by any of the agriculturists at tails of canals about insufficient supply of water. Absolutely none. This policy was started simply to save money for the comfort of officials, to have more money available for bungalows and gardens and at the same time to provide people, that is to say the zamindars, at the tail with water, as then their demand was not much without spending anything over clearance. Sir, if the Public Works Department officials had any foresight to see what would be the result of this policy they would have considered twice before taking this policy into hand as they did not apprehend perhaps silt at the tail to that effect as it really got accumulated and made tail of canals hopeless to draw water. But from their point of view they being technical experts they thought this system will prove effective at the cost of upper zamindars, they will have no way to get clearance done and at the same time save the huge amount of funds to be spent at their own sweet-will as they chose to do. We agitated but the reply was that we are lay people and do not understand. The fact is that we are practical people on the spot. We are not technical, but that makes no difference. So far as our experience and knowledge goes we are quite competent to know what is bad and good for people. Let me inform this House of my personal knowledge that sometimes the Public Works Department officials proposed certain new cuts and when we, the zamindars, advised them that they would be of no use and will do no good they are sure to prove failure. These officials do not listen to us, they say that we have no technical knowledge; they spend Government money in spite of the warning they get and in the end the result is that though they excavated these new cuts at great cost for our benefit the result is that water from those cuts goes back into the Indus instead of falling down into the canal. The karia reduction policy in spite of its failure is being pursued in the teeth of great opposition. What does it show but lack of interest in the welfare of the zamindars and the people of Sind, simply to justify the action of the officials, knowing it fully well that nobody wants it and that it is beneficial to no one. On the contrary, it has proved detrimental to most of the zamindars of the province. These are our own personal experiences. At that time, when they introduced this policy they did not imagine the result would be so adverse. They thought that for the zamindars at the tail there would be enough of water. If the people at the tail did not have enough of water, they perhaps believed that they could continue reducing supply of upper people without anybody to question their action. But the results have been contrary to their expectations. The position of the head has become like that of the tail and

[Khan Bahadur S. N. Bhutto]

the position of the tail like that of the head. They have failed to bring prosperity to tail people and have done great harm to upper people. In short, this action and policy while doing no good to anybody, has brought ruin to many. As soon as people were hit by reduction of their sluices, they thought over the question very seriously. They tried to improve their karias by putting pucca embankments to protect their karias from heavy silt, had their own clearance and effected other improvements at a great cost. Two or three years later, the Public Works Department people found the zamindars not so seriously handicapped as they had expected. They therefore reduced their karias further with an excuse that their karias were drawing more water than they were entitled to do. So, in some cases these karias have been repeatedly reduced from time to time. Sir, if there is no monsoon or there is less water in the river, it is beyond human hands to remedy it; it is the will of God. But when water is plenty, within one's reach, one is not allowed to have it, it is simply the fault of high Public Work Department officials, who consider themselves empowered to dictate terms to people to cultivate only enough land to get through and let the rest of it go to waste. Since this policy was introduced, there have been complaints, protests and agitation from time to time. There are no two opinions in Sind on this question; Hindus and Mahomedans alike have been complaining about it. I ask, if reduction in private karia sluices is profitable to tail people, why they do not ask for it. Is there any reliable representation from tail people on record through their representatives in the Council, through the press or their associations? I dare say no. Have not the people got voices? Do they not know their interests? Of course they have got voices, they know their interests, but the fact is that they know very well that it is clearance and clearance alone which will help them and not cutting the bread of upper people by reducing their supply of water.

I should like to bring to the notice of the honourable House that there are certain parts in Sind on the tails of canals which are cultivated by monsoon water; these floods are called *Kir* which overflows, and people cultivate their Rabi crops on it. Really speaking, these people have no right to any regular supply of water from canals in Sind. Finding abundant water in the past in canals, these people approached the officials if they could be allowed to utilise the spare water; the canals were extended downwards which are called tails now, and the people were allowed to water their Rabi crops on payment of some assessment. Gradually, the people took more and more advantage of this facility; they installed lifts for getting the water out to the fields for their Kharif dry crops. Then they started regular cultivation of Kharif dry crops by means of this water; now they want to have rice cultivation, and the result of it is that the upper people are deprived of their legitimate share of this water to provide for those people who have got absolutely no claim over the water on that canal. I would submit that these upper and middle people have been cultivating their lands and drawing water from

[Khan Bahadur S. N. Bhutto]

the canals since the commencement of the British Raj. They pay comparatively high assessment, Rs 5 to Rs. 6 per acre. Are they therefore not entitled to have their land cultivated when water is within their reach? From what authority do these officials draw their superior power to ask people to give up two-thirds of their land and rights of pitch? Is it not a fact that when the pitch of the upper and middle zamindars was fixed on canals, they were granted their sluices according to their holdings? Were those engineers who sanctioned and granted these sluices fools? Unfortunately, our complaints to the irrigation officers have been unheeded. If matters were brought before the courts, I am doubtful whether the engineers would have any good case to justify their unusual order. These circumstances compelled us to approach Government to lay our grievances before it. We have found Government always very kind and considerate, but there is no consideration or fairness to be expected from their subordinates.

Then, Sir, as regards our lands to be cultivated, I have to bring to the notice of this honourable House that we are not allowed to cultivate the whole of the area of the land in our possession. That means that we are not allowed water for our whole area. In the olden days, there was no restriction of water for cultivation. If I had 5,000 acres, I could cultivate all that land, if I had water in my canal. Now, we are told that we are not entitled to cultivate all our area. We are entitled to cultivate only one-third of the area; the rest of the land has to be kept open for cultivation in subsequent years. That means we must cultivate land by rotation; whether it pays us or not does not matter, with the result that within a few years it will be all waste. It has actually happened that thousands and thousands of acres of zamindari lands have been forfeited to Government under the fallow rules for the want of water. In this way, I think lakhs of rupees are lost every year. The smaller zamindars are able to cultivate 75 per cent. of their land, but the big zamindars are allowed to cultivate only 33 per cent. of their land, and the argument that is advanced is that if the big zamindars are allowed to cultivate most or all of their land, the smaller zamindars would have to go without any water. May I ask the Honourable the General Member whether he would be prepared to part with a portion of his salary for the benefit of any of his clerks. Are his wants the same as those of his clerk or a petty landlord? How are the big zamindars to make both ends meet? Is that the sort of argument to be advanced on a question like this? Is it right to say, Sir, that the smaller zamindars must cultivate a greater portion of their lands because they are smaller zamindars? In this connection, Sir, in 1921, a deputation of the zamindars waited on His Excellency Sir George Lloyd, the then Governor; he was very sympathetic and he suspended this system all at once and ordered clearance in tails of canals. He assured us that if clearance would remedy the defects, there would be no reduction in sluices. When such clearance was done in these years, there was no complaint of insufficient supply of water at the tails. This created heartburning in the minds of these officials, who

[Khan Bahadur S. N. Bhutto]

were bent upon pushing the policy of reduction of sluices. A conference of Sind officials met at Karachi, where it was decided to continue the reduction policy. Owing to financial difficulties, it was pointed out to Government that huge amounts of money would be required every year for effective clearance, and therefore the easiest solution was to resume the reduction of sluices. Sir, was it not proper and right to have called representatives of people in that conference to represent their side? People were not taken into confidence as the decision was arrived at according as the officials desired for their own satisfaction. Last year we approached the Honourable the General Member in charge of the department to redress our grievances. He gave us high hopes. We know he is very sympathetic. He promised to us that he would go to Sind and would remedy this old grievance of the people. We warned him that we needed his full support and help; otherwise he will not be able to do much; his P. W. D. officials will frighten him that it is a technical question; he may order on his own responsibility. He being a layman will shrink from handling the question himself. We told him that he would be quieted by his subordinates, from whom we expect no good, but we look up to him alone, local officials under no circumstances are prepared to see eye to eye with us. The Honourable Member assured us that he will try to see eye to eye with us and will come to our rescue.

Then, Sir, the Honourable the General Member went to Hyderabad. What happened there? With one voice all protested against this policy. But then I would not like to mention the name of the official. He was a subordinate official; he was asked to produce some people who should support official side. He had to produce some people because he was a subordinate and had to please his superiors. He produced his relatives and friends, in all about three persons to side with them. He came and told me: "What can I do? I have to respond to the orders". When the Honourable Member came to Sukkur he held another conference there. Before the honourable member arrived there, there were about 300 zamindars present and they asked me to represent their case. I told them they must decide for themselves. If they were all of one and the same opinion, I would put up their case, I told them. They all were against reduction and in favour of clearance and asked me with one voice to represent their case. I put a straight question to the Honourable the General Member whether he was going to discuss with us on the merits of the case or repeat and sing the same tune that he had done at Hyderabad, as in that case the conference was all farce, and why should he have troubled all these hundreds of gentlemen from all parts of the province to have gathered at their great inconvenience and cost, when the honourable member had already made up his mind in consultation with his subordinates as to the course of his action? From our point of view we have got 18 years' experience of this system, which has proved absolute failure. The long and short of the honourable member's reply amounted to this: "Well, if you do not like to discuss with me, you may go away; if you are prepared to lay your case before me, I

[Khan Bahadur S. N. Bhutto]

am prepared to listen to it. I can't say more than that". Well, under the circumstances, Sir, we should have left the conference in face of the most unsympathetic reply we got from the Honourable the General Member. His attitude was quite different from what we knew him before he reached Sind, but simply out of the personal respect we have had for him, we remained to our most disadvantageous state of affairs. He had responsible high officials of the P. W. D. sitting by his side. I explained to him what were the kinds of people of Sind and those present in the conference. My speech was translated into vernacular by one of his responsible P. W. D. officials. The Honourable the General Member must have known the sense of the conference, but unfortunately the sympathy we expected was missing. There was nobody who was in favour of reduction of salaries. Every one of them told him what they thought about it. A little later some zamindars out of the 300 present there were brought forward, two Hindus and two Mahomedans, who asked whether you reduce sluices or make clearance. Give us water at tails at canals. We have got full sympathy with tail people. Some of us have got lands in tails. There were present all classes : head, tail and middle. What we ask is adopt a course which should really help tail people instead of affecting upper people which brings no good in any way even to tail people. These zamindars were put up by some unknown missionary to create differences among them.

Sir, it is very wrong policy that is being followed at present and I am only sorry that responsible officers of Government should make misrepresentation and wrong statements to the House and to the public. This is what hurt me most, Sir. There are thousands of people who are suffering and have suffered on account of this policy. When people's representatives do not want it, when it does no good to anybody, why do you force your policy on us? You are not satisfied with your experience. What is your experience? Who wants these things? Who asked you for these things? Point out a single honest man who would come forward and say that these things are wanted.

Then, Sir, my honourable friend says that we are going to have the barrage in seven years. This experiment has done no good since the last 18 years. Where is the necessity to create this disturbance for 7 years and this unpleasantness for 7 years? Has the country benefited owing to this policy? People do not want it. Why not postpone it for 7 years? Let them postpone it, let them stop it, let them do what people want and ask them to do it. Then, is this policy right, is this argument right, that the land which is already fertile should go waste? Is it right that these lands which are waste lands should be improved or tried to be improved at the expense of best lands? Government are going to undertake three canals as an experiment to have therein charmer. I have got no experience of two canals, but, as far as Larkana district canal is concerned, Khan Saheb Jatoi from Larkana says he has never known this canal to be ever in good condition. It is not possible to improve the canal. We spent so much money and it is bound to prove a failure. Why then proceed with such experiments? When you want to try an experiment, let Government take

[Khan Bahadur S. N. Bhutto]

people into confidence and do everything in consultation with them. As the honourable member mentioned in his speech, the officials had a conference to consider this question. Our grievances are that they do not take people into confidence and hear what they say on the subject. Truly this officialdom is not desirable and the result is total failure. I have known wonderful things which the Council will be surprised to hear but unfortunately I cannot go further. I think the honourable member is trying to justify what his officials have done to save their prestige and merely for the sake of policy. Otherwise he knows very well that nobody was satisfied with his attitude during his tour in Sind. There are so many different public bodies, associations, representatives of people in this Council and outside, Hindus, Moslems; surely all are disappointed with his policy. None wants him to have further experiments at the cost of the public. The public had enough of the experiments during the last 18 years. His officials want them and he is doing all this in the face of united protest of the public of Sind. Sir, with these remarks I take my seat.

Mr. D. R. PATIL (East Khandesh District): Mr. President, I should like to make a short speech on the motion before the Council. We know very well, Sir, that our Sindhi gentlemen are not obstructionists; they are good co-operators. We know their loyalty. Now, Sir, we have to see in what way their demands are considered by the Government. That we have to see. We want to tell our Sindhi gentlemen, our Sindhi honourable friends, to learn the value of the proverb "United we stand, and divided we fall". We know very well, Sir, that Government want to do certain things for the Sindhi people. What is their reply? "You want to do some good to us by doing particular things, but they will not do any good to us; therefore, for God's sake do not spend money in doing those things." Sir, if that is the case, why should Government be so very keen on spending money for the people of Sind against their will. People's will is the point to be considered. I think that if that point is considered, then I do not see any objection for the Government to grant the request of the mover of the motion. Now, Sir, from all these considerations we should learn at least two things. The first thing is that at the time of considering the grievances of others let us put ourselves into their position and give our votes accordingly. The second thing is that if you want justice from others, you must do justice to them. If our Sindhi gentlemen will learn in future these things we shall duly oblige them. With these remarks I resume my seat.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University): Sir, on behalf of the Swaraj party, I rise to support this motion. Our party, Sir, is a party which aims at retrenchment all round, and I am glad I am having this opportunity of stating to my Sindhi friends that we shall be always with them on every occasion when they want to cut down the expenses of administration in Sind. I am very glad I have this opportunity of co-operating with them in cutting down expenses, although the motion is only for a very small amount. There is a French proverb which says

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

"long live trifles". I was told when I came to this hall that these amounts were only small amounts like Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 1,500 and so on. A party, Sir, which is bent on retrenchment is not guided by considerations of amounts being small or big. I am very glad, Sir, to have this opportunity of co-operating with our Sindhi friends in bringing about economy of administration.

Khan Saheb. KARIMBAKSH JATOI (Larkana District) addressed the House in Sindhi supporting the motion.

Mr. NOOR MAHOMED (Hyderabad District): Sir, in ordinary circumstances I would not have spoken. But I am very sorry to say, Sir, that as the Honourable the General Member, after a long tour in Sind, has made certain statements which are absolutely opposed to facts I am compelled to say a few words. I am very sorry to say, Sir, that he has made statements which have been rightly characterized as misrepresentations by the honourable member representing Larkana. He has misrepresented public opinion in Sind; he has misrepresented the interests of the agriculturists. Well, I am a representative of those agriculturists, and I have my responsibility to my constituency, and I can speak with more authority and responsibility than my honourable friend as regards those agriculturists. I will draw the attention of my honourable friend the Minister for Local Self-Government to what has been stated by the Honourable the General Member, and I will ask him to speak out to-day whether what I am saying is correct or not. The Honourable the Minister comes from the same constituency that I come from. I request him to speak out to-day, because for the first time to-day a certain policy is being laid down by the Honourable the General Member so far as this irrigation problem in Sind is concerned. The Honourable the General Member seems to state that we represent the people at the head, as if he represents the people at the tail. He represents none. We represent everybody: we represent the considered opinions of the people there. I am very sorry that when he came to Sind a certain atmosphere was being created, very dishonestly, by certain people, to show that there was some difference between the agriculturists at the head and at the tail of the water courses. As a matter of fact no such difference exists. They have tried to create this difference of opinion and they have failed so far; and they will fail in the future.

Sir, I want the House to bear in mind that the Honourable the General Member wants to enunciate to-day a certain policy regarding irrigation in Sind. He says that the people at the tails of the water courses are not getting sufficient water, and therefore there should be reduction of the heads of karias—the water-courses. For the purpose of what he calls ocular demonstration he wants to select one canal—the old Mubarak-Wah canal ex-Dad-Wah. That canal, Sir, is absolutely hopeless. Any experiment made on that canal will never be an honest experiment. I request the Honourable the General Member to say whether what I have stated is or is not a fact. Khan Saheb Karimbaksh Khan has given his testimony to the fact that it would be an absolute waste of money to do

[Mr. Noor Mahomed]

any clearance on the Kakolwah. Now, Sir, I shall speak of my constituency and about the canal in my district, the Mubarak-Wah canal ex-Phuleli Canal. I will ask the Honourable the Minister in charge of Local Self-Government whether it is not a fact that the old Mubarak-Wah canal on which were the lands of Anbab Jumo Khan had to be given up by him and a new canal excavated by him at a cost of Rs. 70,000, for bringing water for irrigating his lands. That had to be done, because the old Mubarak-Wah is now, on account of clearance work having been neglected on it, a hopeless canal. No money spent on it for an experiment is sound expenditure, and that expenditure will be a waste and no experiment at all. Therefore, if the Honourable the General Member really wants to do any good to the people of Sind, we will be very glad to render him any help he needs from us. He should not depend so much on the department of which he is the head and of which I believe he is an ornament. Sir, to me it is very clear that this experiment that the honourable member has been led to believe to be a sound one, is an absolute fraud, it is absolutely dishonest and no one considers it as a legitimate experiment. I fear, Sir, that the Honourable Member in charge of the Irrigation Department has been hoodwinked.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind): Sir, before I give a long history of this matter.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Are you going to give a long history? Have we not had enough?

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: I will only put to the House and to the Members of Government the seriousness of the matter. This is a policy which affects the whole province of Sind, and therefore I must bring it to the notice of the non-official members of this House that they took a wrong step when they did not want to give a patient hearing to the Honourable the General Member. This is the day when this Council will have to express its opinion on the policy adopted by Government as regards these karia heads. This sluice system was started in 1907 when Mr. Robertson took charge in Jacobabad district. Under it powers were given to the executive engineers to give more water to the zamindars at the tail. Mr. Robertson came there from the Punjab, where he had seen the sluice system working on the Chenab. He adopted this system in the Begari canal and the Desert canal in 1908, without taking into consideration the special conditions of silt and other circumstances that were not present in the Punjab. Now, Sir, in order to determine the size of the sluice, it was necessary to take calculations of what is called the full supply level of water in the canal. Now, Sir, the experiments were not conducted by Mr. Robertson personally; he conducted only one or two. The experiments were conducted by his subordinates. I am speaking from regular figures that formed the subject matter of a civil suit in Sind which was finally decided by the Court of the Judicial Commissioner. I am speaking from facts and figures that in certain instances the experiments made were so absolutely wrong that the area

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

cultivated by one cusec of water was estimated by the subordinate officers to yield 80 while Government do not take it for more than 36 or 42. These are matters in which calculations were absolutely hopelessly wrong. It was on these calculations that the reductions were based. It was absolutely unnecessary for responsible officers to intervene. The reduction of *karias* has been going on from time to time since 1908 on the same canal and on the same sluices with disastrous results in many cases. This reduction policy was initiated by Mr. Robertson. Our last secretary of the P.W.D., Mr. Griffiths, was a great opponent of that policy and up to now he stands an opponent of that policy of reduction of *karias* and also many of the other engineers, because Mr. Griffiths was for some time Chief Engineer with us. There were other engineers who held the opinion that the reduction of sluices would redress the grievances of zamindars.

The Indus and its canals are not the same as here. Our Indus has got a large quantity of silt and flows with a great velocity, and when water is carried with force into the canals the tail of the canals becomes silted up. The tails are narrow. A canal that is 50 feet broad at the head is 12 feet in breadth at the end. It becomes narrower and narrower as the canal moves to the tail and naturally a low gradient becomes higher owing to the silt. Under these circumstances excavation should be carried on.

Now, I wish to draw the attention of the House to one important point, whether the zamindars in Sind demand this kind of treatment—the reduction of the *karias*. I had to bring this to the notice of Mr. Griffiths at the request of some of the zamindars at the tail, one of whom came specially to me for this in Poona—one at the tail of the Begari. Begari canal is one of the biggest canals, running 76 miles long. The zamindars belonged to the Shahdaskot taluka and they insisted upon excavation being carried out. I am speaking the opinion of these zamindars and this statement they made will be found in the letter that I handed over to them for Mr. Vacha. The whole trouble is due to a conflict of opinion. On one side certain engineers hold the view that the *karia* reduction is beneficial to the interests of zamindars at the tail end of canals, on which Government rely. On the other side they say that because at the tail end it becomes silted up and the gradient is destroyed, whether you have sluices or not, the water will not flow. That is the situation. I wish to bring to the notice of the Council and the Honourable Member in charge that this is a serious matter in which it is good to determine once for all the policy which the Government should adopt. My honourable friend for Larkana has already pointed out that whatever money is provided by Government for excavation purposes is not properly spent. I myself asked a question as to whence the expenditure on the upkeep and maintenance of bungalows and gardens of officers of this department is met; and whether any separate accounts are kept. Government did not give any reply as to whether a separate account is kept or not. In fact the amount of money set apart for excavation is devoted to the upkeep of bungalows and gardens.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : No.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : It is so : he will be satisfied that expenditure on Gardens and Bungalows is debited to no head : it is debited to clearance. In support of the clearance theory, I had letters addressed to me from the zamindars at the tail : I may tell the Honourable the General Member that I have received so many requests to get more money for excavation that I have approached the Superintending Engineers and I have succeeded in making the Superintending Engineers to apply for and get more money.

Without being long I think in this matter I must strongly support my honourable friend from Larkana. If the Honourable the General Member wants to do something beneficial to the people, he must take into confidence not only the people but also experts in that department who have now retired and who can give independent opinion and not fear to express their opinion as experts in service will do. Otherwise, a small mistake in the reading of the velocity or a small difference in the area on which depends the whole question will vitiate the experiment. I strongly support the motion for reduction.

MOULVI RAFI UDDIN AHMAD (Central Division) : Sir, one thing is quite clear that the Honourable the General Member does not understand either the head or the tail of the question. Sir, as was rightly pointed out by my honourable friend Mr. Jayakar, in politics there are neither permanent enemies nor permanent friends. The Honourable the General Member is initiating a new policy. He is there as a link between the officials and the non-officials, the people and the Government. But I am afraid he is only a missing link. He does not himself know anything about engineering. Hence are two courses left open to him, either to listen to his officials, who are interested parties, or to the people. One thing is quite certain, Sir, that the officials whether they are of the Public Works Department or of anywhere else, they are to-day in India and to-morrow in the northern climes, but the people are always here. If the officials commit mistakes the people have to suffer (hear, hear).

Therefore the right policy is to follow the will of the people and not to follow the will of the officials. Far be it from me to say that the officials are not doing their best. We are not here as experts. There is one index however which we should follow and that index is the mind of the people, and the mind of the people here is the voice of the representatives of the people of Sind. I do not always follow the will of the people (laughter) as according to the honourable member for Bombay but as I understand it. I had never seen greater righteous indignation in this House than what has come from the people that have always been patient themselves. The last stroke has broken the camel's back. I therefore, Sir, strongly recommend to the honourable member in charge to follow the feeling of the people and not to be merely guided by so-called scientific advice. As has been pointed out by one engineer, the right course to take was as had been pointed out by the Finance Member the other day while he said that he preferred silent votes of

[Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad]

members to their vocal approbation. But vocal approbation by a silent vote was not the most moral course. When there was a clear will and indication of the people with regard to a policy, I hope the Honourable Member will value that indication and will be guided by the feeling of the people and not by official whims or interests.

Mr. J. M. BHURGRI (Thar and Parkar District) addressed the House in Urdu supporting the motion.

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON: Sir, I have come as have the members from Sind, a long distance and I had hoped to hear some few words of praise for the irrigation engineers from at least some of the Sind members. But, Sir, if everything is true which has been said by honourable members from Sind I am afraid we must be a very bad lot. It has been said by almost all these members that our policy has been to reduce expenditure and in order to reduce expenditure we have abolished silt clearance and are taking up 'Karia' reduction as being the cheaper of the two methods for attaining a better distribution of water at the tails of canals.

Well, Sir, I think the honourable members of this House might give us credit for attempting economy, for we have been told that all cases of economy will be supported.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO: We have said that the money that is being spent on this policy is more or less wasted and we urged that this money should be spent not for comforts but that it should be spent on the proper lines of silt clearance.

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON: Sir, I am very sorry if I have misunderstood the honourable member. He addressed the House in English and I have taken the following words from his speech "this policy is meant to trouble the zamindars only and to save money and it does not benefit those at the tail". That is part of the notes I have taken down. I daresay the official reporter will subsequently corroborate me.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: Sir, when an honourable member has given an explanation it has got to be accepted.

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON: Very good. I accept that and I am very glad to hear that we are not considered as harmful to the zamindars as a whole.

Sir, we have heard from the honourable member Khan Bahadur Bhutto, something about the details of the meetings at Hyderabad and Sukkur. I happened to be present at those meetings. It was not a matter that directly concerned me, as most of the silt clearance will eventually pertain to canals outside the barrage canals zone, but, Sir, I was present as I had toured Sind thoroughly and heard many many complaints from the tail zamindars and I was able to sit there and listen and I heard a small voice speak. The 'big' voice came from the heads of the canals and the small voice from the tails.

The Honourable Member, General Department, will deal further with this subject and as he said in his opening speech he will inform the

[Mr. C. S. C. Harrison]

House what he proposes to do with regard to the items under consideration and as regards other items. But, Sir, I would like the House to understand that so far as the engineers were concerned the meetings were not in any way packed as alleged. If they had been packed then I think the honourable member from Larkana would have to admit that in a packed meeting the packers would see that the tail irrigators did raise their voice in favour of the *karia* reduction. But we are told by one honourable member that only three or four people, two Hindus and two Mahomedans, raised their voices in favour of *karia* reduction. We have been told that the delinquencies of our engineers are very great but I do not think they are so stupid as to pack a meeting with people and then find that only two Hindus and two Mahomedans are in favour of reduction of *karias*. I can assure members of this House that so far as all the senior officers were concerned, we took special precautions that it should *not* be a packed meeting. We made every possible attempt for everybody to come and give his views, and I for one heard far more than four voices raised in favour of *karia* reduction. (An honourable member here made an observation which was inaudible.) I will now leave that question. It has become rather heated, and the Honourable Member for the General Department will deal with it when winding up the debate.

The honourable the Deputy President has given us a very fine dissertation on the design of canals, but I am afraid, Sir, he is not very correct either in his theory or in his views on practice. Were the matter so easy as he makes it out to be, we should never have all the trouble we do have in trying to design our canals to be non-silting and non-scouring. There are certain old inundation canals which the engineers admit must have silt clearance, and that money spent on such canals under certain circumstances is money well spent. In the past, Sir, money was spent indiscriminately on silt clearance, whether the canal was suitable for it or not. The engineers' point is that we should go very carefully into these matters and see if silt clearance is necessary, and if it is necessary then it should be done, and if the money is likely to be provided, then by all means get the money from Government and spend it. But in most cases silt clearance alone will not cure the evil of lack of water at the tails of the canals, and we have tried our utmost to point out to Government that in certain cases *karia* reduction alone is required, in other cases *karia* reduction with silt clearance is necessary, and in a very few cases silt clearance alone. That is what we have been pressing for. The engineer certainly has no idea of creating injustice to the zamindar either at the head or at the tail, and I trust that the honourable member from Larkana will realise that the engineer has endeavoured in the past, as he will endeavour in the future, to be the zamindars' best friend. The honourable the Deputy President mentions Mr. Barclay Robertson's name. That officer, who was one of our ablest officers, had discovered that whatever was done for silt clearance on the Begari canal did not benefit the zamindars at the tail. I would ask any honourable member of this Council

[Mr. C. S. C. Harrison]

who goes to Sind to go to the tail of the Ewan Wah and see the village of Bago Dhero. That was once a prosperous village. It is now inhabited by a few goats and herdsmen ; there is no one else living there. The Deputy President has no doubt seen it himself. The decay of that village began before Mr. Barclay Robertson's policy of *karia* reductions was introduced ; it started in 1890 or thereabouts, and it went on though Government had done their utmost in the way of silt clearance. Silt clearance at the tail was tried for over twenty years, but that policy failed. Mr. Barclay Robertson then considered the question how we could overcome the difficulty, and he hit upon what I consider, the right method of dealing with the problem. From that year onwards, both silt clearance and *karia* reduction have been done. I admit to this House that the *karia* reduction was not systematically done. That, in a way, may be the fault of the officers themselves, but there was one thing in the way and that was the difficulty of obtaining funds. The officers, as money came their way, were unfortunately only able to take up two or three *karias* at a time and they reduced those. The Deputy President has pointed out that some of those *karias* were reduced two or three times. I have toured down that canal, and I can assure members of this House that one *karia* that I looked at had an opening nearly as big as the opening behind the *dais* of this Council Hall about 8 ft. by 7 ft. That *karia* is now about 5 ft. by 4 ft. after the three reductions and the zamindars on that *karia* are to-day as prosperous as they were at the time that Mr. Barclay Robertson carried out those reductions. The zamindars at the tail, those zamindars on the Ewan Wah that the Deputy President spoke about from Shahdadkot taluka, are to-day as poor as, nay poorer than, they were in those days. The reason was, as I have admitted, that the work was not carried out systematically. We have pointed out the difficulty to the Honourable the General Member, and he has decided that the policy to be adopted must be systematical, and for that reason he had come to Sind. The zamindars have stated that the P. W. D. policy has been entirely wrong. In other words, they have mildly put it that we do not know our job. Very good, Sir. We engineers say it is a fairly simple problem to tackle. The Honourable the General Member is prepared on behalf of the Public Works Department, in one or two small cases, to prove that our contention is correct. We have also started carrying out silt clearance to show whether the zamindars' contention that silt clearance alone is the remedy is correct or not.

Mr. NOOR MAHOMED : Those were abandoned canals.

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON : On that point, I think the Honourable the General Member will speak.

I am very sorry that the honourable member from the Jamrao Canal spoke from a far distant corner. There were some witty remarks made by him, I am told, but I did not hear them. One remark was passed on to me, and it was that he said that there were many Rao Bahadurs and Khan Bahadurs amongst the engineering establishment, because those gentlemen provided the supplies for the officers. I am afraid the officers must

[Mr. C. S. C. Harrison]

have fared very badly, because if we look up the lists, we shall find that there are very few Khan Bahadurs and Rao Bahadurs either in the Provincial Engineering Service or in the upper subordinates. [Interruption.]

I would conclude by thanking the honourable member from Poona for prefacing his remarks by saying that he considered that the engineers were doing their best. That is the most grateful word that I have heard during the whole of this discussion. I can assure honourable members of this House that whatever may be said, I would like them to accept it from me, on behalf of the irrigation engineers, that they are trying their best,—and they hope to continue to try their best—to distribute the water to those at the tail as well as to those at the head of these canals.

SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH MAUJALI SHAH (Thar and Parkar District): (Addressed the House in Sindhi): Sir, the Honourable Mr. Cowasji Jehangir says that the Punjabi zamindars of Jamrao Canal are satisfied with this new system of modules in the *karia* heads. The Honourable Member further says that they have gone even so far that they have requested the Public Works Department for putting modules in their *karias* at their own expenses. I don't think it could be so. On the occasion when the Honourable the General Member had come down to Sind to settle these matters, he had called a conference at Hyderabad. I had then suggested to him to judge the sense of the house by taking votes, as that is the parliamentary way, and he could have been able to find what side the majority was. But he did not do that.

In the Thar and Parkar district there is a zamindari association and if the Punjabi zamindars had desired to have the modules they would have approached the authorities through their association by passing a resolution unanimously or even by a majority, but on the contrary the association has passed a resolution that they are opposed to these modules. In my opinion it would be better if a meeting of the Punjabi and other zamindars who have holdings on the Jamrao canal is called by the Collector in consultation with the Superintending Engineer by issuing notices to all the zamindars, and the feelings of the majority of the zamindars are judged by taking votes; the whole matter will be settled in no time, as there will be no objection if the wishes of the majority are respected. We two members from the Thar and Parkar district had submitted all the facts about reduction of *karia* sluices and such other troubles of the Public Works Department in the open conference called by the Honourable Member at Hyderabad. It appears very strange that modules are being put on these two branches of Mithraowah, on which we two members possess lands. Are we to understand that it is mere repression of Public Works Department officers? It cannot be fair to trouble us loyal subjects of Government. Out of these two branches one is in the 30th mile Branch Left Bank Mithrao and the other is in 45th mile Left Bank Mithrao.

I desire to bring it to the notice of this honourable House that these our *karias* are in the middle of Mithrao canal and they cannot be said to be at the head of the canal. I am at a loss to conceive as to whence the

[Sayed Ghulam Nabi Shah Maujali Shah]

money came for putting these modules, while no demand was made by the Honourable the General Member in the last year's budget for this expenditure. The expenditure for reduction of the sluices of zamindari karias or for putting modules ought to be provided in the budget separately for sanction, so that we the representatives of the agricultural classes of Sind may get an opportunity to express the views of our constituencies properly and then to vote according to what they think right. I wish to make the Honourable Members of the Executive Council and the Ministers realise that they are responsible to the public as well, and they ought to endeavour to see that proper justice is done by the officers of the departments which are in their charge, and that they get no opportunity to repress the people.

I would urge on the Honourable the General Member to go through these facts himself and redress the above stated grievances of the zamindars of my district.

I beg to submit, Sir, just as the honourable member Mr. Jan Mahomed Bhurgri from Thar and Parkar district has said, that if we had also done the *Rasai* of the Public Works Department officers the modules would never have been put in the heads of our karias.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South) : Sir, I really consider this as a unique day in the history of the Bombay Legislative Council. I consider it a red letter day for the non-official benches. I say so, Sir, because after a long, long weary waiting, there is, after all, the awakening of the Sind members. I am very glad that an awakening has come and I do hope and wish that this awakening will continue. It is a lesson, Sir, which I do hope that the honourable members from Sind will remember and, remembering, will guide their behaviour in future. The lesson they have got to learn is this, that, after all, in the difficulties and the stress that they have to undergo, it is not their so-called friends on the Government benches that will stand by their side, but, after all, it is their brethren on this side of the House that will stand by their side, although you may have deserted them in the hour of their need. And this is the difference which you have to distinguish between your true friends and your—I will not call them enemies, but I leave it to you to describe. But I am surprised and I would ask my honourable friends.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I do not want to interrupt the honourable member, but I hope he does not wish to insinuate that the Sind members were voting against their convictions. I have pointed out before that I will permit no such insinuations against any individual member or a group of members of this honourable House.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : Far from it, Sir. I have not the slightest intention to find fault with our new friends, for our policy shall be to harbour and humour them and to convince them that between the two, the more sincere friends of theirs are on this side of the House and not on the other side. Now, Sir, I ask the attention of the House and rather earnestly and seriously to consider the advice of men from distant Sind. What

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

is the story that we have heard from these men from distant Sind ? These are allegations, and not vague charges as they were stated yesterday, coming from quarters where they are not accustomed to make any charges whatsoever. We can appreciate the extent of the difficulties, Sir, when these gentlemen come forward and speak out their minds so openly and so courageously in the presence of the high officials of the Government and speak in sentences and phrases which I must say has created absolute surprise even on this side of the House. What is the administration of Sind ? We have heard, although the honourable the Chief Engineer (Mr. C. S. C. Harrison) could not hear, that the honourable member from Sind said something about "*baida*". That is the very complaint the non-official members make. Supplying *baida* and supplying *murgi* ! It is something horrible ! " You don't supply us with *baida* and *murgi*, and we will cut off your water supply ". That is, in fact, the complaint, the story, that has been told by our friends from the distant Sind which I ask my honourable friends on this side seriously to consider. We hear so seldom such stories and such complaints from that distant land ; therefore, I say that this is a unique occasion, when the whole House should seriously consider the difficulties pointed out by our new friends, who are after all our friends, though they had gone astray.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : What does the honourable member mean by " going astray ". Does he mean the honourable members from Sind had gone astray ?

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : I do not speak of the honourable members in the House, but I say those countrymen of ours in Sind who have been entertaining these officers, instead of protesting when they ought to have protested, I mean they had gone astray and they are responsible for this position. They had not given out their minds as openly as they ought to have done. I say, when these officers come to you, tell them " No more *murgi* and no more *baida* ". Tell them what you want, standing on your legs and not bending on your knees. It is, after all, your land and water is supplied by God. What barbarous form of punishment, Mr. President ! Water supplied by God to be cut off, because you don't supply *murgi* and *baida* ! Though there is the humorous side of it, I am more concerned with the tragic aspect of it. What must be the feelings of these men who have got to deal with these officers and who have got to please these officers and who dare not incur their displeasure and suspicion ? This is the story that has been told by our friends from Sind who find they cannot stand by the Government benches any longer. My appeal is specially to the Honourable Minister who comes from that land. He is placed, I must say, in not a very enviable position. To-day is the day when the interests of his constituency clash with the interests of his Government. There has been an appeal to him from the honourable members on this side to stand up and speak, and speak in the language of his constituency, and not in the language of his Government. I am sorry that he has kept silent so far. He cannot keep silent. There are serious charges against the Government officers ; there have been charges that an atmosphere has been created ; there have been serious charges that

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

public opinion has been misrepresented. He was there on the spot. Let him speak, Sir, the language of truth and tell this House whether these allegations and charges are true, because these allegations and charges are not confined only to the province of Sind, but they are common to this presidency and to this country.

Then, Sir, there is the same old policy of divide and rule. Now, it is not a question of capital and labour; it is a question of the head and the tail. The honourable member from Poona rightly said that the Honourable the General Member was the missing link. He does not know either the head or the tail. The serious charge is there that the Honourable the General Member went there, and although public opinion was unanimously on one side—the respectable and responsible members of this side know that public opinion—still some other opinion was engineered and created to show to him that public opinion was otherwise. There is also another serious charge made against the House that this House has misrepresented public opinion. In these circumstances, it is the patriotic duty of the Honourable the Minister to come out. I appeal to him to state what the position is. Let him speak frankly and truly what the position of his constituency is. Are these wailings, are these various complaints and charges true? Or are they exaggerated? I appeal to him to state the position to the House.

Then, I may say only one word, and that is an appeal to the honourable members on our side to remember the words of Cardinal Wolsey: "Had I but served my God with half the zeal I served my king".

Mr. NOOR MAHOMED: Sir, I object to that strongly.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I have already called the honourable member to order. The insinuation is obvious and I hope no honourable member will repeat the performance, namely, of attributing motives to any individual member or group of members in the discharge of his or their duties in this House.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: Sir, if I had been only allowed to complete, my point would have been made clear. I was referring to the interests of the constituency as they have neglected to serve.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The implication is obvious that they have served Government better than their constituencies in the past. The honourable member clearly realises that.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: Sir, the only object of my appeal was.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: I certainly say, Sir, that I never meant any insinuation against honourable members opposite. If I was misunderstood I certainly withdraw. I never meant any insinuation against them. If I have been misunderstood I want them not to do so. I am very glad that that constituency has been looked after. I hope all the members who come from all the constituencies will be solicitous to look after their interests.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Sir, in response to the invitation that has been made to me, I would

[Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain]

like to make a few observations. If I do not speak on this occasion, I shall be failing in my duty not only to my constituency but to the honourable members who come from the Sind constituencies and from other parts of the country. I have always been doing my best to represent their views in the inner councils of Government, and on this occasion also I have represented to Government whatever I have been able to gather their views to be, and it is in pursuance of that, that Government have not come to any decision. I have represented all the facts to the Honourable Member in charge, and he has not arrived at any decision regarding this matter. In fact, he has suspended the orders and he has even given an assurance, when he placed these items about irrigation before this House, that he will not utilise the money for that purpose.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Mr. President, I should like to say one word on this occasion, because it is a question which I had a great deal to do with at various times for over thirty years. The question of distribution of water in Sind is a question of the life of the people, and in consequence there is nothing that the people of Sind take with greater seriousness. There has been recently a certain amount of levity in the remarks that have been made, levity which I greatly deprecate because I regard this question as one of the most important that can affect Sind. Sir, there is always a very great conflict of interest between the zamindars in the different parts of the canals. The officers of Government have two duties to perform in regard to these canals. The first is to attempt to get the water in the canals to go as far as possible, that is to irrigate the maximum area possible: that is the technical duty of the engineering officers. The second is the duty to see that the zamindars throughout the whole length of every canal have fairplay: that has always been particularly the duty of the revenue officers of Sind. Now, Sir, the two sets of officers working together have in the past worked in conjunction with the zamindars in great amity and concord, with most satisfactory results to the province of Sind. If you saw the canals now, and if you had seen them over thirty years ago as I have seen them, you would have found what a wonderful improvement has been made by the conjoint efforts of the zamindars of Sind improving their agriculture, of the engineers improving the technical management of the canal, and of the revenue officers assisting in the equal and fair distribution of water. It has been due to that concord that the province of Sind has prospered in the last thirty years, and the zamindars of Sind have many of them grown from comparative poverty to very considerable wealth. Now, Sir, this question of karia reduction at the present time is not a question which should be decided solely on the ground, as was suggested by one honourable member, that we should save Rs. 5,000 or Rs. 1,500 by abstaining from certain expenditure. If the expenditure of a small sum of money made the water go further and gave fairer distribution to all zamindars alike, then that expenditure will be amply justified in the interests of the zamindars and in the interests of the State. And when some honourable member

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

wants to draw a distinction between the interests of Government and the interests of the people, I would ask this House to remember that there is and there can be no such distinction. The expenditure on the canals in Sind is a very heavy expenditure. Whether it is in embankments to keep away the floods of the Indus, whether it is in silt clearance to enable the water to flow more freely, in whatever manner the expenditure may take place, it is a big draw off from the resources of the taxpayers of this presidency. And if honourable members will consult those figures that have been supplied to this House and are on record in the debates of this House—the Questions and Answers—they will discover somewhat to their surprise what a heavy expenditure there has been over a long period of years on the improvement of the canals of Sind. Therefore, Sir, my only purpose in intervening at this stage is to represent to the House that there are very intricate and delicate problems to be considered in this matter and that this question should be decided without prejudice and bitterness of feeling, for the efforts of the engineers and officers in Sind are exactly in the same direction as the efforts of the zamindars in Sind in the improvement of the canals and the improvement of the agriculture and the growth of prosperity of that province.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO (Larkana District) : Sir, I have not to say much, as most of the points have already been dealt with fairly clearly. I want to confine my remarks to one or two points raised by the honourable member, Mr. Harrison and the Honourable the Finance Member.

With reference to the remark of the honourable member Mr. Harrison that when he toured in Sind many zamindars at the tail complained to him that the zamindars at the head draw all the water and consequently they get less water for cultivation, I must say it is a lie.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: You must withdraw that expression. It is unparliamentary.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO : Sir, I beg to withdraw that word, but I would submit in all politeness and without the least disrespectful intention towards Mr. Harrison that I cannot believe that those zamindars would ever have differed from the representation we have made in this House, and could have complained in the manner stated by the honourable member, Mr. Harrison. May I ask in proof whether Government has received any representation or memorandum from those zamindars whom he referred to? Zamindars of Sind have got a number of their associations and they have every means to make their opinions made known to Government and can make their voice reach the Government. Even at the conferences held, I am positive that two or three people from the Upper Sind and two or three from the Lower Sind complained that they get less water and even they never said that because the zamindars at the head draw all water therefore they get very little water. On the whole what they wanted was more water.

[Mr. Mahomed Ayub Shah Mahomed Khuhro]

The Honourable the Finance Member stated that many zamindars have prospered during the last 30 years. It is a fact that they have prospered; but it is not because they are getting sufficient water now. When the Public Works Department was under the control of the Revenue Department and before it was made a separate department, the zamindars were getting sufficient water for their cultivation and they prospered. They spent their income on the improvement of the lands. But the condition of the zamindars after the entire independence of this department has been not a satisfactory one and it will be much worse if this new policy is inflicted upon them. The very fact that the zamindars are being compelled to cultivate only one-third of their holding every year shows that they are to suffer. This clearly indicates that they want them to leave lands fallow. How can they be said to be prosperous under the present conditions? I would urge on Government the view of the Sind public that they want to revert to the old system which existed while the Public Works Department was under the control of the Revenue Department. The zamindars were getting proper justice in many cases while the Collectors had control over the Engineers. The Collectors knew the actual accuracy of the case; being local officers and coming in touch with the zamindars, they often consulted them and did what was beneficial for them even by scoffing at the opinion of the engineers. All this trouble has arisen after the Public Works Department has been made a separate department. It is now high time that we should revert to the old system.

The Honourable the Finance Member then stated that a large amount of money was being spent on the clearance of silt and a less amount on the reduction of *karias*. It is not that we want more money to be spent on silt clearance than what is being given to us at present. What we want is that the money allotted for that purpose should be properly spent. Our complaint is that that amount has not been properly utilised for the clearance of silt, which I have already stated.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Mr. President, I think honourable members opposite and yourself have realised that this question is one of considerable importance to our friends in Sind. It has been a great pleasure to hear them all speaking. There have been several points raised by my honourable friends opposite and I will deal with only one or two important points. It was I think the honourable member Mr. Khuhro or Mr. Bhutto who stated that *karia* reductions have been a failure up to now. They stated that this policy was first adopted in 1907, that it had continued since then and at the end it had proved a failure. Naturally the House will want to know why there should be further experiments. It is perfectly correct to say that the idea of *karia* reduction originated with Mr. Robertson, I believe, in 1910. But, Mr. President, that policy was never carried out systematically or continuously in any one of the canals or in any part of Sind. It was spasmodic and it was unsatisfactory. It was carried out in a manner that neither the zamindars nor the Government could see any practical results. Government themselves are to blame for this, even more than their officers. Because

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

Government changed their policy on several occasions. I think it is wrong both in the interests of the zamindars and the Government to go on changing this policy. If you only take two or three *karia* heads or half a dozen heads in a canal, you can never see good results and on the contrary it will entail hardship on those zamindars whose *karia* heads have been reduced. One honourable member stated that I do not know either the head or the tail of this question. I must admit that I am not an engineer. Whatever I know of this question has been learnt during the past year. But I have taken the trouble to read all the previous papers on this question with some care. When my honourable friends placed before me their case last November I told them that I would keep an open mind on this question and that I would personally examine it during my visit to Sind. During my visit to Sind, I thoroughly went into the question with them and I do not propose referring to the conferences that took place. But I must say that I cannot corroborate some of the statements made by the honourable member, Mr. Bhutto. There were a good many zamindars who represented the tails and there were a good number of zamindars who said that they have been suffering for years and years. They also said "Give us water at the tail: never mind how you do it." And at that conference my honourable friends agreed that the zamindars at the tails of canals did not get the water that they should, and that there was not a fair distribution, but they suggested the old method of silt clearance. I am not complaining about the expense but our officers definitely told us that they have tried this method and that they have failed to get water to the tails. Under these circumstances, Sir, I realized that when my honourable friends contended that the policy of *karia* reductions would never be successful they were genuine, they sincerely and really believed in it, and therefore I came to the conclusion that Government should reopen the question and on my return to Bombay orders were issued that no further *karia* heads should be reduced and that Government would consider the whole question again. But first both to convince ourselves and to convince my honourable friends the zamindars, I suggested that there should be silt clearance on two canals and *karia* reductions on two other canals to enable us to see the result next year for ourselves before Government decide on the policy. I made that announcement to my honourable friends in Sind, and to-day we are informed that the canals suggested are such that the experiment for silt clearance can never be successful: that the Public Works Department officers have suggested such canals as they know are doomed to failure. I do not think that that charge is justified. I do not think that the Public Works Department officers would suggest canals on which *karia* reduction would prove a failure. At any rate if there is any suspicion in the minds of my honourable friends I can tell them that the Chief Engineer in Sind to-day is an experienced officer of Government who has served most successfully in the Deccan; he is an Indian, and I do not think it is proper to accuse him, to accuse him deliberately (An honourable member: What is his name?)—his name is

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

Mr. Vartak—of having placed before me the names of canals on which he knows the experiment is bound to be a failure.

Mr. NOOR MAHOMED : I am very sorry the honourable member is bringing in the name of an Indian gentleman in this connection. No one lays the responsibility of this selection on him. Therefore the honourable member should not create an impression that there is any attempt to cast aspersions on Mr. Vartak.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : The result of all that they said was that exactly. I have made Mr. Vartak personally responsible for selecting the canals, the canals are chosen by him, and I made that suggestion to him in the presence of my honourable friends and I hold him personally responsible. I am very pleased to hear that Mr. Vartak still retains the confidence of my honourable friends. At any rate the canals he has suggested are not in the opinion of some satisfactory and I am prepared to take other canals. Let the honourable members come to me and mention any one canal for karia reduction and also any other canal for silt clearance and I will accept those canals. But I do not think it is right to accuse our officers in this way. Can there be any doubt in the minds of any of the honourable members here that my honourable friend, Mr. Noor Mahomed did say that these canals were suggested with a view to prove the experiment a failure? I have suggested this experiment because I feel that we shall be able to solve this question one way or another. Considering the difficulties of the question, considering the opposition of my honourable friends who put their case so strongly, Government stopped karia reduction for the present. But one word more about this conference. Somebody just now said what about packing this conference? Well, Sir, I will give you the impression I got. I went to Sukkur where my honourable friends Khan Bahadur Bhutto and Mr. Khuhro were present and my friend Khan Bahadur Bhutto addressed the conference in Sindhi before I had a chance of saying a word and when I asked him what it was he was saying he informed me that he wanted to ascertain whether they agree to his representing their case. I thought it an excellent opportunity.

Khan Bahadur S. N. BHUTTO : Certainly it is not correct.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : I am repeating what my honourable friend said, namely that he asked them whether he should represent them all.

Khan Bahadur S. N. BHUTTO : They asked me to present their grievances.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : At any rate Sir, it gave me an impression that there were a certain number of tail zamindars who were anxious that their case should also be attended to. I do not wish to detain this House at this late hour. But, Mr. President, I must say a word about my honourable friend the Deputy President. He has taken a considerable interest in this question and he represents the zamindars at tails and heads of canals just as my honourable friend Mr. Noor Mahomed.

Mr. NOOR MAHOMED : Do you doubt it ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : I never doubted it. At any rate, Sir, my honourable friend the Deputy President has complained in the past that zamindars at tails of canals do not get water. And they happened to be his constituents and he has rightly taken up their case and fought hard for them and I had an impression that one of the officers in Sind had told me that the Deputy President was one of those members of Council who is strongly in favour of karia reduction and that he would help Government to get karia reduction.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : My statement is in writing. I have written to Mr. Vacha and also a letter to Mr. Francis, the Executive Engineer, Upper Sind, which is absolutely clear that I did not believe in the chary of Government about karia reduction.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : I have got the honourable member's statement. It is rather important to show that there is considerable opinion in Sind which is in favour of karia reduction. I recollected the statement made to me that my honourable friend was in favour of it. Therefore, I asked for information as to how it was that my honourable friend was in favour of it, and got this reply from the Superintending Engineer :

"Letter was received by me from Bhojsing Pahalajani complaining deplorable condition of Shahdaddock zamindars at tails of canals. *Stop*. In reply informed him that everything possible by way of clearance was done, but no effective relief could be given tail zamindars without karia reductions. *Stop*. He sent word through Shahdaddock zamindars that he will fight their cause in Council for karia reductions and told me personally also that he will arrange funds for more clearance till karia reductions carried out. *Stop*. I communicated this fact personally to Honourable Cowasji that Bhojsing has shown willingness to support Karia reductions when question came before Council. *Stop*. At Sukkur conference in October last some zamindars strongly advocated karia reductions in opposition Khan Bahadur Bhutto."

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind) : Sir, I wish to make a statement. I deny the statement of the Honourable the General Member. My letter to the Superintending Engineer is in writing. When the Honourable the General Member was in Sind, he could have asked me about it, and I would have been in a position to show him whether I had made that statement. My statement is in writing, and in that I have clearly stated that excavation is the only remedy. I asked for excavation and nothing more.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Anyhow, Sir, there are two points of view, and I only desire to bring them out. I only want to show that there are zamindars who are suffering, and all my honourable friends will agree that just as they suffer, others also suffer. All that we want to do is to hold the scales level, and I have asked for their assistance in holding the scales level. In the meantime, as I have already informed the House, the *karia* reduction policy is stopped for the present and I will ask for the assistance of my honourable friends when we come to reconsider the question. All these budget items Government intended to use for experiments on two canals. But if there is any suspicion in the minds of my honourable friends, I agree, on behalf of Government, to withdraw this and all the other items that follow.

Question put and carried.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO (Larkana District): Sir, I beg to move:

"Omit item No. 215, constructing karia sluices on Great Marak Canal, Rs. 1,500."

Question put and carried.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO: Sir, I beg to move:

"Omit item No. 216, constructing karia sluices on Sarfraz Canal, Rs. 1,500."

Question put and carried.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO: Sir, I beg to move:

"Omit item No. 217, constructing masonry sluices over kacha karia heads, Rs. 5,000, on Pinyari Canal."

Question put and carried.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO: Sir, I beg to move:

"Omit item No. 218, constructing masonry sluices over kacha karia heads along Kalri Canal and branches, Rs. 5,000."

Question put and carried.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO: Sir, I beg to move:

"Omit item No. 219, constructing masonry sluices over kacha karia heads, on Indus Canals, Left Bank, Rs. 2,000."

Question put and carried.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO: Sir, I beg to move:

"Omit item No. 220, constructing masonry sluices over kacha karia heads on Indus Canals, Right Bank, Rs. 4,000."

Question put and carried.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO: Sir, I beg to move:

"Omit item No. 221, installing screw gates over karia heads ex-Gujra on Nasrat Canal, Rs. 5,000."

Question put and carried.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO: Sir, I beg to move:

"Omit item No. 222, constructing masonry sluices over kacha karia heads, along Masuwah, Rs. 2,700."

Question put and carried.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The next motion is by the honourable member Mr. Pahalajani for a reduction of Rs. 10,38,200.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: Sir, though it belongs to the Lloyd Barrage, it would come under 41, Civil Works.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: So, all these items, the motions with regard to which are numbered 698, 699, 700 and 701 will come under 41, Civil Works.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : The establishments and tools come under head No. 41, and works under head 55. The amount for the works is Rs. 2 crores 83 lakhs. Therefore, all these motions 679, 680, 698, 699, 700 and 701 all relate to works.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI : I have given notice of a motion for a lump sum cut on the Barrage.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The first motion (No. 679) will be taken up now ; it is the one which calls for a reduction of Rs. 2 crores.

In connection with these motions for lump sum reductions, my attention has been drawn to the procedure that was adopted previously, which appears to me to be the best procedure to follow on this occasion. The procedure was laid down by Sir Narayan Chandavarkar, and this is what he stated :

“ With reference to these motions for reduction, I wish to prescribe this procedure : The honourable member from Satara's (Mr. Adhav's) notice of motion is for the highest reduction, viz., Rs. 5,16,000, and will have priority. The other motions are for lesser reductions. On the former motion there shall be a general discussion covering the whole ground and principle of reduction and also a debate on the subsidiary question as to the sum by which the demand should be reduced. The honourable members who have on paper notices of motions for lesser reductions can speak on this first motion of the honourable member for Satara and state why they think those lesser reductions should be made. If the motion of the honourable member for Satara be agreed to, the other motions fall. If it be negatived, the other motions will be taken up in their order but they should be simply moved and there shall be no fresh debate.”

The debate that will take place will only be on the largest reduction. Once that is disposed of, the procedure laid down will be followed.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI : Shall we confine ourselves to the Sukkur Barrage only or shall we be entitled to criticise the whole policy of the Irrigation Department ? I ask this question because my honourable friend Mr. Adwani's motion refers only to the Lloyd Barrage.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : The present provision is only for Lloyd Barrage.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Therefore, honourable members can only deal with one part of the Irrigation Department, namely, Lloyd Barrage.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Sir, I move :

“ That a provision to the extent of 2 crores be reduced from the vote for the Lloyd Barrage (Budget page 110).”

Sir, my point in bringing this motion is that it was represented by us almost two years back that the financial forecasts and the revenue forecasts of Sukkur Barrage and the estimates under the scheme were not properly framed, and that, Sir, the revenue forecasted would not be realised, nor would the expenditure be kept within estimate. For that reason perhaps, Sir, the Secretary of State has thrown the whole responsibility on this House. The Honourable the General Member has referred to the sanction of the Secretary of State, but my honourable friend will find that the Secretary of State, instead of taking the responsibility on himself, had thrown the whole burden on this House and had requested the then Government to place this matter for final sanction before the Legislative Council. Here are his words :

“ I note that Government of Bombay adhere to view that construction estimates are adequate and that land sales may be confidently expected to yield 12 crores 60 lakhs

[Rao Saheb D. P. Desai]

rupees spreading over 25 years allowing for certain concessionary grants to local Zamindars. In view of renewed assurances regarding estimates and of explanations tendered by Gebbie, I do not feel justified in withholding any longer financial sanction which I hereby accord. I presume that project will now be laid before local legislature."

Sir, it will appear from this that the Secretary of State has sanctioned this scheme on the understanding that the Rs. 12,60 lakhs referred to will be realised. I am afraid, however, and some of my colleagues in the old Council were afraid that this price will not be realised and we held that the whole financial forecast should be placed before a committee of this House and the whole forecast should be gone through by that body before expenditure is voted by this House. To that view I still adhere. Unless the Honourable the General Member or, for that matter, the Government are prepared to place the whole scheme of Sukkur Barrage and especially the financial portion of it before a committee of this House and get their approval, no further progress need be made under that scheme, except what is absolutely necessary, and for that reason I have proposed to reduce only 2 crores allowing Rs. 1 crore and 31 lakhs to continue. My reasons are these, that in the forecasts about 15 lakhs acres are represented as culturable waste area. That is, so much waste is to be given over for cultivation. In the estimate of the project it is shown that out of these 15 lakhs, 3 lakhs and 50 thousand are to be given to the present landholders, that is, adjoining landholders, at Rs. 15 per acre and about 6 lakhs are to be disposed of at prices ranging from Rs. 100 to Rs. 250 per acre. I talk of first class land to be disposed of at a higher valuation and others that are to be disposed of at smaller figures, and the total amount to be realised is estimated to be approximately Rs. 12 crores and 60 lakhs. I very much doubt, Sir, whether this price will actually be realised from these waste areas. Let me show this by an illustration, Sir. Suppose a particular price of land is disposed of at Rs. 250 per acre. Now Rs. 250 per acre means about Rs. 20 will have to be paid as interest charges at 8 per cent. If he has to pay Rs. 20 in interest charges and at the same time has to pay Rs. 8 as Government assessment on his land, then on an average say about Rs. 28....

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON: May I inform the honourable member that it is quite different in Sind from what it is in Bombay?

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: I am talking of irrigational assessment; after all, he has to pay Rs. 8 as assessment on this first class rice land. So Rs. 20 plus Rs. 8 makes Rs. 28. Now the total income of the agriculturist in Sind is from Rs. 30 to 45 according to the quality of the irrigated land. The figures are given in the same project. I have found the figure to stand at Rs. 30 to Rs. 45; so more than half the amount in my view goes to pay to the money lender and to the Government, and from the other half the man has to provide for himself, he has to find the working expenditure and all other expenditure incidental to cultivation. That is the mess; and I ask my honourable friends here, those who come from Sind, whether any one could be found to pay Rs. 250 an acre as is laid down in the project report. In fact, even in the best of years, 1920-21, for instance,—which was of course a year of war boom and the price of land was

[Rao Saheb D. P. Desai]

highest—the sales effected by Government averaged about Rs. 24 an acre in Sind. Again, another point that I have to bring to the notice of Government is that most of the good lands are already in the occupation of the present landholders and only the inferior portion is not occupied. The occupied land out of the 65 lakhs acres that are proposed to be under the Barrage zone, about 51 lakhs are in the possession of the landholders of Sind, and only 15 lakhs of acres are Government waste land. How are Government going to realise such a heavy amount as 12,16 lakhs from those lands? I should think, Sir, not more than Rs. 15 per acre would be realised per acre. If he paid more the cultivator would be a loser. If the original forecast fails as in the Bombay Development, then this presidency will be burdened with a large expenditure in interest and other charges. So much as regards the price of waste land.

Then, I come to the assessments. The assessments are sought to be raised by almost 50 per cent. in the 7th year from the commencement of the Barrage. Take for example, the area under Ghar canal in Larkana, an area under rice cultivation. There, the average land assessment at present is about Rs. 5 per acre. For that district, the assessment is sought to be raised up to Rs. 8 and then to Rs. 10. That is, six years after the Barrage is started, the areas under the Ghar canal will be assessed 50 per cent. more. If we consider 1923-24 as the starting point, then in the year 1930-31, the assessment for the areas under the Ghar canal will be 50 per cent. more, and in the 13th year after the commencement, the assessment raised will be cent. per cent. I wonder whether my honourable friends from Sind will be able to pay that assessment. If they cannot pay, then I want a committee to go and arrange matters as to how the expenditure should be adjusted in order to enable a lesser assessment to be levied from them. (Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad: A committee of this House?) Yes.

Another point that occurs to me is this. Out of the 65 lakhs of acres that are commanded by the Barrage, there are some lands which are allowed 80 per cent. fallows, so that the zamindars are charged assessment on only one-fifth of the lands in their possession. Now, in the 7th year, when the revised rates of assessment will be introduced, their fallows will disappear and they will be made to pay assessment for all their lands. I ask Government whether these zamindars are prepared to pay that assessment. Has any agreement been reached on that point? I do not know whether they are prepared to pay that assessment or not. But my impression is they are not prepared to pay the assessments on their entire holdings.

Now, another factor that has been left out of account is this: that the provincial Government will have to undergo additional expenditure on the P. W. D. in the Agricultural Department, Judicial, Police and other Departments in Sind. In fact there is a proposal before the Finance Committee to increase the expenditure in the Agricultural Department to the extent of about a lakh and a half every year, and unless that expenditure is incurred, as stated in the circular the whole Barrage zone will come to grief some day. That is what was stated in the

[Rao Saheb D. P. Desai]

committee, and I am inclined to agree to that opinion. Now, in all perennial irrigation lands have suffered. In the Jamrao tract, in the Fuleli tract, and in the Deccan tracts, is it not the experience that the land soon deteriorates and Government do not get enough revenue, let alone interest charges. Perhaps for the first fifteen years, I am prepared to say, they may succeed in realizing the estimated revenues. But after the first fifteen years, when the soil is exhausted, I wonder whether so many lakhs of acres that are put down for perennial irrigation will not come to grief some day. Our experience of the past has clearly proved that perennial irrigation; without proper and adequate arrangements as regards distribution of water and without sufficient manure, does do a lot of harm. While in regard to certain crops, for example rice, more water will be of use and better crops will be raised if the soil is watered constantly and plentifully. With regard to other crops, if you use more water and irrigate the soil constantly without heavy manuring, inferior crops will be the result. All these considerations to my mind require to be thoroughly investigated before some arrangement is made regarding this scheme.

As regards the establishments also, I have much complaint to make. The Honourable the General Member while spending 38 crores on the Development Department, has an establishment costing about 20 lakhs for that; whereas for an expenditure of 18 crores for the Barrage, he has an establishment costing 28 lakhs. There are so many divisions, the power supply division under an executive engineer, and such other divisions that it appears such outlay is uncalled for and I wonder how many divisions they will have if they go on at this rate. In fact, that expenditure must be brought down to 15 lakhs of rupees. A reference was made to Sir John Gebbie. I say that his opinion should not be taken into account, because he is a prejudiced man in this connexion. In fact he is responsible for the scheme and the policy as regards this Barrage. I think the independent opinion of gentlemen like Sir Vishweshrayya should be taken on this question.

As regards the Punjab withdrawals, I am afraid, Sir, that this barrage will lead to another barrage. If the Punjab barrage, that is the Sutlej Valley Project, which is too far away, would affect the irrigation in Sind, I am afraid the Sukkur Barrage will affect the irrigation in Hyderabad and other southern districts. The same argument that was applied to the Punjab irrigation withdrawals will apply with double force to the Sukkur barrage because southern Sind will be affected. The question will have therefore to be inquired into as to how far the other parts of Sind will be affected and I do not know whether anything has been made to get this point considered by any committee of this House. If this leads to another barrage at Kotri then it is a question for consideration whether this House is prepared to undergo another equally large amount on another barrage and for this purpose also a committee is necessary. Personally, I am of opinion that the Punjab scheme has no effect on the irrigation in Sind. Ever since the Punjab works were constructed

[Rao Saheb D. P. Desai]

the level of the Indus in Sind has risen ; that is, in spite of the Punjab withdrawals we have had few bad years and even there were floods. Only last year we had a heavy flood. In the report it is stated that the levels at Kotri had risen by over a foot during the last many years. On these grounds I move that 2 crores of rupees be reduced from the demand on the Sukkur Barrage.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI : Sir, I should like to know whether, in view of the ruling you have given, the other honourable members who have given notice of motions for reduction or omission on this head should make their speeches now, and that so far as the other notices go, only votes will be taken on them if this one is not carried.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : There is a little complication in this motion, to which my attention has been drawn. It is not stated to be a lump sum cut. The total demand which the Honourable the General Member has asked for is for three crores and twenty-one lakhs and odd both for the Sukkur Barrage and the Deccan irrigation works. The honourable member (Rao Saheb Desai) wishes to reduce 2 crores out of the provision for the Sukkur Barrage only, and it is therefore not a lump reduction of the total grant. It will be discussed on its merits. It is a reduction of one of the items forming the total grant.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI : In that case, Sir, can honourable members address the House on both the questions ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I was under the impression that this was a lump reduction of the total demand. I have since seen that it is an ordinary reduction of the total grant of one of the items forming the total demand. Therefore that ruling will not apply to this case.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI : Sir, this is a very important project. While submitting to your ruling, I wish to know whether we can discuss the policy, and the whole of this project.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The House has been doing nothing else. Honourable members do not seem still to be satisfied. They forget that out of the 12 days that are allotted for the discussion of the whole budget, four days have already gone. They have not as yet dealt with capital expenditure and the whole administrative expenditure has not yet even been touched. If they want to go on concentrating their attention on what is placed before them first for discussion and prefer that the administrative expenditure should be put to the vote and carried at the end of the 12 days they are welcome to do so. It is entirely in the hands of the Council. According to the procedure followed, I will allow discussion without any reference to the time occupied unless closure is moved.

There is another point which I wish to bring to the notice of honourable members. It is as regards the time at which the Council should meet. This is now becoming so common that I have to deal with such representations at every session. Twenty-eight members have written to me

[The President]

suggesting that the hours of meeting should be changed from 2 to 7 p.m. to 6 p.m. I have already informed the House that it would require a consensus of opinion amongst the whole House to justify any change. If there is such a consensus of opinion I would be pleased to respond to it. But the fixing of hours is entirely in my discretion, and unless there is a very large number of members wishing a change, I do not consider it justifiable to alter the existing arrangements.

The Council will now adjourn till 2 p.m. to-morrow, Thursday, the 5th March 1925.

Thursday, the 5th March 1925.

The Council re-assembled at the Town Hall, Bombay, at 2 p.m. on Thursday, the 5th March 1925, the Honourable the President, Sir IBRAHIM RAHIMTOOLA, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
ABDULPURKAR, Mr. N. A.
ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
ANGADI, Mr. S. N.
ATHAVLE, Mr. S. N.
BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
BHURGRI, Mr. J. M.
BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
BIJARANI, Khan Saheb SHER MAHOMED KHAN
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
CLAYTON, Mr. F.
COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
GHOSAL, Mr. J.
GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH
GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
HUDSON, Mr. L. S.
JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
JATOI, Khan Saheb HAJI SERAI IMAMBAKSH
JATOI, Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
JOG, Mr. V. N.

JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
 KALBHOR, Mr. G. M.
 KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.
 KARKI, Mr. M. D.
 KAY, Mr. J. A.
 KAZI INAITULLAKHAN
 KOKANI, Mr. G. J.
 KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
 LAGHARI, HAJI FAZUL MUHAMMAD KHAN
 LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
 LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.
 LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 LINFORD, Mr. J. W.
 MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO, Mr.
 MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
 MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
 NANAL, Mr. B. R.
 NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
 NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
 OWEN, Mr. A. C.
 PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
 PATEL, Mr. A. E.
 PATEL, Mr. D. N.
 PATEL, Mr. G. I.
 PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED KHAN
 PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
 PATIL, Mr. D. R.
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 PIR RASULBAKSH SHAH
 POWAR, Mr. M. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSENALLY M.
 SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
 SAPTARSHI, Mr. C. M.
 SARDESAL, Mr. S. A.
 SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH
 SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
 SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO, Mr.
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 SOMAN, Mr. R. G.

SURVE, Mr. A. N.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.
 SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
 THAKOR OF KERWADA, the
 THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
 TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
 VELKAR, Dr. M. B.
 WILES, Mr. G.
 WOODS, Mr. E. E.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Any honourable member desiring to take the oath of allegiance may do so.

Mr. S. N. Athavle made the prescribed oath of allegiance to His Majesty the King Emperor, and took his seat in the Council.

(Discussion on demands for grants resumed.)

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Demands for grants.

Question again proposed :

Reduce by Rs. 2,00,00,000 provision under Lloyd Barrage and Canals, Rs. 3,31,61,000.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Sir, in view of your ruling, and in view of the fact that there are other motions coming up on the same subject, I ask for leave of the House to withdraw my motion.

Question put and leave granted.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The P. W. D. and Irrigation grants have been mixed up in such a way that it is difficult to get at the order in which the motions are to be moved. Mr. Pahalajani's motion to reduce by Rs. 10,38,000 and Mr. Adwani's motion to reduce by Rs. 33,80,000 do not come now.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : The order will be for Mr. Khuhro's motion to be taken up first, then the motion by me (No. 701) and then the motion by Mr. Adwani.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO (Larkana District) : Sir, I beg to move my motion, which is as follows :

"Deduct Rs. 47 lakhs out of Rs. 2,83,00,000 provided for Barrage Works."

Sir, the figures show that Rs. 3,24,55,000 are provided for the Barrage expenditure in next year's budget. Out of this, Rs. 2,86,00,000 are to be spent over works and the rest over establishment.

Sir, on behalf of the agriculturists, I am very much in favour of the Barrage itself. When I make my remarks against the expenditure, I hope I will not be misunderstood that I am against the scheme. But my point is that the extravagance over the bungalows and staff should be curtailed. The original estimate that was prepared, when the project was brought before the Council in 1922 as sanctioned by the Secretary of State, showed that Rs. 15,48,000 were to be spent over bungalows. I do not know how much is spent over bungalows, but I can make a fair guess and say that not less than Rs. 4 to 5 lakhs have been spent over the item to now. In this year's budget, under the sub-head 'Buildings'

[Mr. Mahomed Ayub Shah Mahomed, I understand, is intended for bungalows Rs. 34,98,000 are provided, which, I the General Member says that the one Now, Sir, the Honourable Member said, that the expenses will be within the estimate. Estimates will not be increased, 000. But, as matters stand, about Rs. 5 lakhs have been already spent over bungalows and Rs. 34 lakhs are provided in next year's budget on buildings. It is more than double of what this House sanctioned in June 1922. According to the estimate, they are not entitled to have more than Rs. 10 lakhs at the most for buildings.

As regards the staff, Rs. 28,38,000 are going to be provided. Now, I said something about the staff and the establishment in my speech on the budget discussion. I pointed out that many irrigation districts in Sind and many executive engineers and their staff, separately provided for barrage, could be done away with easily.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Sir, may I point out that the establishment is provided from another part of the budget which will come under head 41. If establishments are to be discussed now, I am afraid I shall have to reply to that criticism now, although it comes under head 41.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: This part of the budget has been framed in such a way that it creates confusion. Establishment comes under head 41. Any criticisms that honourable member may have to pass on the establishments might be reserved when that part of the budget comes before us.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Bungalows come under this head, but establishments, tools and plant come under head 41. I have no objection to reply to the points about establishments on this debate, but I thought I should point out the position.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO: Money provided for establishment is, as I understand, in this demand and I think many other honourable members here have also understood it in that way. I am going to suggest only how the cut should be made.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: He cannot suggest. I do not want to hamper my honourable friend in any way in making his criticism, but, as I stated before, the demand for establishment is under 41, Civil Works.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: How much is for bungalows?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: "Buildings" are shown as 34 lakhs; but it does not include only bungalows.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO: My point is this that under buildings about 24 lakhs are over-estimated. About 8 or 9 lakhs at least could easily be curtailed from staff expenditure. I have said already that much of the work can be entrusted to the irrigation districts; just as in Larkana there are two irrigation districts, the Ghar Canal and the Western Nara, there is also the Shikarpur Canals

[Mr. Mahomed Ayub Shah Mahomed Khuhro]
district in Sukkur. The same is the case on the left bank. There is already more than sufficient staff on irrigation.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: If the honourable member (Mr. Khuhro) wishes in view of the point made by the Honourable the General Member, to amend his motion by reducing the amount of 47 lakhs to a lower figure, I will allow him to do so as a special case. But if he wishes to adhere to his motion, he may do so.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO: Yes, Sir. I would adhere to the motion of reduction of 47 lakhs. Now, Sir, our object is simply that this work should be run strictly economically. For that so much staff ought not to be allowed to be engaged. Expenditure should not be allowed to go on increasing so much. This money is ultimately to be paid by the zaminders or the landholders of Sind and if Government spend more than the original estimate, they will be compelled to pay still higher rates of assessment than those estimated in the project. The Honourable the Finance Member said the other day, the waste land could be sold and about 12 crores will be realized out of it; the assessment will be fixed at the rate of Rs. 8 per acre first, and after ten years at 10 rupees an acre, and it will go ultimately up to Rs. 12 an acre. But that is a very high rate of assessment. I do not think people would at all like to accept such a high pitch of assessment. As I understand, if the expenses increase, the value of land to be sold and the pitch of assessment on land will increase in proportion. I find that another honourable member, my honourable friend Mr. Adwani, has a motion for reduction of Rs. 33,80,000. If that motion is accepted by the Honourable the General Member, then I will most gladly withdraw my motion. Unless he is ready to do this, I will press my motion.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I understand the honourable member to say that, if the Honourable the General Member reduces the grant by Rs. 33,80,000 he would withdraw his own motion.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: He withdraws his motion, Sir.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Do I understand the honourable member to withdraw his motion? The honourable member has not formally moved his motion. He has made a speech and at the conclusion of that speech he says he withdraws it. I will take it, then, that he does not move his motion.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO: No, Sir; I move the motion.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Very well; the motion is now before the House.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Mr. President, as you have just remarked, the procedure is getting rather complicated. What I understood my honourable friend to mean is that he would rather have a smaller cut than this 47 lakhs and, as he sees that there is another cut of 33 lakhs proposed by the honourable member Mr. Adwani, he wants to reserve his remarks until Mr. Adwani moves his motion. That is what

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

he intended to say, I presume. He actually said that, I think. If that is the intention of my honourable friend, I will not waste the time of this Council but wait for Mr. Adwani's motion and then reply to all the arguments raised in this connection. We are all anxious to save time and hence my desire to speak only once after Mr. Adwani moves his motion.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO: Sir, I have already expressly stated that I move my motion only formally and I withdraw in favour of Mr. Adwani's motion for a cut of Rs. 33,80,000. In view of the consideration that the time of the House should not be unnecessarily wasted and as the Honourable the General Member will reply in the end to Mr. Adwani's motion, I do not find it necessary to wait further, and I withdraw my motion.

Question put and leave granted.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): Sir, I beg to move my motion:

Reduce by Rs. 33,80,000—Part I—Construction of Works—Item No. 31, Works (Lloyd Barrage and Canals Construction)—Rs. 2,83,80,000.

I wish to say at the outset that it will perhaps be more convenient for reference by members of this House if this project is placed under a separate head, say, 55-A or some other head, in future, because it is very inconvenient if such a project is lumped up with another head and it becomes very difficult for us to propose cuts. This point should be given consideration.

The other point which I wish to make is that the information given as regards Works on page 117 is inadequate. We have works to the extent of Rs. 2,83,80,000 on page 117, but no details are given. You will find, Sir, that in the case of other works details are given—bungalows at such and such a place, and so on. But here what we find is "K-Buildings Rs. 34,98,500", Lloyd Barrage so much, and so and so, and so and so. What are these Buildings? Are these bungalows or other buildings or for some other purpose? We do not know. "Earthwork"; similarly, what length of canal, which canal, and where, all this is not at all shown. In the same way, Miscellaneous. What items come under this heading Miscellaneous, we do not understand. Only a lump sum is provided. This is very unfair when we have to deal with a big scheme like this.

I asked the honourable the Chief Engineer for the Lloyd Barrage to kindly give me the loan of a printed copy of the project so that I might be able to study the scheme for myself at Karachi, but he replied to me that it was not available. It seems to me very hard, Sir, if members are refused the loan of a copy of the project when they desire to study it.....

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON: With reference to that, I may point out, Sir, that the honourable member first of all wrote to me and asked me whether I could let him have certain printed volumes. As we were short of printed volumes, I asked him to come and see me at my office. He came and we discussed a lot of things, and I told him that I would be

[Mr. C. S. C. Harrison]

pleased to let him have copies for reference at my office, but could not let him take them away. He could have come and seen these at any time.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI : I was just going to say all that, but the honourable member has himself done so. It would be hard if we have to go to the office of the Chief Engineer to get information and study the project there in his office.

Then, Sir, the honourable the leader of the Swaraj party referred to the technical aspect of this question the other day, and the honourable the General Member made some sort of reply to say that the Consulting Engineer to the Government of India had been on the site and made a report. The real issue is not whether the project should be continued or not, because we are all in favour of this project ; it is of a beneficent character. The real issue is whether or not there are defects in this project of such a vital character as to require examination by experts in order to put the public mind at rest once for all. In this connection there is a very important point to which I wish to draw the attention of this honourable House. Dr. Summers had at first raised some objections, and he was supported by Mr. F. W. Woods, lately Chief Engineer of Irrigation in the Punjab. Mr. Woods has gone out from India very recently and therefore the objection that the expert's knowledge is out-of-date does not apply to him. He is an engineer who has got very large irrigational experience of perennial canals of the type of the Lloyd Barrage. Then came Sir John Benton, who was formerly Inspector General of Irrigation in India. In August 1922, after the project was approved by the Secretary of State for India he wrote a letter to the Secretary of State, and I have a printed copy of that letter here. I need not weary the House by going through the whole of that letter. But what he says is—and this is a very important point—

“I have read both addresses (the addresses of Dr. Summers and Mr. F. W. Woods before the East India Association) very carefully, and as far as the supplied data go, I am of opinion that the above conclusions are substantially correct.”

And what are those conclusions ? The conclusions are that the Barrage scheme is unsound and dangerous ; and not that the scheme should not be put into execution, but that the scheme as it has been framed is unsound and dangerous and therefore requires to be rectified ; that the cost is under-estimated by £4,700,000, which means about 7 crores of rupees ; and that if the project is carried out in its present shape there will be an annual loss to the tax payer of £250,000 to £500,000, which means 37 lakhs to 75 lakhs of rupees ; that there is a danger of river avulsion and loss of the great railway bridge which at present exists at Sukkur ; and lastly that the canals will silt up and cease to operate. It is not necessary to go into the details of this letter.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : May I ask the honourable member what relevance it has to this question of a cut of 33 lakhs ?

Mr. D. B. ADWANI : The honourable member referred to this matter....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : He referred to it on a different occasion.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: It was on this demand, Sir.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: If we go on harping on the scheme in connection with every motion for a cut, it will be an unending discussion. I asked the honourable member himself to point out what relevance there is to the present motion in going exhaustively into the scheme.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: I should like to say, Sir, that this is a matter of very great importance.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I know that, but I have to regulate the proceedings with reference to the subject under discussion. It is my duty.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: On this very demand the Honourable the General Member made a reference to it.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member (Mr. Adwani) ought to know that the Honourable the General Member made a comprehensive speech on the whole demand.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: On this very demand, Sir.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: No. On the whole demand; when he asked the House to sanction 3,21 lakhs. Now, the honourable member desires to make a cut of 33 lakhs in one part of the 3,21 lakhs. It is not a total cut or a lump reduction of the total demand. I want the honourable member to state the relevance that the point he raised has to this cut.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI; I do not desire, Sir, to proceed with this point further. But the Honourable the General Member made a misleading statement before the House, and I wanted to remove any misapprehensions which might have arisen in the minds of honourable members. Looking to the nature of the difference of opinion between the two sets of engineers, it seems to me absolutely necessary, that the feeling of doubt which now exists in Sind, should be removed by the appointment of an independent committee of experts to examine this project and set this point at rest once for all. Sir, on this point I wish only to add that hitherto it has been left to the civilian officials to refute the arguments of engineers in the East India Association.

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON: I rise to a point of order, Sir.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Surely, I have ruled the honourable member out of order on that point. When I allow a little latitude honourable members do not take advantage of it by summing up their remarks; they continue the same subject. I cannot allow it.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: I should like to ask you, Sir, whether we cannot discuss the policy of the Government so far as the Sukkur Barrage works are concerned. The reduction is of the amount provided for Sukkur Barrage. I think, Sir, there is a ruling that when a cut of the total amount provided for a scheme is under discussion, the policy underlying the whole scheme could be discussed.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: But the discussion of the policy must have some relevance to the subject matter of the cut.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: I understood the honourable member to say that the Barrage scheme was defective and that he was going to attack the whole policy of the Sukkur Barrage.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Then he should refuse to give them anything at all.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: Some leniency may be shown.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: It is not a question of leniency, but it is a question of logic.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: The cut is not from the whole of the demand for the Sukkur Barrage but it is a cut from a part.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: I am not against the whole scheme, but I am for reduction of expenditure. It is unfair that we should be barred from a general discussion.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member had three days of general discussion when he could have dealt with the general policy of the question in detail within the twenty minutes allotted to him. The procedure laid down in the Rules and Standing Orders has to be carried out by me, however unpleasant it may be.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: I do not wish to pursue the subject any further, but I would confine myself to the subject of the provision made for the work. In 1924-25 a provision of Rs. 3,28,00,000 was made but we were able to spend only Rs. 1,41,00,000. In my opinion, even this revised estimate of Rs. 1,41,00,000 is excessive and that amount even cannot actually be spent. There is a difference of nearly 2 crores between the budget estimate and the revised estimate. An explanation will probably be given that certain machinery which had been ordered did not arrive in time. But we have not been informed of the reason for the delay and to what extent the difference has arisen owing to the non-arrival of this machinery. We are undergoing a loss in not being able to spend the amount, because there is the difference of interest on account of the short term deposits and the interest on the amount we have borrowed.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: We do not borrow.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: I would put it to the House whether it is advisable to budget for 3,28 lakhs and to spend only 1,40 lakhs of rupees.

Coming to the provision made for the ensuing year, I consider it to be extravagant. Out of the Rs. 3,31,61,400 that has been provided for this year, Rs. 2,83,80,000 is to be spent on works, Rs. 28,00,000 on establishment, Rs. 7,65,200 on tools and plant. This amount of Rs. 2,83,00,000 includes again special tools and plant although we have already got under the general head, provision for tools and plant. We find from the note on page 117 of the Blue Book that plant and machinery to the extent of 96 lakhs have to be obtained from abroad. We do not know whether tenders have been invited for this plant and machinery or whether this is to be spent in England only. Then there is an expenditure of 34 lakhs on buildings which I consider very excessive;

[Mr. D. B. Adwani]

and this in addition to what has been spent this year. Further there is a heading Miscellaneous and a sum of Rs. 95,200 is provided under it. Each officer has been allotted a round sum ranging from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 1,000. I do not know whether these are in the nature of discretionary grants.

This item amounts to Rs. 95,000. Under the head maintenance there is a provision of Rs. 63,000. This is a mysterious item. Why should there be maintenance charges in connection with works which have not even been started. Further, customs duty has been charged under tools and plant to the capital account. This amount has also been shown under the ordinary expenditure account, but credit has been given only once, under the capital account. I do not wish to take the time of the House any more. I have briefly shown that the provision that has been made is excessive and that the cut that I propose is reasonable.

Khan Bahadur S. N. BHUTTO (Larkana District): Sir, I support the motion for the cut which has been proposed by my honourable friend from Karachi city. Sir, you have already given a ruling that on this motion we should not discuss the general policy of the scheme. Therefore, I will confine my remarks to the motion before the House. I wish to bring to the notice of the House the extravagant expenditure that is being incurred on this scheme. I feel positive that, both in the interests of the State and the people of Sind, this scheme ought to be run on economic lines only. Though it may appear to some that it may not prove productive, at any rate it appears to me that it is a productive one. Therefore it is necessary that the whole scheme should be worked with this main consideration.

We have had a survey of the project a second time as the first survey was found incorrect. We learn that even the recent survey is incorrect and contains terrible mistakes. But we do not know how far our information is correct. We do not know who is responsible for this vast amount of waste of public funds on surveying and re-surveying. Had there been from the beginning a careful supervision of this expenditure, this waste could have been easily avoided.

As regards bungalows, very large sums of money have already been spent over buildings for officials in charge of the Barrage, particularly at Sukkur. The working season is during the cold weather. There are already bungalows of the P. W. D. scattered all over the country, which can be utilized by these officers. Where there are no bungalows, they can live in tents as officials of other departments do. Besides this, they get barrage allowances. Where is the necessity for these special allowances when almost every barrage officer is receiving huge allowances in the shape of great jumps by promotion? Every youth who has come out of school has been appointed assistant engineer. Almost every assistant engineer and sub-divisional officer has been promoted to the post of executive engineers and executive engineers to the grades of superintending engineers.

When the Barrage officers go on inspection work they could utilise the P. W. D. bungalows which are only at short distances from their

[Khan Bahadur S. N. Bhutto]

own works. I will give an instance, there are district head-quarters at Sukkur and Larkana where there are P. W. D. inspection bungalows and circuit houses. The distance between Sukkur and Larkana is about 46 miles. Besides the P. W. D. bungalows at Sukkur and Larkana we find beautiful P. W. D. bungalows at Bagenji, Ruk, Madaiji, Nasirat, Naudero. The honourable House will see that there is no necessity for bungalows for barrage inspecting officials when there are enough bungalows of P. W. D. all over these places.

Then as regards the bungalows that are being built for sub-divisional officers, I submit we have got two sub-divisional officers whose jurisdiction runs as follows: one sub-divisional officer has got his sub-division from Larkana down to Naudero, the other from Larkana to Daksi. Now, where is the necessity to build bungalows for these officials at Naudero and Daksi? Why not keep them at Larkana where decent houses could be had on reasonable rent. In this way all this money that is being thrown into the sea by building these new bungalows could be saved as after some time these houses would be of no use nor will they fetch much value. Besides that already enough bungalows have been built at Sukkur and Larkana and at many other places. I think they are quite enough to serve the purpose. What we see from the construction of these bungalows is that they clearly show that they do not provide the necessary requirements but are full of luxurious comforts. I do not know how far my information is correct, but I am told that these estimates have been overestimated by about 15 per cent. Therefore it would be better if the works could be constructed within the estimated amount. If that is so, why not effect that saving instead of wasting that amount at their sweet will, and they should therefore earn a good name by economising public funds to the best of their ability. They should bring the works down so as to be able to complete them with 15 per cent. less than the estimated amount. If the estimates have been really overestimated, I do not see why 15 per cent. should not be saved. I am not allowed to go into details, otherwise I would have established that there is absolutely no necessity for most of these works.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I want to remove the misapprehension under which the honourable member seems to be labouring. Honourable members can certainly go into details of works that are covered by the grant of 2,83 lakhs. The honourable member's remarks in regard to every work comprised in the total expenditure of 2,83 lakhs are perfectly relevant on this vote.

Khan Bahadur S. N. BHUTTO: Thank you, Sir. Then I will submit that so far as the right bank canals are concerned we all feel there is absolutely no necessity for excavating them. We all are in favour of the Sukkur Barrage. There is no question about it. When the Sukkur Barrage was sanctioned all these details were fully discussed and I will not take the time of the House in going over them once again, but so far as the right bank canals are concerned, I submit that 80 per cent. of land in Sukkur district is going to be affected by the barrage. Larkana and

[Khan Bahadur S. N. Bhutto]

Mehan and upper Sind Frontier districts, except Shadadkote Taluka, are already under cultivation. Only Sehwan division in Larkana district and Shadadkote Taluka in Upper Sind Frontier district require improved system of irrigation. The present canals could have easily and safely been improved, their tails could have been widened and extended by spending a very limited amount over these improvements and we could have saved so many crores of rupees. We are positive that we will get much less water when the barrage is completed than what we get now. Is it fair that when there are more restrictions, less water is allowed to agriculturists than we get now, the agriculturists should be expected to pay twice as much assessment as is paid now. So far as we can understand, the object of Barrage people is to cultivate more and more land and to bring all effective cultivation within the Barrage area to justify the huge cost. So I can go on like this pointing out so much waste. This work if amalgamated with district irrigation could have been carried within a short time and with less cost. With these remarks I resume my seat.

Mr. L. J. MOUNTFORD : Sir, the first charge of extravagance against the Public Works Department is a matter which I think might very well have been settled by the honourable members in Sind who live in Sind and the Chief Engineer who can refute that charge also lives in Sind. It seems to me that these criticisms are so general, so vague, that in many cases honourable members are not sure of what they say by way of criticism. They are criticising in a general sort of way and I would ask them that in future they should see the honourable member the Chief Engineer and thresh out all information from him instead of taking up the time of the House over vague criticism.

One honourable member speaks of the controversy of Dr. Summers, but all the arguments that have been raised on both sides on that controversy have been sifted and examined and carefully considered by this House at a special session in July 1923, and it seems to me pure waste of time to begin over again the discussion over a matter which is now said to be finished. He told us that he was not against the barrage at all but that a committee should be appointed to go into the question all over again.

Then we heard some remarks from the honourable member for Larkana dealing with lands in his vicinity and he told us that all the land in his district is cultivated, and he leaves the House therefore under an impression that there is nothing necessary in the way of improving irrigation supply of the lands in his district although he has already told us that he is quite in favour of the barrage. Now I will ask the honourable member whether he is quite satisfied or any other honourable members who hold that view that they are quite satisfied with the present position of the lands on the tail of the Ghar canal where they have been leaving those lands because they get no water there at all; whether he is quite satisfied with the lands on the tails of the canals of the Western Nara: whether over fifteen years complaints have not been repeated,

[Mr. L. J. Mountford]

hundreds of complaints, that they cannot get water. Let us take this best canal with regard to Ghar. Is he not aware of the complaints at the tail of Ghar from those who hold lands on the Chilowah, that they are impoverished and cannot get the water necessary for their wives and children and for growing fodder for their cattle? What they pointed out would leave an impression, erroneous no doubt, that the barrage may do a great deal of harm in the future. The argument used by the honourable member for Larkana makes it necessary for me to take up the time of the House to some short extent in explaining to them why our present canals cannot reach the upper lands. We have thousands of acres of land with magnificent soils for example in the Dadu and Johi talukas and to the West of the Larkana district which we cannot possibly touch by our present canals system. The Right Bank Canal is going to feed those lands, and take off much higher than our present canals take off. Any one who knows Sind cannot but admit that it is of the utmost importance that the Sind Barrage should be carried out as expeditiously as possible, whatever the arguments may be that may have been raised against it in the past. The honourable member has also told us that these extravagances will lead to higher assessments being imposed upon the cultivator. The assessment we fix is according to the amount of charge which Government may lay upon the water. Assessment is not to be considered as a ratio of the actual expenditure. It is what the ryot is able to pay and what is the actual right of the State to take. What the ryot can pay and what the State can take within the most moderate limits will be the guiding factor in fixing the assessment. What will make the scheme pay will be the sales of land. We have an enormous project, of which I am sure honourable members of this House are proud which is going to bring under cultivation $7\frac{1}{2}$ million acres.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI : I rise to a point of order, Sir. The honourable member is beginning from the history of the Sukkur Barrage like the honourable member Mr. Adwani. Is it relevant?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The only relevant part of the discussion is the works comprised in the demand for Rs. 2,83,00,000. Nothing else is relevant on this issue.

Mr. L. J. MOUNTFORD : The relevancy of my remarks was that it has been stated that these extravagances will have a terrible effect upon the actual assessment taken. It is with that argument that I was dealing—the extravagances on this item. Have I the permission of the Chair to continue?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : If the honourable member wishes to argue that these works have been attacked on the ground that they are estimated on an extravagant basis, and as a result of that extravagance the scheme will cost more than it ought to, and therefore there will be larger assessments, the point would be in order.

Mr. L. J. MOUNTFORD : That is my point. Further the argument has been raised that these extravagances will increase the burden on

[Mr. L. J. Mountford]

the people, and therefore the honourable member's objection. The burden of the cost of this scheme will be met by the enormously improved conditions of the land. This has been the case in the big schemes of the Punjab. For instance, lands on the Bari Doab scheme worth Rs. 12½ per acre have been sold at Rs. 400 per acre on an average of 60,000 acres. Therefore, I do not think that an item like this would have any effect whatsoever in increasing the burden on the cultivator. If we can get those sums, we shall pay for our Barrage. Those large increases in value are but to be expected as time goes on and as land comes under cultivation. I would therefore appeal to the honourable members; if they consider that there have been extravagances, they should deal with them direct with the Chief Engineer in Sind. Government has appointed a most experienced officer; he lives among them, he moves among them, and he is anxious as they are to cut down any extravagance, and to meet any defects that may be pointed out to him. It would cut short the time of this House if honourable members agree to adopt this procedure. It will be more satisfactory to them and to Government.

Khan Bahadur S. N. BHUTTO: Sir, the honourable member has put me a question. May I answer that, Sir?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Yes; as a matter of personal explanation.

Khan Bahadur S. N. BHUTTO: The honourable member said that water was required in Sehwan Division. I have never denied that. I say it does require any amount of improvement. What I explained was that in Larkana district except the Sehwan Division and Shahdadkote taluka in Upper Sind district, the rest of the land expected to be commanded by the Barrage is already 80 per cent. under cultivation and any improvement can be effected by extending and improving further the existing canals. That is what I said. As for assessments, if the lands are not able to pay the enhanced rate of Rs. 8, Rs. 10 and Rs. 12 per acre, Government cannot enforce it.

Mr. L. J. MOUNTFORD: Is not the Sehwan Division in the Larkana district?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order. This sort of cross-questioning cannot be allowed.

Mr. R. D. SHINDE (Nasik District): Sir, I should like to make a suggestion to the Honourable the General Member with reference to this matter. I find that, whenever any criticism is offered from this side of the House on the Sukkur Barrage, we are told that our criticism is not based upon a proper consideration of the conditions in Sind, that it is ill-conceived, and that it is ill-informed. This is bound to be so. We live very far from the seat of the operations of this vast enterprise, and even the mass of figures and charts and photographs which are made available to us by the courtesy of the Chief Engineer do not give us a correct idea of what the actual state of this great enterprise is. Therefore, I would make a suggestion for the serious consideration of the Honourable the General Member, whether it is not possible for him to take

[Mr. R. D. Shinde]

some members of this House to the scene of this enterprise, so that honourable members who live very far away from that scene of operations would have a correct idea of this project, and much of that criticism which the benches opposite say is ill-informed and mis-conceived will give place to constructive criticism.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind) : Sir, it is rather hard lines on the non-official side that the official members should not give us any light on the matter. It is extremely hard, I must repeat again, on the non-official side that the figures, as they are given in the Blue Book are incomplete, the details of the expenditure of Rs. 1,41,00,000 last year are not given in the Blue Book, and we are asked now to vote for Rs. 3,31,00,000, without being furnished any details in the same way as they have been given for the Bombay Development scheme. The hardship is greater, because we do not know up to the present day, how, in what way, and on what parts of the scheme this amount of Rs. 1,41,00,000 has been spent up to this time. It is harder still that the honourable member the Chief Engineer should not rise to give the benefit of those figures to this House, as he is the officer in charge of this work, and therefore, in full possession of them. Sir, I enter my humble protest against the procedure which the Honourable the General Member chose to adopt in this case. Further, I also object to the system of accounts in this matter. I think non-official members will ask the Government to take note of this extremely great difficulty so far as the presentation of the Barrage accounts is concerned. The Honourable the Finance Member may say that he is compelled by the Auditor General or by the Examiner of Accounts or by the Accountant General's office to classify the demands in this fashion, but I think the united opinion of even the official side in this matter will be a sufficient answer to the Accountant General to change his mode of keeping the accounts, so far as the Barrage is concerned.

We wish and I think the Honourable the Finance Member and the Honourable the General Member will next time present before us exactly in the same way under a separate head just as for Bombay Development, a separate head, say 55A or some other head in which every possible detail is given this House in order to come to a definite decision.

Now, Sir, coming to the merits of this expenditure, we are asked to sanction an expenditure of Rs. 2,83 lakhs the details of which are given on page 113 of the Blue Book. Pages 110, 111, 112 and 113 show the details. Page 112 contains the expenditure, actuals 1923-24, the first year, the preliminary year, Rs. 37,80,000; budget estimate Rs. 3,28,02,000 the amount that last year this Council sanctioned without a demur because it came under the guillotine measure. Then, the revised estimate Rs. 1,41,84,000 and the budget demand for the present year Rs. 3,31,61,000. Now for this 3,31,61,000 some lump details are given at the bottom of page 112. They are : 2,83,80,000 relating to works; establishment 28,38,000; tools and plant 7,65,000. These establishment and tools and plant are not brought here under the demand that we are now considering.

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

They are taken away from this, unlike the Bombay Development Department, and placed under 41, Civil Works, a department that belongs to the Honourable Minister and we will be called upon again to consider the question of the Barrage under 41, dealing only with the establishments and tools and plant. I am compelled, Sir, to confine myself to expenditure other than that of establishments and tools and plant. The details of expenditure on "Works" are: Preliminary expenses Rs. 1,05,000; land Rs. 37,37,000; works—what they are we do not know—Rs. 15,72,000; regulators 4,18,000; falls Rs. 13,000; bridges Rs. 8,50,000; buildings Rs. 34,98,000; earthwork Rs. 47,12,000; plantation Rs. 23,000; miscellaneous Rs. 95,000; maintenance Rs. 64,000; distributaries Rs. 2,58,000; special tools and plant Rs. 1,30,35,000. Now, Sir, in supporting the proposed cut, I place reliance upon the figures that were placed before this House in June 1923 when this House sanctioned the whole scheme. I am not one of those who demur to the carrying on of the scheme. The scheme has come to stay, and it shall stay in spite of any small objection that might be against it. But the scheme that stays must be guarded against extravagant expenditure both by the Honourable the Finance Member, who, I believe, has not applied his usual financial mind to this barrage, which seems to be outside his sphere, and also by the Honourable the Chief Engineer, who is here to represent the side of Government on behalf of the barrage. In 1923 this House sat to consider the figures on which the sanction of the House was given, and on page 72 in Vol. V of the Sukkur Barrage Canals Project was given the financial statement of the whole scheme, including the Sukkur Barrage, of all the different branches of the Sukkur Barrage works. These were the figures which the then Chief Secretary, the late Mr. Mead, placed before this House. Now, if honourable members will turn to page 73 of Vol. V, they will find that the grand total of what the Government laid before the Council would be the expenditure for the preliminary year was Rs. 85,78,294; the first year it was Rs. 1,68,14,558; the second year it was Rs. 1,48,61,000; the third year Rs. 1,75,01,750. That is to say, each year's figures were given by the Government in a publication; on which we certainly relied, on which the Government still relies, on the strength of the details of which this House gave its unanimous sanction to the scheme in June 1923. If we take this to be the second year, then the expenditure of the preliminary year has passed,—July 1922 to April 1923—in the preliminary year Rs. 85,78,000 was provided, 37 lakhs was spent; in the first year 1,68 lakhs was provided, 1,41 lakhs has been spent; in the second year, on which we have just entered and for which the sanction is going to be obtained, the expenditure provided on all works—I am putting in works, works establishment, tools and plant divided into Sukkur Barrage, Eastern Nara Canal, and so on, for all the different years that it relates to, and the total is, Sir, Rs. 1,48,66,124. I will put it to the House and to the Honourable the Finance Member—I am not putting it to the Honourable the General Member whose duty it is not to go through these multitude of figures

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

that are put before him—whether the total that the Government is entitled to have is not Rs. 331 lakhs. Out of the first sanction they spent 37 lakhs; 1,68 lakhs was the next sanction, they have spent 141 lakhs out of that; and the third year Rs. 1,48 lakhs are proposed to be spent. Therefore, the difference between this year's estimate and the amount that is allowed according to their own scheme in the third year is Rs. 1,35 lakhs. This is a simple deduction. Rs. 2,83 minus Rs. 1,48 is the amount that the Government should not be allowed. But if you add to that the difference between 85 and 37 lakhs which they have spent less, if you add the difference between 1,78 and 1,41, then you find a difference of about 85 lakhs of rupees which in two years the Government is entitled to have from us as a set-off for having spent less. That is, the Lloyd Barrage is still demanding 50 lakhs beyond its own estimates. The cut demanded is only Rs. 33,80,000. I wish the figures had been given by the Honourable the General Member. I was waiting and expecting that the Chief Engineer would give us the figures. Now, turning to the various portions in which 283 lakhs is divided, you find that 31 lakhs is to be provided for buildings—all buildings not *only* the bungalows; I can see they include not only the bungalows, they include markets and every other arrangement that has to be made for the permanent establishment of the barrage town. But again Government stands tied to its own estimates, and Government cannot and should not be permitted to go beyond the expenditure that is actually provided for, and it is the duty of the Honourable the Finance Member to see that the Lloyd Barrage authorities are not permitted to do so. The estimates for all the buildings relating to the different canals on either side of the Indus, the perennial canals on the right, the canals on the left and the Central Rice Canal, are all before the Council in the five volumes relating to this scheme. The total amount for buildings under all these schemes up to the end is a little over 51 lakhs, an amount easily ascertainable from the various volumes containing the estimates. Now, Sir, it would be very useful for the House to know what amount has been so far spent on buildings, and whether the total amount to be spent on bungalows, on bazars, etc., on the different places, and even the small sheds will be within the 51 lakhs. It would interest the House to hear how far the 34 or 35 lakhs provided for and the 6 or 7 lakhs already spent have carried the building programme. I take the liberty of informing the House that no buildings beyond Sukkur and Rohri have been built. And we have still to cover the whole of the two hundred miles over which the Barrage extends. If we go on at the rate at which we are going, at the end, when all buildings are erected, we will have spent at least 75 lakhs. I have reason to say from the Government record that 51 lakhs is the highest estimate of our late colleague Mr. Musto, as shown in the volumes before the Council. The question is, are Government going to spend more than these 51 lakhs upon buildings. I know the responsibility that rests upon me and I make a statement with that responsibility, and I wish the Honourable Member in charge will investigate this matter before he gives a final reply. I refer to the question of the bungalows that have been built

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

on the right bank at Sukkur. Volume No. I of the Sukkur Scheme gives all the details of the cost and we find there, Sir, that the bungalow for the superintending engineer is estimated to cost Rs. 35,000. The total cost of all buildings, bungalows, markets, etc., in the Sukkur side is estimated at Rs. 15,48,000, but the bungalow is estimated to cost Rs. 35,000. I make a definite statement that this bungalow has cost between Rs. 61,000 and Rs. 71,000; it is more than Rs. 61,000 and less than Rs. 71,000. I may be challenged and I may be told that Government have got the contractor's bills and that not more than Rs. 43,000 has been spent. But in spite of that I make a statement and I want the Honourable Member in charge and the honourable the Chief Engineer to investigate whether that superintending engineer's bungalow, which was expected to be a temporary bungalow and which has been raised to two storeys, had not had its time of construction extended for 75 days, on account of frequent dismantlings and changes suggested by the superintending engineer of the project. I am making a definite statement, and I am responsible for it. I ask whether Government did not extend the time for 2½ months for carrying out the dismantlings from time to time suggested by the superintending engineer. What these dismantlings are, whether they were not luxurious and costly and in excess of the forty-three thousand rupees, and whether those dismantlings did not raise its cost to sixty-one thousand, is for the honourable the Chief Engineer and the Honourable the Member in charge to state in their reply. So far as these bungalows are concerned I assert, Sir, that this Council should not give any sanction beyond the estimates, and it is for this Council to assert itself, much less for this Council than for the Honourable the Finance Member, who should assert himself and go into this matter and see for himself. The Honourable the Finance Member is not only a Sindhi, but a Sukkurite, and he knows Sukkur as intimately as I do, and I place it before him whether these matters do not require investigation.

The bungalows apart, we have got earth works costing Rs. 47,12,000; distributaries, Rs. 2,58,000; special tools and plant, Rs. 1,30,35,000. When the estimates were prepared it was understood that the work could be carried on within those estimates. It was not Mr. Musto alone who prepared it; but it was prepared by a series of engineers from the highest Inspector General of Irrigation with the Government of India down to the lowest executive engineer in charge of the Sukkur Barrage. We would have liked to know, Sir, the details about this item of special tools and plant, which is estimated to cost such a huge sum as Rs. 1,30,00,000.

There is another important point for the investigation of the Honourable Member in charge, about which I had put a question, but which has not received the attention of the honourable member, because probably the answer has not come from Karachi. The question was, what was the amount of demurrage paid to the railway at Sukkur for landing and removing the goods. I am not prepared to give the exact figure; but it is a very big figure; I believe it is a little more than Rs. 75,000,

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

and it is a little less than a lakh. The exact figure the Honourable the Member in charge or the Chief Engineer will be pleased to tell us.

Then, Sir, apart from the sum of Rs. 1,30,00,000 for special tools and plant, we are given another huge figure of 47 lakhs for earth works, and the whole total for works comes to Rs. 2,83,00,000, and the House is asked to sanction such a huge sum without any details before it. The only details are, so many lakhs for this, so many lakhs for that. Is the House to sanction this Rs. 2,83,00,000 out of the total of Rs. 3,31,00,000 on this scanty information? Is not the House determined to insist on getting the detailed figures and to insist that every figure should be justified before them, and to sit tight over the money bag and tell the Honourable Member in charge and the Chief Engineer that no money shall be granted that is in excess of their own figures if it is not sufficiently accounted for?

Therefore I place these facts before the House in order that they might judge whether it is not time that we should not repeat the experiences of the Bombay Development in the Sukkur Barrage, which is a far more gigantic scheme than Bombay development. The Bombay development is at least visible every bit of it, but the Sukkur barrage is not visible and therefore the greater reason for our being more careful in seeing that every pie is properly spent.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South) : Sir, I quite agree with the last remarks of the Honourable the Deputy President that, whether it be the Bombay Development or whether it be the question of the Sukkur Barrage, every money, particularly every Indian pie, should be very carefully guarded.

That brings me to another very important matter which I hope you will allow me to ventilate on this question, because the whole of this honourable House, as well as the whole presidency and country is awaiting an explanation with regard to a certain deed—I refer to the coal contract scandal in connection with the Sukkur Barrage. I believe this is a proper opportunity to ask for an explanation from the honourable members on the other side of the House. An explanation has been called for in the Assembly and an explanation has been called for in this House by means of questions which have not yet been answered. This item is the proper subject wherein we should call for an explanation on that point.

We know that there is a clamouring for the Indianisation of the services. There is also another clamouring, Sir, in the country that preference should be given to indigenous industry and indigenous articles, so far as investment of Indian money is concerned. The whole country is agitating and there is no other important question in the country which is more burning in the Indian heart than the question of the treatment of our countrymen in the distant lands, more particularly South Africa. On this question I do not think there can be any difference of opinion and I am glad to say that even several Europeans have joined the Indian agitation and put forward a united protest. Several ways of protests have been adopted, the most important of them being the boycotting of every article.....

MOULVI RAFI UDDIN AHMAD : Your ruling, Sir, is that no other matter except that relating to the construction of buildings and this particular item should be discussed. The honourable member is discussing about the general question of coal for the Sukkur Barrage.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : In the latter part of his speech he was going a bit astray. I understand the works of 2 crores and odd includes the cost of coal and therefore the honourable member is perfectly in order in dealing with the issue as to whether coal should have been purchased in India or in foreign countries. But I do not think the honourable member was justified in referring to the political aspect of the case. I hope the honourable member will deal with the purchase of coal as forming part of the work for which this demand is asked for.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : I thank you for your ruling, Sir. You will quite appreciate our feeling in the matter is so strong that it is quite probable I had been carried away.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I hope the honourable member will bear that in mind.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : I tried but I found it impossible to restrain myself.

Coming to the issue, the fact is that tenders were invited for 60,000 tons of coal for the Sukkur Barrage. I understand that no less than 78 tenders were offered. Out of these 78 tenders there were several Indian firms ; but in spite of that fact, the contract was finally given to the Natal coal. No less an authority than the chairman of the Port Trust giving evidence before the Coal Committee gave the opinion that Bengal coal is as good as any coal in quality. Leaving aside the 7 or 8 Indian firms that tendered to supply Indian coal, preference was given to Natal coal for a sum of Rs. 1,50,000. That is a transaction for which an explanation is due to this honourable House.

We desire to know whether the Honourable the General Member in charge was consulted on this matter. Instead of our consulting engineers and experts who are paid extra fees for consultation, why was the Controller of Central Stores consulted on this matter ? Who entered into this contract ? According to our information it is the chief engineer. We desire to know whether the Honourable the General Member as the head of the department was consulted ; and, if he gave his consent, whether he gave it without knowing the facts of the case ; or was he not consulted being only an Indian head of the department ? Why was the Controller of Central Stores consulted even though he has nothing to do with the Sukkur Barrage ? I hope a satisfactory explanation will be given to this House on these questions, because this is a question affecting the whole country. Indian members in the Assembly tried to raise the question there, but they were betrayed and told that the local legislative council would be the proper place to do so. This is the proper place and proper occasion and there is the proper person the honourable member to whom I should put this question. I hope he will give a satisfactory reply to this House.

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON : Sir, the honourable the Deputy President seemed to think that he was at a disadvantage, because I did not get up to speak before he did. I purposely waited for him to get up and speak, so that the field of criticism may be widened and I should be able to cover all the points that have been raised in the discussion.

The remarks of the honourable the Deputy President were very valuable. He criticises us that we have not given the details up-to-date. Well, Sir, the House knows that a sum of some Rs. 31 lakhs was spent, in a general survey of the project and the 8 months preliminaries of 1923-1924. We could have given the details of the contour work which I mentioned last year amounted to over 40,000 miles of levelling, about twice the circumference of the world.

As the current year has not yet expired, I am afraid it is absolutely impossible to give any details for this 141 lakhs. We hope to give a review of the main heads in the next year's budget. The Honourable the General Member has asked me to do all I can to place full information before this House, and I think it will be agreed that the information now given is a great deal more than that given last year and I hope next year it will be still more. But I should like the House to consider the magnitude of this project and the number of estimates involved. We have been asked to let honourable members have every detail. It will mean a pretty big volume for the Sukkur Barrage Scheme every year if we want to have every single detail. It is for this reason that we have given only the main heads under the project. We have summed up all the items under these heads for the convenience of the honourable members of this House; the whole House has to realise that we have got to consider these works from head to tail; and I do not know whether it will be of special interest to the House to have minute details of the excavation done in any particular length of canal, but if such information is really required by the House (which will mean a very bulky document), I am prepared to give it in the next year's budget and I am sure the Honourable the General Member will give instructions if this is necessary.

The Deputy President along with many other honourable members confused the question of the sanctioned estimate, a *project* estimate, with the detailed *working* estimate. Now, Sir, I would like the House to understand this : The simple definition of a project estimate is an estimate that is prepared to the best of the framers' ability on information then available to enable Government to have a fairly good idea of their liabilities before undertaking the work. All the main heads of the project are taken up at the time of the preparation of the project and the officers prepare the details to the best of their ability. They cannot go into minutest details. In this connection the honourable member for Larkana said there have been great mistakes committed in levelling and that enormous sums would be required to rectify those mistakes. Such a statement is not accurate. Years ago Government undertook the contour survey of Sind. Levels were taken on rectangles five miles by $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles and in some cases of $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles. That gave us sufficient information to prepare a *project* estimate, but not sufficient information for *detailed* estimates. For detailed working estimates the minutest information has to be available.

[Mr. C. S. C. Harrison]

I have been able to show to some honourable members what these details are. I have got them here and if other honourable members care to see them I will be only too pleased to show them. It can be seen to what great extent we have gone to try and get our working estimates as accurate as possible. These, Sir, will be the detailed estimates that will be considered finally by Government and it will not be in my power to shew all of them in future budgets.

The Deputy President pointed out that from a statement in the sanctioned project (the project prepared in 1919-20 and submitted in 1920) it will be apparent that if this grant is sanctioned we shall be 56 lakhs ahead of the proposed projected annual expenditure. Well, Sir, engineering questions crop up as we go along and we have to study these as we proceed. During the past 5 years we have studied methods of labour-saving machinery and we have accepted some of those methods. The Deputy President takes exception to this "excess" of 56 lakhs, and I would like to inform the House that in the project drag line excavators were provided under general head works. We have, Sir, investigated the possibilities of these machines very carefully and we have purchased 8 large machines, 3 medium size and 2 small. As the Honourable the Finance Member pointed out when introducing the budget before this House these machines are enormous creations of the Mechanical Engineer, and they will each replace—the Honourable the Finance Member I think was rather low in his estimate—something over two thousand men if we work 21 hours a day. We have purchased these big machines and roughly, each of them after re-erection, duty and everything else, will cost on the work just under 5 lakhs of rupees. We have, I say, purchased 8 of these large machines for 40 lakhs and the medium machines (3 lakhs each) and smaller machines (Rs. 70,000 each). So the total amounts to over Rs. 50 lakhs against the 56 lakhs which the Deputy President complains about. Having purchased these machines we naturally will have a reduction in labour. Instead of collecting labour, some this year, some next year, and so on we have got these machines on the spot. They represent labour and they have been purchased after taking into consideration sinking fund, depreciation, etc. I maintain, and I think all our engineers agree with me, that this is a step towards great economy. I hope eventually to prove to this House that they will effect a saving of lakhs of rupees.

I would like to mention, Sir, that these excavators with the exception of two small ones which have cost about seventy thousand rupees each were purchased by open tender by the Director General of Stores, London. The lowest tender was from an English firm and there were 3 higher tenders from American firms. We have purchased six machines from an English firm because they are cheaper and the rest from an American firm because they are based on greater experience.

The Deputy President and other honourable members have referred to the question of bungalows, and pointed out that there is great

[Mr. C. S. C. Harrison]

extravagance being pursued under these heads. The honourable the Deputy President makes a point that certain provision has been made in the sanctioned project estimate and that that provision should not be exceeded—that we should not spend beyond that estimate. But, Sir, I have already explained to this House what detailed estimates mean and what a project estimate means. It is the officers who are responsible for the construction prepare their detailed estimates and when they prepare these estimates they have to take many things into consideration ; when there are excess and savings they have to be set off one against the other, so that Government can be convinced when the final estimate comes before them whether the project estimate is likely to be exceeded or not. We cannot construct the works to the project estimates by all the detailed sub-heads. This is not an uncommon thing ; it is a well-known fact. I do know as an engineer that that has to be done and I trust the Deputy President will see that we have got to prepare our details and to balance excess expenditure of one item against a saving on another. Some of them may be more ; some of them may be less.

Under the provision for bungalows there will be an excess, but I have put up papers before Government—I think they have just arrived—to show how those excesses on sub-heads are proposed to be met by corresponding savings and I maintain, Sir, that we must have this give and take between sub-heads ; otherwise we can never carry out this project successfully. The honourable the Deputy President has made a definite statement that he has knowledge that the Superintending Engineer's bungalow at Sukkur has cost between Rs. 61,000 and Rs. 70,000. Sir, another honourable member of this House repeated the statement to the House that he had brought to my notice that Rs. 85,000 has been spent on that bungalow. But such is not the case. I think the House would like to hear the latest information. The sanctioned estimate for the Superintending Engineer's bungalow is Rs. 43,606.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : Not 35,000 ?

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON : Rs. 35,000 is the project estimate. The estimate is for Rs. 43,606, and the electrical connections, sanitary fittings, water supply arrangements, come to Rs. 6,350. We have to develop the area, and therefore this item is rather large. In Karachi it will not be so much because we have to make only short connections. Now, I wired to the Superintending Engineer in charge, as I have an idea that the honourable the Deputy President's figures have been arrived at from the figures of the contractor's agent.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : I can assure the honourable member that my figure has not been arrived at from the contractor's information.

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON : I should be grateful if he would give me the figures and their source without giving out the name of the person. However, I wired to the Superintending Engineer to know what was the actual cost to date, if the bungalow had been paid for ; if not, what was

[Mr. C. S. C. Harrison]

the anticipated total cost. He has wired back to me—his wire is dated 24th of last month—as follows :

“Your wire twenty-third. Final expenditure my bungalow, excluding extra claims by Tata will equal revised estimated cost as per estimates. Tata's claims mostly absurd. Total about 16% estimated cost. *Stop* Items I consider admissible amount to less than 2 per cent. of the estimated cost and would give excess to that amount.”

The Superintending Engineer's opinion is that there is the probability of an excess, if we admit certain claims of the contractor, of 2 per cent. on Rs. 47,000. By the greatest stretch of the imagination that cannot be more than Rs. 1,000. As I said, I do not like to enter into a discussion on a matter that may have to go before Government for decision. I do not want to discuss the contractor's claims just now. I have seen these claims, and I think the Superintending Engineer's estimate of them is pretty near the mark. Therefore, the bungalow will cost us Rs. 48,200 against the Rs. 47,000 sanctioned. I am glad we have come down from the Rs. 85,000 and even below the minimum limit fixed by the honourable the Deputy President of Rs. 61,000. I hope he will be able to show me the figures.

I would like to inform the honourable members of this House, Sir, that this question of bungalows was most carefully considered, before we embarked on this expenditure. It was decided that the plans should be shown to the housing committee, and their approval obtained. I see opposite to me at least two members of the housing committee, elected members of this House, who examined these plans, and, Sir, I am very pleased to say that they congratulated us upon having produced plans and estimates which they considered extremely economical. There are two members here now who saw those plans. I think I cannot be charged with extravagance in the initial stages. I did not want to take up the time of the House over this matter, but the Deputy President's criticisms were stringent and to the point, and I think, by having dealt with them rather fully, I have satisfied the House. There are a few other points which overlap which I do not think I need take the time of the House to answer.

I would now like to come to the question raised by the honourable member from Bombay, and that is the coal contract, which he calls the coal contract scandal. I went into this in very great detail with the Finance Committee, which met on the 16th of last month. I gave them very great details, and I think I was able to satisfy them that my action was absolutely justifiable, and I will give a few details to the House now, and I trust that they will come to the same conclusion. The whole thing is rather a long document. If the House so desires I will give it in full.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member cannot read the whole of that document, because it is not before the House.

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON: Those are my notes, Sir.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member can give expression to those sentiments in the course of his speech.

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON: The honourable member for Bombay first of all questions why the matter was ever referred to the Chief Controller of Stores. In the present case, as most of the House know, there are two main kinds of fuel in use in the world at the present time: these are crude oil and coal. Before deciding whether I should go in for the use of coal or oil for the machinery connected with the Barrage, I had to find out the prices of these two kinds of fuel. I had been informed that we might get favourable terms if we went in for an eight-year contract for coal, and that for oil it was not worth while going in for more than a three years contract. Having learnt that from very good business men I wrote to the Chief Controller of Stores, and asked him whether he was in a position to get into touch with a large number of coal owners and coal supply contractors. I might have been able to get into touch with 15, or even with the advice of the honourable member for Bombay, 5 more. I went to the Chief Controller of Stores, and he was able to get into touch with some thing like 92 to 100 possible tenderers. I might here mention to the House that his services were given absolutely gratis. I asked him as a special favour to assist me in this matter, and he consented to assist me. He said he would be pleased to do so by calling for tenders, but he left the placing of the contracts to the officers who had the power to deal with them. A contract was called for, and there were two special clauses in the contract,—similar clauses appear in Bombay millowners' contracts also—one was that the contractor had to keep stocks of coal at Karachi and to supply our demands from time to time from that stock, otherwise he was liable to a very severe penalty. The stock that we expected him to keep was a three-months' supply. I should like the House to understand that it was necessary to have a stock of three-months' supply because it was absolutely vital that we should not run short of coal to run our dragline excavators, etc., once they started. Once they start, we have got to work these machines, day and night by three shifts on each machine. And, Sir, an hour's stoppage would mean over Rs. 50 per machine straight away. It was, Sir, likely if we had no stocks of coal at Karachi, that not only would our machinery be liable to a cessation of work, but we would have to depôt that coal ourselves by transporting it from the other side of India. Therefore, I insisted upon a local supply being kept in Karachi where we could watch the supply and I insisted on a three-months' stock being kept. And further, Sir, I considered it was in the interest of the work and of the taxpayer in general that these conditions should be enforced, because all the storage losses are borne by the contractors. The risks, fire risks, loss in transport up to Karachi, etc., were to be borne entirely by the contractors. Out of these tenders, there were 8 tenders received for oil—we invited tenders for oil and coal—and 65 tenders for coal; total 73 tenders. It did not take us long to see that for general purposes coal was cheaper to use than oil. We have reduced our requirements for the current year. The contract was placed for the period September 1924 to September 1925. We found that we were likely to require 22,000 tons against 60,000 odd tons that we had invited tenders for, which the honourable

[Mr. C. S. C. Harrison]

member for Bombay spoke about. On receipt of these tenders we found that only 8 firms were prepared to carry stocks. We received colliery rates, the rates at collieries varying from Rs. 3-12-0 to Rs. 10-4-0 per ton. But not one of the rest of the tenderers was prepared to give us delivery at Karachi. They said "Strike out these clauses; make your own arrangements for testing at the collieries and for carrying the stocks to Karachi and to keep stocks at Karachi". They were not prepared to bear any losses which might have to be incurred in transit and storage. One firm, Sir, the Calcutta Coal Combine, gave a fairly favourable tender; but again they were not prepared to give delivery in Karachi. They said they would have to charge 12 annas or so extra for interest on their money and possibly one rupee extra for the risks that they would run. I have given all this in very great detail because I know the House is interested. Messrs. Cowasji & Sons of Karachi gave us a tender of Rs. 25 free on rail, Karachi, for Transvaal whitbank "A" quality coal, which is a very excellent grade of coal, as all businessmen here who have to buy coal know. The next best tender was the Calcutta Coal Combine's tender, which was Rs. 28-8-0; it was for Indian first class coal; Rs. 28-8-0 free on rail, Karachi; that is, they took no risk with regard to storage and would keep no stocks at Karachi. If we add another 12 annas *plus* 12 annas it would mount up to Rs. 30 nearly against the Rs. 25 that we have accepted.

Well, Sir, if the honourable House have been following the evidence given before the Coal Committee, they will have noted that one of the great complaints against the Bengal coal industry has been the lack of guarantee in quality. In these tenders we were given the calorific value of coal which was not at all satisfactory. In one or two cases only—for instance, in the case of the Calcutta Coal Combine—the calorific value of coal compared favourably with that of the coal for which the tender was accepted. Sir, one member of an Indian firm came all the way to Karachi to see me; unfortunately, he came two days after the tender had been accepted. I gave him a very long hearing. He came to me with a figure slightly above Messrs. Cowasji & Sons' figure, but it could not be considered as a tender as his firm had already tendered. He gave his rates, he said in his personal capacity; but, as all businessmen know, we cannot look at it in that way. I asked him whether it was possible for him to give me a guarantee that the coal would arrive at Karachi as may be required by us from time to time, and he said he could not do so. I asked another firm, Messrs. Cowasji & Sons, whether they would be prepared to give a guarantee if we switched over to Indian coal even now. But they said they could give absolutely no guarantee whatever, and that we would have to make our own arrangements for testing quality at the collieries. One gentleman told me he had been very badly bitten on a previous occasion, that calorific values were definitely stated and the coal had arrived at Karachi, but on arrival it was found that it was not up to the stipulated specifications and he was very severely taken to task by the different shipping companies in Karachi. He got wireless messages all the way to Suez complaining of the quality of the coal, and he

[Mr. C. S. C. Harrison]

had to cancel his Indian coal contract purely because it was not to be delivered up to quality and the firm—a leading firm in Calcutta—would not guarantee him quality at destination. They would guarantee on paper, but not in actual practice, and he then decided to send samples from his heaps of coal for analysis, and the analysis that he received corresponded in no way with the coal Calcutta had agreed to supply.

Well, Sir, having had that information before me, I decided that we must get an absolute reliable guarantee. The guarantee that was given by Messrs. Cowasji and Sons was that the coal would be of proper specifications, and that if it was not up to the specifications, I could reject it and they would pay damages. As I have pointed out, Sir, the Transvaal coal has cost us Rs. 25 a ton delivered on rails, Karachi; that is to say, every wagon will be properly loaded and we pay for the *actual* weight of the coal in the wagon. In Calcutta, as honourable members may know, we have often to pay for wagons filled to a load line. I have given the House sufficient information to show the difference between the actual rates received. The best was Rs. 25 and the next best was that of the Calcutta Coal Combine, and their figures shows an excess of Rs. 3-8-0 over and above the figure of the tender that we accepted. But they would not agree to my two conditions. They would have to add probably 12 annas for keeping a supply in a depôt at Karachi and perhaps another 12 annas for loss, and that means roughly an extra Rs. 5. By a Rs. 5 difference on 22,000 tons we would stand to lose well over a lakh of rupees, had I not placed that contract where I did. Well, Sir, I was guided in this matter by the decision or the promise given in this House by Sir Chimanlal Setalvad, who was then the Honourable Member in charge of the General Department. Members of this House asked him whether we would always buy in the cheapest market and he answered that we would always buy in the cheapest market without fear or favour, provided we got the required quality, and on that decision and undertaking given by the Honourable the General Member I accepted this tender, and by accepting this tender I saved for these works Rs. 1,10,000 on the 22,000 tons we would require for this year, and were we to have some 60,000 tons of coal next year as we may, we should save about Rs. 3 lakhs on the next year's supply. I may inform the House that the tender only runs for one year. We tried to sound the market on an eight-year supply and we found it would not suit us to have so long a contract.

And further, Sir, there has been a lot of adverse criticism of the Chief Controller of Stores, an officer whose services we have found extremely useful in putting us in the cheapest market. I would like to explain that it was stated by him that he would not recommend a long term contract, because it was held that Indian coal may have a better chance during next year if the question of freights which was then under review came to a favourable decision. It was on that advice received and purely in the interests of this work that I placed this contract. And I trust the House will agree that the action I took was purely in the interests of this House, in the interests of the ratepayers of the presidency as a whole, and of the Sindhi ratepayers in particular.

(After recess.)

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University): Sir, I rise to support the motion. It is somewhat unfortunate, Sir, that the honourable member, the Chief Engineer, Sukkur Barrage, should have postponed making his remarks till a very late stage. I remember, Sir, your making a suggestion this time last year, that, as far as possible, members of Government should come out after two or three members from the non-official benches had spoken. I do not know, Sir, why this rule is not strictly adhered to by Government benches. It has this convenience, that it enables the non-official benches to know the Government case at an early stage and arrange their speeches accordingly. The Chief Engineer has spoken late and it deprives the non-official benches of the advantage that some members have, who understand this subject better than most of us do, but who have already had their say, and it is left to others to reply to the criticisms made by the official benches.

There is one point, however, to which I would invite the attention of the Honourable Member in charge, and that is that according to the report written for the Sukkur Barrage project in the year 1922, the details of annual expenditure on this project of irrigation are as follows:—

| | Rs. |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Preliminary | 85,78,294 |
| First year | 1,68,14,558 |
| Second year (namely the budget year) | 1,48,66,124 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total .. | 4,02,58,976 |

Now, according to the figures given of the amounts already spent, we find that according to the accounts for the year 1923-24 this project already absorbed during that year Rs. 37,37,000; further, according to the revised estimates for the current year, 1,41 lakhs have already been spent, and now for the coming year 3,31 lakhs are budgeted. If we total up these items we come to the figure of 5,09,00,000 and odd. That means roughly speaking about Rs. 1,07,00,000 more than the figures mentioned in the report. In these circumstances, I want to know from the Honourable Member in charge why he cannot agree to a cut of 33 lakhs which has been moved.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: I move a closure, Sir.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I accept it.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): Sir, the honourable the Commissioner for the Southern Division stated that in quoting the opinion of engineers against the scheme I was not consistent, for I stated in the first part of my speech that I was not against this project. I did state in the first part of my speech that I was not against this project itself, but my position is not inconsistent, for I feel that it is absolutely necessary, if Sind is to be saved from the possibility of utter ruin, that the project should be recast, or at any rate an independent committee should

[Mr. D. B. Advani]

be appointed to examine it. I am not entitled to go further into that point: so I will not elaborate it further. All I would like to say, however, is that it is possible, especially in view of the practical remarks of my honourable friend from Larkana, to eliminate some of the canals on the Right Bank. For example, six crores of rupees.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The honourable member is again going into the whole scheme. I have repeatedly ruled against it.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI : Then, Sir, with regard to the Chief Engineer's remarks that there will always be some differences between the original estimates and actual cost of construction, I must point out, that there ought to be some limit. I know something about these canal projects and buildings, and I can say that it is only up to a certain extent that the estimates and the actuals must vary. But here, according to the original project the Superintending Engineer's bungalow at Sukkur was estimated to cost only Rs. 35,000 but it was revised to Rs. 43,000 and is now going up to Rs. 48,000. We have been told that the contractor will not be allowed to have his extras in accordance with the claim he has put forward. In any case there is a difference of Rs. 13,000 over a total estimate of 35,000.

Now, turning to the works, we were told that two members of this House examined the plans and estimates of the bungalow for the Chief Engineer. I doubt whether laymen, however closely they may examine, would be able to decide whether the rates are low.

Coming to the question of the coal contract, the Chief Engineer did not tell us whether he consulted the Honourable the General Member with regard to it. It is a question of policy and the question is whether this House would not have consented to pay two or three rupees more per ton if the tender of an Indian firm had been accepted. We understand from the evidence given before the Coal Committee, that Indian coal is superior to South African coal. We have got a highly paid staff of engineers and store-keepers and it was up to them when the Indian coal arrived, to have tested the quality of the coal. We would be prepared to spend some more money.

I therefore put my motion before the House.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Sir, the Chief Engineer has explained the several points that have been raised in the debate. My honourable friend Mr. Jayakar complained that the Chief Engineer should have addressed the House earlier than he did. If the Chief Engineer had spoken earlier, the honourable member opposite will realise that as he has only one opportunity of speaking on this motion he would not have been able to reply to any technical objections that might have been raised by subsequent speakers. I do not desire to go in detail into the objections that have been raised and merely repeat what has already been stated by my honourable friend the Chief Engineer. I will take one or two important points.

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

My honourable friend Mr. Bhutto complained that there was extravagance, and economy could be effected by restricting the scope of the project as land in his district was already cultivated up to 80 per cent. Yesterday he informed the House that he could cultivate only one-third of his land. The honourable member Mr. Shinde made the suggestion that honourable members from this House should be invited to visit the Barrage. The proposal is a good one and Government will give it serious consideration. It may not be easy to arrange for a large number of honourable members to go right from Bombay to Sukkur; but we shall consider the matter and inform the House later on.

The honourable member Mr. Pahalajani says that he has heard that the Superintending Engineer's bungalow is to cost Rs. 61,000, while the project estimate is Rs. 35,000; and he wants an explanation. I think an explanation is due to him. It is perfectly true that the project estimate was Rs. 35,000. My honourable friend the Chief Engineer has explained what a project estimate really is. I had the privilege of reading out yesterday the opinion of the Consulting Engineer to the Government of India who also explained what project estimates are. Estimates for these bungalows were obtained, and during my first visit to Sukkur I examined all the plans for the Sukkur Township. From the facts placed before me I considered that the superintending engineer's bungalow could not cost less than Rs. 43,000 without electric lighting and supply. Government sanctioned these estimates. These plans and estimates were subsequently placed before the Housing Committee of this honourable House and I may inform the House that the Committee approved of the plans and estimates and considered that the accommodation provided was not extravagant. But to that it has been said that after all the members of the committee are laymen. That argument was advanced by the honourable mover of this motion. But I would take the liberty of reminding the members of this honourable House that if that argument is to stand good, then all committees of this House on subjects of this sort are not of much value. Government attach the greatest value to the opinion of a committee of this House. I would like honourable members to attach the same amount of value which the Government attach to the opinions of a committee of this House.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: The Chief Engineer never said that he consulted all the members of the Housing Committee.

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON: I said that I consulted the members of the Housing Committee of whom three are present here to-day.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: There is not the slightest doubt that the honourable member said that members of this Committee were laymen. But I will take the liberty of reminding my honourable friend opposite that there are one or two members of the Housing Committee who understand plans and estimates, and what accommodation is necessary even much better than himself. I refer especially to one of my honourable friends whom I see sitting opposite me as I have experience of his knowledge in building matters.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : Is he a Sindh member ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangir : No, he is a Bombay member. It is my honourable friend sitting opposite, the honourable member from Thana, Mr. Pradhan ; he has experience ; he has seen the plans and gone into figures and in my humble opinion he does understand building estimates and he gives exceedingly good advice on such matters. Well, Sir, that is neither here nor there. I only mention this in reply to my honourable friend opposite. Now, Sir, these plans and estimates were placed before the Housing Committee and were passed. I have seen these houses, and this particular house when it was nearly completed. I was informed that some part of the work had not been carried out by the contractors to the satisfaction of the engineers and that they had been ordered to do some part of the work over again. I also remember that the contractor had some complaints. I went over the house very carefully, and I have no doubt that our engineers would not complain of the work unless it was really unsatisfactory. We are now informed that the house has been completed according to the estimates and that if the contractor's claims are taken into consideration the engineers are of opinion that they should be allowed two per cent. more, that is about one thousand rupees on the estimates. Now, Sir, the next question to answer is why were these estimates more than the project estimates. The project estimates are calculated by square feet and they are *kacha* estimates to enable Government, the Secretary of State and this House to come to a conclusion whether the project should be sanctioned or not, and, as Sir Frederic Gebbie explained in his report, these project estimates cannot be relied on, that Government must have *pucca* estimates before them for every part of the project, and I will take the opportunity of explaining a little later what precautions Government have taken.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : If the honourable member will permit I will ask a question. Are we to understand that the estimate of 18 crores is also rough estimate ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangir : The whole estimate of 18 crores is the project estimate, but I am just coming to the point and replying to my honourable friend Mr. Jayakar's question. My honourable friend opposite, I mean the leader of the Swaraj party, has pointed out to us that according to the project estimate we should have asked for one crore less than we are asking for to-day ; that is his allegation, and he wants me to explain that. A part of the explanation was given by the Chief Engineer for the Lloyd Barrage. He explained, and I will repeat it, that since the project report was drawn up it was found that it would be to the advantage of the works to use drag-line excavators, and he has stated that it was necessary to purchase them immediately and that the extra expenditure so incurred is budgetted for next year which will cause a saving in subsequent years. Another point that I would like to explain is that the price of machinery is actually a little higher to-day than provided for in the project estimates and that was not an unknown factor when our project report was sent to the Secretary of State.

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

The Secretary of State remarked that he was of opinion that the estimates specially for machinery and steel works were too low and therefore he added a round sum of about 2½ crores to the estimate. (Honourable Members : Oh, oh.)

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Honourable members do not seem to be satisfied with the discussion.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Mr. President, I repeat that the project was sent to the Secretary of State in 1920 and he was of opinion that the estimates were too low, and he therefore added a round figure of 2,50 lakhs to the estimates and brought them up to about 18½ crores. The original estimates stood at about 16 crores as provided by the Public Works Department. The estimates were drawn up at a time when the price of machinery was lower than when they were submitted to the Secretary of State. Therefore after close examination he added 2½ crores and made it 18½. That is a fact well-known to the Deputy President.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : On a point of information. Is this additional 1 crore which is provided for the budget year, part of the 2½ crores ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : No, I have stated already that part of the 1 crore is on account of this machinery which we are buying immediately and which according to the project report we would not have bought. But provision was made for labour in subsequent years ; but since we are buying labour-saving apparatus immediately there will be less provision for labour and other things in subsequent years. The fact is that the balance is for extra cost which is provided for by the Secretary of State in this 2,55 lakhs. My honourable friend the Deputy President ought to have known the fact and explained it, because I presume that my honourable friend (Mr. Jayakar) got these figures from the Deputy President. Now, Sir, that explains this rise. I must say, Sir, a very pertinent suggestion was made by one of the honourable members opposite, that the House should see that the project estimates are not exceeded. That is the crux of the question, and that is exactly what Government are trying to do and the orders are that if the detailed estimates show an excess over the project figure they should be submitted to Government immediately, and that work should not be taken in hand without the sanction of Government. If project figures are exceeded, they have to be submitted to Government for close examination. That is the procedure. Therefore, in no part of this work can the estimates be increased without the sanction of Government. That, Sir, is the ordinary principle followed in the Public Works Department.

I do not think there is anything else that requires further explanation.

An Honourable MEMBER : Only voting.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : If that is the desire of honourable members, I would resume my seat.

Question put. House divided. Ayes 48; Noes 42. Motion carried.

Division No. 8.

Ayes.

ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN.
BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
BHURGI, Mr. J. M.
BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
JATOL, Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH.
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JOG, Mr. V. N.
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
KARKI, Mr. M. D.
KAZI INAITULLAKHAN.
KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
LALLJI NARANJI, Mr.
LALJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.
MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED
KHUARO, Mr.
MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.

MUKHI, JETHANAND PRITAMDAS.
NANAL, Mr. B. R.
NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
PATEL, Mr. A. E.
PATEL, Mr. D. N.
PATEL, Mr. G. I.
PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED
KHAN.
PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
PATIL, Mr. D. R.
PIR, RASULBAKSH SHAH.
POWAR, Mr. M. B.
PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSEENALLY M.
SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
SAPTAISHI, Mr. C. M.
SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH.
SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
SURVE, Mr. V. A.
SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
TEAKOB OF KEWADA, tho
VELKAR, Dr. M. B.

Tellers for the Ayes: Mr. NOOR MAHOMED and Mr. D. B. ADWANI

Noes.

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
ATHAVLE Mr. S. N.
BJABANI, Khan Saheb SHEER MAHOMED
KHAN.
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
CLAYTON, Mr. F.
COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS.
FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
GHOSAL, Mr. J.
GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan
Bahadur SHAIKH.
GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE.
HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS.
HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
HUDSON, Mr. L. S.
JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.

JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI.
KALBHOOR, Mr. G. M.
KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.
KOKANI, Mr. G. J.
LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
LINFORD, Mr. J. W.
MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
OWEN, Mr. A. C.
PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
SARDESAL, Mr. S. A.
SAYED, SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB.
SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO,
Mr.
SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
WILES, Mr. G.
WOODS, Mr. E. E.

Tellers for the Noes: Mr. L. S. HUDSON and Mr. F. CLAYTON.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA (Bombay City, North): Mr. President, before you proceed to the next item of the business, I should like to draw your attention to an incident that has happened here. There is one honourable member of this House—I will not name him—whom I saw for the first

[Mr. J. Baptista]

time in this House—I was shaking hands with him and congratulating him. He began pulling me by force, but before I could resist him another member suddenly used force in the opposite direction. It required considerable effort to get rid of him. I submit this is a very unedifying and undignified conduct on the part of honourable members. I hope, Sir, that you will indicate that it is a very reprehensible conduct for honourable members to behave in this way in their zeal for canvassing votes.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I have expressed very strong views in the past against any undue influence in the free exercise of the right of vote of honourable members. Instead of ordinary persuasion—and canvassing cannot be stopped—it appears that a certain amount of physical force is being employed. I should particularly like the Honourable the Home Member to take a note of it that.....

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I hope, Sir, it will not be necessary to introduce the police in this assembly.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Yes, because if physical force is used, perhaps that might be necessary. Humour aside, I earnestly trust that no honourable member will interfere with any other honourable member in the free exercise of his right of voting on all questions coming before the House.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA: Might I make a suggestion? I found at the Geneva Conference what is done is this: All are seated in their places and then the Secretary reads the names, some say "Aye" and some say "No"; so that no interference whatever takes place. It is a very commendable practice, I think, and, if adopted here, it would save any such unedifying and undignified scene in this House as the one that took place a little while ago.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: That will be considered in the light of our Standing Orders.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Sir, I now ask for a total demand, under this head, of Rs. 2,87,30,300.

Question proposed.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE (Bombay City): Sir, I rise to oppose the whole grant and my reason is, Sir, that I find from one transaction of the coal contract that the department is not being carried on as it ought to be. The Chief Engineer stated that tenders were invited for the supply of coal in the first instance before even the machinery was purchased and that there was no guarantee given for the Bengal coal. I find, Sir, from the records of the Bombay Municipal Corporation, which consumes about 25,000 tons of coal, that these are supplied by Indian firms and all Bengal coal, and all the suppliers guarantee not only the calorific value of the coal, but also guarantee the supply of coal of uniform quality. I also find, Sir, that in January 1925 no less than 17 tenders were received. Then, further on, we find, so late as on the 14th February the same thing. Sir, if this is the condition under which this department is working, I do not know whether we should continue the department in

[Mr. Hooseinbhoj A. Lalljee]

its present state. We were told that the evidence before the Coal Committee was that Bengal coal was not of such a good quality as African coal. I have got in my hand a report, in which it is stated in a few words :

"In 1923 the Bombay Municipality consumed African coal, but during 1924, best Bengal was used and the results were highly satisfactory so that we expect to see the latter coal accepted for the 1925-26 contract. It is sometimes assumed that all cargoes of South African coal received in Bombay are consistently good : it is not the case and much of that received is certainly below the typical analysis submitted by the vendor."

Sir, it is clearly shown that South African coal cannot be relied upon. Then, Sir, in this very report we have got the evidence of Mr. Cameron, M.I.M.E., M.I.E.E., M.R.S.I., Mechanical Engineer with the Bombay Municipality. Sir, I may be allowed to state the purport of his evidence, He clearly states that Bengal coal is superior to African coal and that Bengal coal gives the same calorific value as South African coal consumed in Bombay, or even a little better calorific value. He speaks from personal experience, and he being a mechanical engineer of high standing. I think, Sir, the Chief Engineer in charge of these works will not deny that it is an expert evidence and can be relied upon. Sir, I do not also understand why the Controller of Stores should have been consulted when we have got under Government a Mechanical Engineer.

Then, we were told that two conditions were laid down, namely that three months' stock should be kept at Karachi, and that quality must be guaranteed. Where was the necessity of laying down that three months stock should be at Karachi? Everybody who is a business man knows that we have always in Bombay 50,000 tons lying in the docks, and I know as a matter of fact that a large quantity, not less than 20,000 tons, is always at the Karachi pier. The requirements of the Barrage is only 5,000 tons in three months. In India to be afraid of coal scarcity and to think that there will be a loss in working due to shortage of coal is a wonderful thing. In India you can get coal within a week or a fortnight. When we have large stocks in all the docks, why should we be afraid of shortage of coal? Then, Sir, from the tenders we have received for the municipality I find that the rates for Bengal coal with the same calorific value is Rs. 2 cheaper per ton than those for African coal.

In this matter, Sir, there is one thing I do not understand, and that is they invite tenders for the supply of coal and then go in for machinery. We never invite tenders for the supply of coal first. What we as business men do is to ascertain the rates of coal and then purchase machinery ; and after we have purchased the machinery and after it is ready for work it is that tenders are invited for the supply of coal. Therefore, Sir, I say that the whole thing is unbusinesslike and therefore the grant should not be allowed. Besides, this matter is not at all quite clear to my mind. My suspicion is that the South African coal has been given preference to Indian coal. The citizens of this province must certainly protest against this. Many of our brethren are in South Africa ; and probably the majority of Indians living in South Africa are from Bombay, and we know how they are treated there. With these few words I oppose the whole grant.

Mr. G. I. PATEL (Ahmedabad Millowners' Association) : Sir, I rise to oppose this grant on two main points. The first is an all round increased expenditure for machinery, and the second is the orders placed for foreign coal. As regards machinery the Honourable the General Member has explained that the amounts estimated in the original estimates had to be increased by the Secretary of State roundly. From my experience I may say that prices of machinery have been going down since 1920, and therefore there can be no reason why any additional expenditure should have been incurred over the original estimates. On the other hand, I find reasonable grounds for reducing the estimates and expenditure. There is no necessity of asking for further grants towards machinery, because the amounts originally estimated were themselves overestimates, and naturally there ought to be a very great decrease under that head in view of the fact that the prices have decreased from 25 to 40 per cent. in different cases.

As regards the coal affair, my friend the Honourable the General Member has already explained the facts. But I would like to point out to the Honourable the General Member, that in consideration of the fact that there are six crores worth of Indian collieries lying idle in Bengal, the people expect that as an Indian Member of Government he must feel that Bengal coal deserves some protection at his hands. As regards these tenders, we were told that tenderers for Bengal coal were not accepted on the ground that the tenders did not agree to certain conditions particularly to that of having to take back the coal in case it was rejected. But, Sir, we must remember that the case of coal is quite peculiar. Anything but coal can be taken back. The price of coal per ton is only Rs. 7 but the freight is Rs. 15 per ton. How can we expect a man, who buys coal at Rs. 7 per ton with a small margin of profit, say rupee one per ton, and pays a freight of Rs. 15 per ton to agree to take it back at further cost in loading and transit? This must have been the condition which debarred Indian contractors from coming forward to offer a tender. But in spite of these difficulties we find that people did give tenders. There are ways and ways in doing this. And even when tenders were received there was a way for favouritism to be shown to certain collieries managed or owned by Europeans. Then, Sir, we were told that Bengal coal was inferior. I may state from personal experience Sir, that there is certain kind of coal in Bengal which is far superior to this South African coal. If he purchases coal of 15 or 17 seams or first class Bagdigi or Lodhna coal he will get better results than those obtained from South African coal, provided the purchaser is unprejudiced and the man who burns the coal gives him correct and honest results.

Even if as a last alternative Government paid 5 to 10 per cent. more for Bengal coal nobody would object on the ground of national sentiment. But I maintain that there was no such necessity in this particular case. I may point out to the Honourable the General Member that if he selects better coal, if he selects Bagdigi and such other coal, and if he asks for tenders on usual term contracts, he is sure to get coal from Bengal, i. e., India, which is superior in burning to South African coal or coal imported from England.

(The Honourable Mr. Cowasji Jehangir rose in his seat.)

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: There is only a general reply. They merely oppose it and you reply to it.

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON: With regard to the motion of the honourable member for Bombay.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I want the procedure to be clearly understood by honourable members. The new procedure that has developed recently is different from the procedure that existed before, and therefore there is some misapprehension on the point. Originally Government members while asking for demands contented themselves by merely moving for them without making any speech. They are now occupying considerable time in making elaborate speeches in asking the House for a grant. There is nothing to prevent them from doing so. They are perfectly entitled to exercise this right in asking for a demand. After all the motions for reduction or omission are disposed of, the final demand is made on which there can be no motion either for reduction or for omission. But, that motion has to be put to the vote of the House, and it is open to any honourable member to oppose the whole demand and make a speech giving reasons why he thinks that the whole grant should be disallowed. The motion now before the House is the one moved by the Honourable the General Member and he will be entitled to reply on the whole debate.

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON: Sir, the honourable member for Bombay who just now spoke said that I had stated that there was no Indian coal equal in quality to the Transvaal coal. A reference to the official report will show that I never said anything of that sort. What I said was that there *were* Indian coals as good as or even better than the Transvaal coal, but my point was that I could not get any *guarantee* as to the quality of coal to be delivered at Karachi. Up to the 15th September 1924, of all the tenders that were received, there was not a single one which gave the guarantee to supply coal to our specification for delivery at Karachi. After we received all the tenders, when we considered whether it would not be possible to get Indian coal with guarantee, I made enquiries of the Karachi contractor who has now taken this contract. He said that, although he would not legally bind himself, he would consent to supply Indian coal. He gave a rate and I do not think I am entitled to disclose that rate, it being confidential. He gave me a rate with which I was satisfied. I was prepared to recommend it to Government, but he refused to give *any guarantee* either with regard to the quality of coal or rate of the delivery by rail. The absence of any guarantee might mean keeping the machinery and the works establishment idle. This contractor gave to me as his bitter experience that he had been badly let down before by Bengal coal merchants and "once bitten twice shy".

Mr. G. I. PATEL: I would like to be enlightened as to what the honourable member means by "absence of guarantee".

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON : In this case it was a question of what is known as ' first class mixture ' coal. There were certain mixtures stated by different tenderers, but there was no guarantee that we would get the mixture of the sort we wanted. We were asked to accept the liability to bring the coal to Karachi from the colliery. This particular contractor stated that he would not be prepared to take that coal for test to Karachi and he would accept no liability for the rejection of that coal, if it was not up to specification. The specification we wanted was stated in terms of maximum of ash content and minimum of moisture. This guarantee was not forthcoming. An honourable member, Mr. Adwani, stated that there was an offer to deliver the coal at Karachi free of freight charges. If we find that the coal delivered is not to our specification, then we have no liability to take back the rejected coal. We cannot accept for our special machinery a totally inferior coal. It is not a matter whether there is a reduction in price of one or two rupees. We have got to turn out a definite amount of work with our machines. If we are not able to do so, we will be incurring a heavy loss.

I can assure honourable members that I considered this question from an economic point of view, and entered into this contract settlement which was purely a matter of cold business. I have already pointed out that we would have incurred a loss of a lakh of rupees by accepting Indian coal this year ; by simple ratio the loss will mount up to Rs. 25 lakhs or more on our works in a few years. I have been asked to study economy in all matters of this kind. I can assure honourable members that I have studied economy and now my action is questioned.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Sir, the question is not whether it is Transvaal coal or any other coal, but it is a question of national honour. India cannot afford to purchase a pie worth of goods from South Africa.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I wish that the honourable member does not go into politics.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : Bengal coal, it has been admitted by a great authority, is equal in quality to Transvaal coal. If it is desired that Bengal coal should be purchased, it can be made possible to purchase Bengal coal only. Therefore, I trust that the Honourable the General Member will consider the question and see that Bengal coal is purchased in future.

If the question of freight stands in the way of purchasing Indian coal, it would be easy for the Bombay Government to approach the Government of India, who control the railways, to give a rebate. South African merchants are able to sell South African coal cheaper because they get a rebate on railway freight in their country. They are given a rebate of Rs. 4 in the form of railway freight by their Government. They are given assistance in the form of reduction in the railway freight and therefore they are able to under-sell. They sell their coal at cheaper rate. Therefore it would be very easy for the Bombay Government to save railway freight by seeking the assistance of the Government of India. That would be the right procedure and that would be the right

[Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan]

way in which Indian industry could be encouraged. Here coal is bought from foreign markets while Indian collieries are closing down. The Honourable the General Member will, I hope, take a note from this and will understand what the spirit of the House is as far as this particular matter is concerned and will try to amend the mistake and will not allow that mistake to occur in future.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA (Bombay City): Mr. President, I am astonished to hear from the honourable member opposite (Mr. Harrison) that up to September 1924 he could not get any guarantee as to quality for Bengal coal. Sir, the Bombay Municipality for the last 2 years has been buying Bengal coal and they get guarantee for quality. Last year in March the Bombay Municipality contracted to purchase Bengal coal and this year when the contract came before the Standing Committee the Municipal Commissioner and the engineer have testified that they were quite satisfied with the quality of coal supplied by Bengal. The Municipal Commissioner explained that the quality supplied was superior to South-African coal. I do not, therefore, understand why Government cannot get guarantee for Bengal coal and why we should not get Indian coal.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): Sir, it seems to me a very strange way of inviting tenders and putting the Indian industry at a disadvantage. The proper thing was to estimate requirements for six months or a year and to ask the competing firms to supply coal during a certain period of time and not to impose the condition that certain quantities of coal should always remain at Karachi.

The other point is that tenders for coal are always invited with reference to particular seams. I understand from my honourable friend, representing the Ahmedabad Millowners' Association, that they always invite coal on the basis of particular seams and not on the basis of one mixture and another. There are well-known mines in Bengal and tenders are invited on the basis of seams, and not by confusing matters by mention mixtures and thus place Indian contractors at a disadvantage. There ought to be a straight way of inviting tenders.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South): Sir, the only point that struck me is this, that we expect a statement from the Honourable the General Member as regards the future policy of this department. Never mind what has happened. We do not want to go into it. We only want an assurance that so far as the future is concerned the claims of Indian industry will be looked after and that such a mistake will not occur again. I was surprised that he did not make here a passing reference to this important matter. I do not find fault with the Chief Engineer for consulting the Controller. That is probably necessary. But what I want to know is whether the Honourable the General Member was consulted, and if not why was he not consulted on the point whereas a gentleman outside the department was consulted. We want an assurance in the open House that so far as the future policy is concerned whenever crores of Indian money are involved, not only Indian material but Indian talent

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

and Indian labour will be employed. Of course when there is no possibility of getting Indian labour and Indian material there is no question. But we want that assurance on this day and I hope that the policy will be adhered to.

Mr. NOOR MAHOMED (Hyderabad District): Sir, may I take the liberty of addressing the House for a few minutes? There was a development scheme in Sind in connection with the Jamrao canal and we know the result of the development has been that the entire position in Sind is changed; and at present it is Punjab in Sind. I am afraid the policy that is being continued now will entirely change the face of Sind. Sind will no longer be Sind and the Sukkur Barrage instead of doing good to Sind and the presidency will do harm, and I am sorry to say that this aspect of the question has not yet been paid attention to, so far, by the Honourable the General Member. We say, Sir, that so far as the development question is concerned there is the problem of the Jamrao canal before us. If the Honourable the General Member has seen the canal, he will know what I mean. Again the entire Barrage scheme has been entrusted to one officer, the Chief Engineer. In his hand lies entirely the power of spending huge sums of money; and that also without any control. This is such an unheard of thing and this House will do well to insist on the curtailment of the powers of the Chief Engineer. There should be absolutely strong control over the Chief Engineer in Sind. I have got every respect for his character and his capacity but this work is of such an enormous character that there should be a very strict limit to his powers. Therefore the House will be well advised to exercise very strong control over those who are in charge of this scheme and unless that is done I do not see much chance for this scheme bearing any fruit within its estimated cost.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University): I am sorry, Sir, that this debate has gone on wrong lines. But whatever that may be, it has made it clear, and I hope the Government responsible for this bungle will realize, that on certain questions involving the self-respect of the country this House feels very keenly. I feel, Sir, that there has been a bungle. I did not interpose up to this time in the debate because I wanted to know the facts. What this House wants to know is whether any satisfactory explanation can be forthcoming. If there is no satisfactory explanation, I will warn the Government that this side of the House will vote for the reduction of this grant. What this House wants to know is why such a large power was left in the hands of a couple of European officials, the Chief Engineer and the Stores Controller, who is absolutely outside the control of this House. My honourable friend from Bombay (South) has put a very pertinent question which I hope the Honourable the General Member will answer straight and satisfactorily. Where did he come in in the determination of this question? Did he at all apply his mind to this question, or did he leave it into the hands of the two European officers, the Chief Engineer and the Controller? May I say to the Honourable the General Member what is the good of having

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

an Indian gentleman at the top of this department, if he, on a question of policy as here, involving the deepest self-respect of the people, is going to leave the entire question in the hands of two European officials, who naturally, not being Indians by birth, do not see eye to eye with us? I do not wish to speak with any disrespect of my honourable friend, but I cannot overlook the facts as they stand. It is impossible for an English official to feel on this question as I feel, for example, or as my friends feel on this side. I certainly think that the Honourable the General Member ought to feel, and I am sure he does feel, very keenly, the contempt with which we have been treated by South Africa. I will not go into the political aspect of this question, Sir, having regard to your ruling.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I want to be clearly understood. I did not rule against it. What I meant was that it would be better to avoid it as far as possible.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: Thank you, Sir. When the whole country is seething—I hope I am not using a strong expression—with condemnation, seething with embittered feelings at the way in which Indians have been treated by South Africa, here is a department presided over by an Indian Member that has ordered 22,000 tons of coal from that country which, if we had the power, we would not touch with a pair of tongs. How does he justify this bungle? He may say that it was done by his subordinate officer, and that officer in his turn refers to a third person outside our control. These two people have managed this bungle between them. A question was asked in the Legislative Assembly, and there Sir Frederick Whyte interfered and said that this question could be agitated in the Bombay Legislative Council. I want therefore a clean answer to this question. I would not be sorry if even another hour is taken up on this debate, because, if there is any matter on which we will shed our last drop of blood, it is our relations with that God-forsaken country called South Africa. What is the Honourable the General Member's explanation? I want to know categorically from him, and I shall ask my party to vote for the entire rejection of this grant, knowing the responsibility of my position, unless the Honourable the General Member will straight away tell us where he came in in the determination of this question. Did he apply his mind to the question, or did he leave it entirely to these two gentlemen to be disposed of in any way they liked, who *ex hypothesi* could not see eye to eye with us, not being Indians? There is a meaning, I may warn my honourable friend the General Member, in the policy of Government that there should be two Indian members of the Executive Council. What is the object of that? It is that the Indian point of view may be understood by Government. The Government desire that these two men should tell the Government what the Indian point of view is. I may tell my honourable friends opposite that this is the basis of the disposition under which my two honourable friends opposite sit with Government. But if they are not

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

going to respect the Indian point of view in these important matters, then I must say in all seriousness, that they had better vacate their office. There is no meaning in having them there as Indians. In that case, I would prefer to have an Englishman who, by his knowledge and experience of these matters, probably is superior to them purely as an administrative agent. But where lies their superiority? It lies in the fact that, being Indians, they understand the Indian point of view better. If they are not going to give the Government the benefit of this circumstance, I certainly will say that they have no business to be there at all. I therefore want to know on behalf of the opposition where the Indian member came in in this bungle. Sir, I do not know the technicalities of this question, but I feel that highly rigorous conditions were imposed by the Chief Engineer, rigorous in the sense that perhaps applying them to a young Indian industry not so well established as the coal industry in South Africa, they were rigorous. When dealing with a nascent, indigenous industry like the Bengal coal industry, I do submit, that they were rigorous conditions. I do not wish to go into details, but I certainly do want to enunciate this principle from this side of the House that, when dealing with Indian industries, British officials like Mr. Harrison must put themselves into the position of Indians, and consider what an Indian would have done if he were there. Mr. Harrison may say that he went on the bare principle of commercial benefit. The House, I am sure, will not be satisfied with that explanation. His whole point of view is wrong. The right point of view is that at some cost—I hope the House will agree with me—at some cost, or, as we call it in political parlance, at some sacrifice, attractions ought to be held out to a young industry like the Bengal coal industry. On the relative merits of the coal I will not speak, because there is the record which has just been read out by my honourable friend for Bombay (South) and my Mahomedan friends from Bombay; that, taking it ton for ton, Indian coal is superior to South African coal. We have another circumstance to which the representative of the Ahmedabad Millowners' Association has referred, that the railways contrive to fix their freight in such a killing manner, that it costs more to take coal to Karachi from here than it costs for South African coal to be taken to Karachi from South Africa. I know, Sir, that South Africa is a self-governing country, and I may say that if Mr. Harrison had been in South Africa or any other self-governing country and behaved in the way in which he has done, I do not think I will be indulging in any exaggeration were I to say that public opinion would have compelled him to resign office. We have not got the power to do that to-day, but I must warn the honourable member the Chief Engineer that this House will regard such conduct on his part in future with the greatest severity and condemnation. Now, Sir, I am waiting to hear the Honourable the General Member give us a straightforward reply to my inquiries.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Mr. President, I am very glad of this opportunity of explaining the position a little further,

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

and I may inform my honourable friends opposite that neither that side nor this side of the House has a monopoly of patriotism. I will clearly state that I first heard of this contract after it was entered into, and that was due to the power delegated to the Chief Engineer of making certain contracts up to certain amounts of money.

An Honourable MEMBER: Withdraw them.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: I wish only to explain that certain powers have been delegated to all Chief Engineers of entering into contracts up to a certain amount, and therefore, quite rightly, the Chief Engineer for the Lloyd Barrage entered into this contract upon his own responsibility. I do not say that in self-defence; I do not desire to take advantage of that in any way. I am quite prepared to take the responsibility which the House wishes to place upon my shoulders. I have stated the position as asked for by my honourable friend opposite. When I first heard of this contract, I wrote to the Chief Engineer for the circumstances under which it was placed. After having had a report from him, I asked the Chief Engineer to immediately make enquiries whether we could not change the contract and replace it by one for Bengal coal; and I had a very long and comprehensive report from the Chief Engineer on the subject, which report was placed before the Finance Committee. I will give briefly the most important factors in that report and in this contract. In the first place, what led the Chief Engineer to place this contract for Transvaal coal was that for one year's supply it cost a little over a lakh less than the best Bengal tender. In the opinion of some honourable members opposite it may be that such factors should not have come in the way of patronising Bengal coal, but the fact remains that one of the factors that induced the Chief Engineer to place this contract for South African coal was the economy of Rs. 1 lakh. The second factor was the question of quality, and when I asked the Chief Engineer to report as to whether this contract could not be changed, and whether the contractor who had offered us Transvaal coal would not supply us with Bengal coal instead, the reply was very clear and distinct. It was that none of these colliery owners and none of the agents supplying Bengal coal would guarantee that the quality specified in the tender would be delivered at Karachi, nor would they allow us to test the quality at Karachi.

An Honourable MEMBER: Was it verified?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: It is in the contract. Then I discussed this question with the Chief Engineer personally, and went into certain details. I wanted to know what quality was absolutely necessary. Well, we have got to work these dragline excavators and these dragline excavators require a certain quality of coal and if they have not that quality of coal, they will stop working.

An Honourable MEMBER: What quality?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Specified quality mentioned in the tenders.

An Honourable MEMBER : We want to know what is that specified quality.

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON : 12,000 Thermo British Units is the minimum efficiency required for coal.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : The point was that there is Bengal coal of this quality. But they would not guarantee to give it to us in Sind. They said " If you want to test the quality, you must test it at the colliery head, and once it has left the colliery head and is brought to Karachi, the coal is yours, not ours," with the result that if we had these 20,000 tons of Bengal coal and if our dragline excavators ceased to operate on account of the poor quality of the coal supplied, we would not only lose by the dragline excavators ceasing to operate, but these thousands of tons of coal would be on our hands and we should have to dispose of them. Well, Sir, I hesitated considerably as to what to do under those circumstances. It was a question of spending more money and running all these risks that I have mentioned, and I decided that the matter should be immediately placed before the Finance Committee.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : When was it placed before the Finance Committee?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : On the 16th of February. Now, Sir, I do not wish to divulge what took place in the Finance Committee, but there was a certain amount of difference of opinion in that committee, and some honourable members thought that we should not run the risks that undoubtedly we would run if we took Bengal coal, and ultimately I thought that it was best to leave this contract alone for one year. There was nothing else to be done. I was quite prepared to say that, if this House sanctioned it, we should spend a lakh more but the great obstacle that came in my way was the stopping of the works. It was not a question of losing one lakh ; it was a question of losing lakhs of rupees. If these dragline excavators cease to operate, the loss would be so enormous that I could not take upon myself the responsibility for such a loss. The risk was so great. I again pressed the Chief Engineer to state whether the tenderers refused to guarantee the quality and delivery at Karachi and I have got it in writing from him and he got them to say in writing that they refuse to guarantee. Now, Sir, under those circumstances.....

Mr. G. I. PATEL : Every contract is for delivery at the pit's mouth. Nobody gives a guarantee for delivery elsewhere.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : We have just heard, Sir, some honourable members saying that guarantees are given ; here the honourable member says a guarantee is never given ! If the quality was much lower than that specified, they might have cut off say 8 annas or so from the price, but the coal would have been ours, and we could never have found it out (that the quality was lower) until the dragline excavators actually ceased to operate. I could not see my way to cancel the contract for this coal immediately and go in

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

for Bengal coal, because I found that the proposition was a little more dangerous than mere money ; it was a question of the stopping of the work.

Now, Sir, what is to happen in the future ? In future there is no doubt that we shall go in for Bengal coal, but I would ask my honourable friends to consider one point, namely that a Coal Committee has been appointed to find out why there is not enough demand for Bengal coal. The point is that these collieries will not give us consistent quality and regular supplies, and therefore, for work which is so important as this is—it is not merely running the boilers of mills—the result is that the loss per hour is enormous if our machinery ceases to work. Therefore, we must have guarantee of quality and guarantee of delivery and if after this the collieries will give us this guarantee—and I trust they will see their way to do so—there is no doubt that we shall buy Bengal coal, and we shall buy Bengal coal if it is even at a little loss to the Lloyd Barrage.

Now, Sir, as to freight. What kills the Bengal coal, as far as the Lloyd Barrage is concerned, is the freight and we propose to write to the Government of India that if they desire to encourage Bengal coal, they must give us some concession in freight, and it is for the Government of India to decide whether they will help us to encourage Bengal coal. It is not much use appointing committees unless along with us the Government of India will show their *bona fides* in the matter of encouraging Bengal coal by giving us a little concession in this matter, and I undertake to say that if the Government of India will help us a little, there will be no question that we will go in for Bengal coal. Therefore, I assure the House that we shall make every endeavour, as we have done in the past, as we have done in this case, to use Bengal coal.

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Sir, I ask for a grant of Rs. 40,000 under 52-A for Forest Capital Outlay, Forest (Transferred). I refer to page 250 of the White Book.

Question proposed.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind) : Sir, I rise not seriously to object to this item, but to obtain details of what has not been given either in the White Book or the Blue Book. Therefore, I rise to object to it on that ground.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Sir, this Rs. 40,000 is meant for two important forest roads, one in the north of Thana and the other in the Nasik district. Both are very important roads necessary for the exploitation of the forests there and to work the coupes in the neighbourhood. The road in the north of Thana is extremely necessary for the making of the valuable coupes in the neighbourhood workable, and the other road is a road which is an outlet to the road from the Nasik range down the west to bring the valuable timber to market on the west coast. Both these roads have been sanctioned and certain amounts have already been spent. This is the amount asked for for the coming year. It is only a portion of the entire amount sanctioned.

Question put and agreed to.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Sir, I move for a grant of Rs. 3,40,000 for Expenditure in England, (Civil Estimates, pages 256 and 257).

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The question is :

That a grant of Rs. 3,40,000 be made under the head Expenditure in England, High Commissioner (Transferred).

Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District) : Sir, I move :

Omit the provision of Rs. 12,000 made for Registration (Stores).

Sir, this sum of Rs. 12,000 is demanded as value of stores to be imported from England in respect of the Registration Department. This sum of Rs. 12,000 appears to be intended to be spent on the photo-copying system that has recently been introduced in this presidency since the year 1921.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Sir, I rise to a point of explanation. Before the honourable member proceeds with his speech, I may explain that this sum of Rs. 12,000, as the honourable member has just stated, refers to chemicals which are indented from Home

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The Honourable Minister will have a chance of explaining it as soon as the omission is moved.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : I wanted, if possible, to save the time of the House in one respect.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I will allow the Honourable Minister to make any explanation in regard to the point which the honourable mover has made, but I cannot allow him now to make a speech in support of the grant.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN : This system of photo-copying was originally introduced as an experimental measure, and we find that it has been in force only in three places up to this time. I had put a question during this session asking for figures of expenditure incurred by the department on this system in the matter of erecting buildings and sheds for carrying on this photo-copying work and also of the expenses incurred by the department on machinery and chemicals. That question appears in the third list of Questions and Answers presented in this session, and according to the reply given by the Honourable the Minister, we find that since the year 1921 to 1923 on machinery and chemicals

Mr. D. B. ADWANI : I rise to a point of order, Sir. The Honourable Minister has made a demand only for Rs. 3,40,000 under Civil Works at page 257. This sum of Rs. 12,000 refers to Registration and does not apparently form part of the present demand.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Mr. Wiles told me that it does.

Mr. G. WILES : Yes, Sir. All Transferred items are included on the demand made by the Honourable Minister. The list given in pages 256-257 of the Estimates shows all items under Reserved and Transferred. All Transferred items contained in those pages have been taken out, and a consolidated demand is made for all of them. A demand for all the Reserved items will be made later.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : May I draw the honourable the Finance Secretary's attention to item 34, demands for grants, where there is a sum of Rs. 7,000 shown under Transferred ?

Mr. G. WILES : That is the demand for expenditure by the Secretary of State. The present demand is for all Transferred items under the High Commissioner.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN : Sir, I was referring to the reply given by the Honourable the Minister to my question put in this session, and in that reply of his we find that the expenditure on machinery and chemicals from 1921—23 was Rs. 20,393 ; 1923-24 Rs. 11,600 ; 1924-25 (according to the revised estimate) Rs. 17,000 ; and in the coming year 1925-26, Rs. 12,000. With regard to buildings, during the first two years Rs. 9,605 were spent ; in 1923-24, Rs. 10,000. Besides this, some amount has been spent under exchange. Rs. 4,000 in 1923-24 ; Rs. 6,000 in 1924-25 and Rs. 4,000 are estimated for 1925-26. So these will give us an idea as to what the total expenditure has been on this photo-copying system since its introduction. We find from the White Book, that the figures for Stores are : 1923-24, Rs. 8,877 ; 1924-25 (revised estimate), Rs. 16,000 ; and 1925-26, Rs. 12,000. So that up to this time Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 50,000 has been spent for this project of introducing the photo-copying system in this presidency only on machinery & chemicals. The Director of Information in a press note issued on the 28th of August 1924 gave us to understand that this system was likely to be extended throughout the whole of this presidency, and there being certain legal objections with regard to tendering these copies in evidence the law was intended to be amended. The Director of Information also says that there is considerable saving in staff of the Registration Department on account of the introduction of this system. If we want to know what the considerable amount of saving spoken of by the Director of Information is, we shall have to look to the Blue Book which gives the amounts which were required for district charges. At page 50 of the Blue Book, we find that in the year 1923-24 Rs. 6,25,000 were required for district charges. Then in 1924-25 they budgeted for Rs. 6,95,000, and the revised estimate was Rs. 6,46,000 and in the budget for the ensuing year Rs. 6,86,000 have been provided for. So, if we look into all these figures we find that the figure in the ensuing year's budget is only less by Rs. 9,000 than the amount budgeted in the current year. So, we find that there are no considerable savings as has been tried to be made out by the Director of Information in his press note. We find in the remarks column under the head Registration on page 50 of the Blue Book that the saving in this year is due mainly to retrenchment in the establishments in consequence of photo-copying. This is stated to be one of the reasons for the reduction in the establishment charges in the revised estimate of the current year. But what we actually find is that in spite of this saving Rs. 6,86,000 has been again budgeted for the ensuing year. Even the department itself is not sure as to whether there would be savings in the ensuing year on account of the introduction

[Mr. R. G. Soman]

of the photo-copying system. As regards this new system the officers of Government are not prepared to say that it still continues to be experimental as will be found from the remarks of the Director of Information in his press note as well as from the remarks of the Home Secretary at the last October session of the Legislative Council in respect of a supplementary grant asked by the Honourable Minister for Rs. 9,700 which will be seen on page 583 of the Council Debates of the last October session. These members of this House will find that the Home Secretary says in the second paragraph of his speech on the actual merits of the photo-copying system :

“On the actual merits of the photo-copying system, I think there can be no two opinions.”

So, they have taken it for granted that this system has been successful and it ought to be extended to the whole presidency. Now, if we look to the complaints of the public of the Satara, Sholapur and Poona districts who are mainly affected by it, we will find that the people do not like this new system of registration copies. Their objections are that the copy taken out by this new system is very small in size. This would be apparent from the discussion at the last session. The letters are so small that it entails undue strain on the eyes, as even a man having a normally good sight would not be able to read without the aid of a magnifying glass, not to speak of a man like myself suffering from short sight who would not be able to read a single word. Even this aspect of the question was dealt with by the Home Secretary on the 20th of October. What he says in his speech is :

“Possibly, the reproductions that are being made may need to be made on a larger scale with a very slight modification of the methods of enlargement. I am not quite sure whether at present we are using all the modern methods in photography such as panchromatic plates and discriminative colour screens which form the most valuable aid for the preservation of all the features of a document.”

He also admits that copies are too small. Then again there is a difficulty with regard to the preservation of these copies. There is also a doubt as to whether these photo-copies would not fade after a certain period; but this matter is of course connected with the science of photography, with which I am not acquainted. I shall content myself with saying that even Government officers are not yet sure about the durability of these copies for a long time. Some say that it will last for 20 years; some officers say that these copies are very small and that they ought to be larger. One fact is clear that this system is still defective. Notwithstanding this expression of opinion by this House at the last session of the Legislative Council, Government persist in continuing the system and desire to extend it to the whole of the presidency. Now they have asked for a grant of Rs. 12,000 for the purchase of stores from England for the photo-copying system. I submit that this is a demand made against public opinion; and the Government are flouting public opinion in asking this demand. Therefore, no non-official member of this House should be a party to grant this demand. I submit that this part of the House should vote against this demand.

Question proposed.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Sir, just by way of information I should like to know whether the honourable members would like to discuss the question of this system of photo-copying at this stage or they would like to postpone it till the general demand for Registration is made. If they postpone the general discussion of the system to that occasion I would promise to keep over this item till then. If they decide that it should not be postponed then I would be willing to dispose of this Rs. 12,000 now.

Honourable MEMBERS : The question should be discussed now.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The question is not whether the House desires it, but under the procedure that has been laid down, the question of policy will be discussed on the main question of Registration. Here the question is whether the House is going to grant the twelve thousand rupees. If the House grants it on the merits of the case, then the Honourable Minister will regulate his actions on the decision of the general question. But if the House rejects it and the Registration grant is allowed then the Honourable Minister can ask for it again. On this question honourable members must decide on merits: they cannot go into the question of the merits of the system. If there is a motion for a total reduction then that question will be discussed then.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Sir, that is exactly what I wanted to know. The spirit in which the question is intended to be discussed is really a discussion which should properly be taken up when the general demand is made; whereas this is merely an item out of it for indenting certain chemicals from home.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I am not sure whether the proper procedure will not be for the Honourable Minister to move that the consideration of this item be postponed to a given date later on during this session.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : I am quite willing to do that.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, I beg to point out that the Honourable Minister for Excise has made a demand of Rs. 3,40,000 and not a separate demand for photo-zinco materials. So the question is whether the grant of Rs. 3,40,000 should be rejected. There is no question of rejecting Rs. 12,000.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : We have been rejecting part of a total demand.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind) : Sir, the whole demand for Rs. 3,40,000 will have to be postponed to another day. Suppose we disallow Rs. 12,000 now, then the Honourable Minister can only demand Rs. 3,40,000 minus Rs. 12,000. Now, if the discussion is postponed till another day, the whole demand cannot be asked until this question is decided. Therefore the postponement of this matter is the postponement of the whole grant.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : If I may make myself still further clear, I did not ask for the postponement of the Rs. 12,000

[Mr. A. M. K. Dehlavi]

out of the whole demand. I asked honourable members whether the House would be willing to discuss the question later on.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I have told the honourable member that I cannot allow a discussion of policy on this partial grant. It is for Government to decide what procedure they desire to adopt.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI : So far as I understand these items which have been given here, they will not appear again in the general demand .

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Sir, as I understand the position, it is this, that the Honourable Minister is offering not to use this Rs. 12,000 if on the discussion of the general policy when 9, Registration is discussed, the photo-zinco process is done away with by the Council.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : That is in the hands of the House.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : But I understand you to rule, Sir, that on this particular item you would not allow any discussion on the general policy of photo-zinco copying. In that case it will be impossible to argue this point on its merits, because if the Rs. 12,000 is to be allowed at all it is to be allowed on the understanding that the photo-zinco copying is to be continued. How can the House or the Honourable Minister discuss this matter unless the whole question is allowed to be discussed ? That is the difficulty.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The difficulty is created by the procedure adopted, namely, instead of taking the budget in the usual order, in which case that item would have come first, Government have decided to take it in the reverse order. This item would have ordinarily come after that question had been disposed of. The difficulty is due to the manner the Budget is placed before the House.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, I would suggest the simplest plan would be for the mover, if he will trust the Honourable Minister's assurance, to withdraw his motion at present and fight the question out when we get to Registration. If he is not prepared to accept the assurance of the Honourable Minister, then let us discuss the whole question of photo-copying system now on the merits.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I am quite in favour of the House accepting the assurance of the Honourable Minister that if this grant is sanctioned not a pie of it will be spent if the system is rejected on the general discussion.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN : The House also would have been willing to do so but for the fact that the Government has flouted public opinion expressed in regard to the supplementary grant.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City) : Sir, the first item of general reduction under the Registration department stands in my name and it relates to the reduction of Rs. 30,000. I will speak in favour of that reduction and the photo-copying system will be one of the main grounds

[Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar]

on which I shall propose the reduction. But I really fail to see how the system itself will be a topic to be voted upon by the House.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Surely the honourable member realizes that when we are discussing the budget we do not discuss the particular policy, but the grant provided for carrying out that policy, and the House, when it rejects the provision asked for by Government, declares that they do not want that policy.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR: There is no specific item demanded for carrying out this policy.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Is not there a lump sum reduction?

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR: The first such item stands in my name; then there is also the second and the third. So there are only three general reductions, on page 11.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I understand that it is the desire of the House to deal with the question whether the system should be continued or not on the present motion. Is that the general wish of the House? (Honourable Members: Yes.) Very well, as a special case I will allow it. But there will be another difficulty because in this case the reply will be with the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: I think, Sir, there is a ruling that any Minister can reply in regard to a transferred department.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Will the Honourable Minister point out to me where that ruling is? Let him give me his authority, and I will consider it.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District), (Addressed the House in Marathi): Sir, the system of photo-copying documents has been in force in the three districts of Poona, Satara and Sholapur. The people of those places have made strong complaints about the unsatisfactoriness of the system. I would ask Government whether any attention has been paid to those complaints. I would also like to bring to the notice of the House that a discussion has been going on in various vernacular newspapers about the system and its drawbacks, and I hope Government and the House will take it into their consideration. The unfortunate part of it is that if Government starts any unjust or unsatisfactory measure in regard to the administration, the poor cultivators have to suffer for it, and in the present instance, it is the cultivators who will suffer most on account of this system. How the photo-copying system is unsatisfactory can be readily seen from the copies of the documents given to the parties concerned by the registration offices. Honourable members will probably remember that when a grant for this system was being discussed in Poona, a copy of a document for Rs. 50,000 was circulated amongst honourable members, and they will also remember that the copy did not contain the signatures of the parties to the document. I should like to bring to the notice of the House that ever since the system was started in these three districts the people have been bitterly complaining about it,

[Mr. N. R. Gunjal]

and it has been pointed out by the honourable member for Satara (Mr. Soman) how unjust the system is. I therefore hope that all parties in this House will join in throwing out this grant, with the object of impressing upon Government that the photo-copying system is not acceptable to the people of the districts where it is now in use.

Mr. V. A. SURVE (Ratnagiri District) (Addressed the House in Marathi): Mr. President, before deciding on the continuance of the photo-copying system, it is necessary for us to consider how far it is agreeable to the agriculturists. The copies of documents which are prepared by the photo-copying system are undecipherable after six months. The result will be that the agriculturists will not have in their hands any proof of what agreements they have entered into and with whom, with the result that they will suffer heavily. The chief point to consider is not the convenience of the registration offices but the convenience of the people who have to register documents there. The persistent efforts of Government to perpetuate the system, are in my opinion, not in the right direction. Owing to the size of the copies, they are untraceable after some time, and even if they can be traced, they are undecipherable or unreadable. It will not be right for this House to sanction the grant without taking into consideration all these factors.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Mr. President, the honourable member Mr. Soman made it a point that Government has flouted public opinion. You will bear me out, Sir, that the question was referred to in this House before only as an off-shoot. I could then see that some of the honourable members and not a large number of them—because only a few spoke on the question—did speak against the system. But from that I was not, nor were Government, in a position to understand that that was the public opinion or that was the decision arrived at against the system. Therefore, Government cannot be accused of having flouted public opinion, and having continued a system which had been disallowed. As a matter of fact, as I said, on the last occasion in Poona, the system has been sanctioned by this very honourable House. It has been working under their sanction, and until that sanction is withdrawn, the department is perfectly right in working it, and providing for it. Similarly, this amount of Rs. 12,000 has been provided for, because, if the system is to continue for a day, it has to continue on the strength of chemicals; and this is the provision for it. If the House, after due deliberation, comes to the conclusion that it should be discontinued it would then be for Government to consider whether they should act according to the advice of the House.

There is another point which I should like to answer before I enter into the merits. I should like to point out that there is absolutely no intention on the part of Government, and there can be none whatsoever, to perpetuate the system, and this House would be misjudging the intentions of Government if it were alleged that Government was forcing this system on the country. If Government were carrying it on, they were doing so according to the wishes of this honourable

[Mr. A. M. K. Dehlavi]

House, and because they find that it is in the best interests of the people generally. Government by themselves, as a body, as a Government, have absolutely no interest in carrying on this system.

Now, to come to the merits of the system, I find from the records of this honourable House, the speeches made and the discussions held, that the question was raised in 1923, when my honourable friend the Revenue Member was in charge of the subject as Minister. He has already explained the advantages of the system. Dr. Paranjpye, who was one of the Ministers then, has also explained them; and I may repeat some of the advantages of the system even to-day. This House has to dispassionately consider as to whether the advantages outweigh the few disadvantages which may be attached to the system for the present, so far as it has progressed, or *vice versa*. If the House is convinced that the advantages are pre-eminently in the best interests of the people, then it would be the bounden duty of this House to sanction and foster the system rather than stop it and nip it in the bud. The hand copying system, the old system, is still being pursued in the larger portion of this presidency, and the new photo-copying system is applied only to a few talukas, so far. The old system is one which is well known to every one here; under which documents are copied out by hand by an individual called the registration clerk. Those documents are often challenged in courts on more than one ground; and the members of this House, who are acquainted with the legal profession and know what happens in courts, will bear me out in this respect. Forgeries are daily committed, and signatures are denied, interpolations are attempted and a number of other things are possible under the hand copying system, because it is easy for any man, if he wishes to play out of that document, to deny that that was his signature, or allege that a certain word was or was not there in the document. Even the individual who is employed as the registration clerk does the work as a piece of drudgery, and after all gets through only a few documents during the year. Now, Sir, the hand copy is easily disfigured by a drop of water and its words obliterated; if the copy is destroyed by fire, as happened in Ahmedabad some time ago, or otherwise lost, the situation so created cannot be remedied and the disadvantages are many and great. Now, the new system does away with all these disadvantages. It gives in the photo the very facsimile of the signature, which can never be denied. It is besides a mistake on the part of the honourable members to think that water, the sun or duration affects the photo-copy. It has been tested under water, under the rays of the sun, and it has survived all tests. Though, Sir, the copies are certainly small—my honourable friend there is right that they cannot be read out easily unless the magnifying glass is used—bigger copies can be had. Each document is given in three copies. One can be stored in one place and another in another place, and a third in a third place. So, if one copy is destroyed, there are two more copies that could be had. It leaves absolutely no opportunity to commit forgery. I would point out to my honourable friends who spoke in Marathi, that if the system is really to the advantage of any, it is to

[Mr. A. M. K. Dehlavi]

the advantage of our ignorant masses. The old system throws difficulties more in the way of agriculturists than anybody else.

Now, Sir, to cut the discussion short, I would come to another question, and that is the economic side of the question. Is it not a fact, Sir, if I may be permitted to point out, that in spite of our long discussions in the ardent advocacy of retrenchment in this honourable House, we are often led away, and are apt to forget that we become inconsistent at times when certain interests come to be safeguarded? In fact, here I may plainly mention that I understood from some of the speeches made at Poona by some of the honourable members in the Council that men were thrown out of employment and that their case was pitiable. That is perfectly true. The new system would throw a certain number of men out of employment, but that is a sort of cry which is raised when any new system has been brought into existence. I suppose, when the trains were introduced in this country, there was a big hue and cry that thousands of people would be thrown out of employment; when the trams came into existence, there was the same cry; I suppose when the motor cars came into existence, the same cry was raised again. But the Almighty takes care of us all, and people are not left uncared for by Him. The many advantages which accrue recoil ultimately to the best interests of the people. On the point of economy, let me point out, Sir, that in the few corners we have introduced this system we have been able to save about Rs. 40,000, and if it is introduced in more directions and generally in the Presidency, there is every hope—and I can say it with confidence—that over a lakh of rupees would be saved to the presidency in the expenditure of the department. But if the House reverts back to the old system, the saving of Rs. 40,000 would be lost, and further an expenditure of about Rs. 65,000 would perhaps have to be incurred in re-instating the old system, the various details of which I have in my hand, which I can place before the House.

I would, therefore, urge that looked at from every point of view, the system has advantages, and distinct advantages, over the old system. The House should not be guided by the interests of individuals and sacrifice the interests—the best interests—of the people at large whom we all represent. I would, therefore, request honourable members to consider the question dispassionately and allow the system to proceed.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I should like, Sir, to make a few remarks on this subject because it is a subject which very closely affects the administration of justice. It is very important that accurate copies should be made of important documents.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Is the Honourable the Leader of the House likely to take long?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Yes, Sir; I have a good deal to say on the subject.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Then, I think, as it is nearly 7 o'clock now, we had better adjourn. The Council is now adjourned to 2 p.m. to-morrow, Friday, the 6th March 1925.

6 MAR. 1925]

Friday, the 6th March 1925.

The Council re-assembled at the Town Hall, Bombay, at 2 p.m. on Friday, the 6th March 1925, the Honourable the President, Sir IBRAHIM RAHIMTOOLA, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
 ABDULPURKAR, Mr. N. A.
 ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
 ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
 AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
 ANGADI, Mr. S. N.
 ATHAVLE, Mr. S. N.
 BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
 BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
 BHURGRI, Mr. J. M.
 BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
 BIJARANI, Khan Saheb SHER MAHOMED KHAN
 BOLE, Mr. S. K.
 CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
 CLAYTON, Mr. F.
 COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
 DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
 DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
 DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
 DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
 DEV, Mr. S. S.
 DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
 FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
 FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
 GHOSAL, Mr. J.
 GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH
 GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
 GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
 GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
 HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
 HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
 HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
 HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
 HUDSON, Mr. L. S.
 JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
 JATOI, Khan Saheb HAJI SERAI IMAMBAKSH
 JATOI, Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH
 JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
 JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
 JOG, Mr. V. N.

JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
 KALBHOR, Mr. G. M.
 KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.
 KARKI, Mr. M. D.
 KAY, Mr. J. A.
 KAZI INAITULLAKHAN
 KOKANI, Mr. G. J.
 KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
 LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
 LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.
 LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 LINFORD, Mr. J. W.
 MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO, Mr.
 MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
 MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
 NANAL, Mr. B. R.
 NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
 NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 NOORMAHOMED, Mr.
 OWEN, Mr. A. C.
 PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
 PATEL, Mr. A. E.
 PATEL, Mr. D. N.
 PATEL, Mr. G. I.
 PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED KHAN
 PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
 PATIL, Mr. D. R.
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 PIR RASULBAKSH SHAH
 POWAR, Mr. M. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 PRATT, Mr. F. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSENALLY M.
 SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
 SAPTARSHI, Mr. C. M.
 SARDESAL, Mr. S. A.
 SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH
 SAYED MUHAMMAD KAMIL SHAH
 SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
 SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO, Mr.
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.

SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
 SURVE, Mr. A. N.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.
 SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
 THAKOR OF KERWADA the
 THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
 TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
 VELKAR, Dr. M. B.
 WILES, Mr. G.
 WOODS, Mr. E. E.

(Discussion on demands for grants resumed.)

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Demands for grants.

Question again proposed :

"Omit the provision of Rs. 12,000 made for Registration (stores)."

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Mr. President, I rose last night to make some remarks on this question of photo-copying from the point of view of the administration of justice. Now, Sir, I am conservative enough myself to fully sympathise with those of the old school who prefer the old days when there was sufficient leisure to get all the copying done by hand, with no question of hurry or time to interfere with the process. It was moreover a convenient arrangement under which all the copying, whether in administrative, judicial or registration offices, was done by clerks taken on for the purpose, a great many of them temporarily, on small but fairly remunerative fees, as it offered opportunities for testing promising young men recommended to us for trial for permanent posts as they fell vacant by trusted sheristadars or head clerks. These were taken on as part of the temporary establishment and were known as "umedwars." When a post fell vacant there were always at hand some of these promising young men ready to step into the breach, and that was the usual method of recruiting the permanent staff of the offices, without any trouble to the officers in charge of the office. Well, Sir, the old days have gone by, and we now have to face a very much busier world, when we have got more work to get through and less time to do it than we used to have formerly. Therefore, Sir, it seems to me it is not possible for us to give the go-by to mechanical improvements which have been introduced in all other countries in the world. There was the same objection raised to the introduction of typewriters. But I think it is fully recognised now, Sir, that no decent office can do without a regular typewriting establishment. The typewriters mean that instead of having to prepare by manual labour each one of six or seven copies, all are prepared by one process. It not only saves time, but it ensures accuracy and relieves the eye-sight of some of us like my honourable friend opposite who mentioned yesterday that he found difficulty in reading documents. It relieves our eye-sight by presenting to us very much plainer and easier documents to read. So, Sir, typewriting, though it was objected to at

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

first, has been introduced and has come to stay. And I think it is realised now that though it is a quicker process requiring less manual labour, it has not really been to the detriment of any honest workers who have elsewhere found other means of suitable employment. Now, Sir, photo-copying is another instance of a mechanical means for ensuring accuracy and also economy by saving labour. The process is a somewhat new one in this country, and has been viewed with some suspicion by members of the old school who like myself would like to hark back to the pleasant days of old when we had more leisure and time for our duties. But, Sir, we cannot stand still here while all the other countries in the world are progressing. We must move forward and progress with them, even in this small matter of substituting for the slow and uncertain manual copying of the documents the more accurate and speedy copying by the photographer. I do not think that any member of this House who will really approach this question with due regard to his responsibility to his constituency for economy in all our departments, would feel himself justified in voting against a further trial of this new system of photo-copying now recommended to this House.

It has been suggested that the system is not perfect. I believe that may very well be so. But surely that is only an argument in favour of continuing it and perfecting it. The argument which was urged was that the present copies are unduly small, that we who have grown old in our work cannot read them as easily as the full sized copy. Well, I believe the reply to that is, that there is no real difficulty in enlarging these copies so that they can be perfectly easily legible to any one even with eye-sight which is not of the best. I will leave that part to my honourable friend the Home Secretary who will explain it in detail and show some samples of larger photo-copies. Nor, Sir, when we are able to produce these photo-copies of a sufficiently large size for practical purposes, then I submit, Sir, that there are very great advantages in this kind of copying over the old manual handwriting. In the first place, Sir, no manual handwriting can possibly reproduce the original document exactly as it was. It is quite impossible by the means of manual handwriting to reproduce the alterations and the particular forms of letters and words as they exist in the original document. It is quite impossible by manual handwriting to reproduce the exact signatures of the executors of the document and of the witnesses. Now, Sir, any member of this House who has either been a pleader or a judge will recognise that the very greatest importance is attached to having in our hands the actual facsimile of the document about which there is dispute. Time after time the question arises as to interpolations in the document. Without, Sir, actually examining the document it is impossible to come to any accurate judgment as to whether there has been an interpolation or whether there has been any alteration in the letters as originally written. The ordinary manual handwriting copy only makes a cross at the disputed point, and in the margin opposite that cross notes: "Here there has been

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

an alteration of the following words, or the following words have been substituted." Well, that is very little use to a pleader or a judge who wants to test the plea that this alteration has been forged. If you have the actual document before you you can trace the actual letters; you can see the marks of the pen which has gone over the old letter and has converted it into a new one, and you can ordinarily come to a conclusion without any doubt whatever whether it has been a forgery or not. Now, Sir, all those marks are accurately represented in your photo-copy. If the original by some unfortunate accident, or possibly for some malign purpose, has been withheld or destroyed, you can see for yourself, you can see whether there has been any alteration, and you can say whether the document was or was not altered after it had been executed. Similarly when any question arises as to the signature of the executant, if you have your photo-copy you can have direct evidence of the signature of the executant even if the document has been withheld, destroyed or lost. From the point of view of administration of justice it seems to me an important matter to be in the position to produce always an exact copy of documents in dispute before the court. I suppose no pleader has ever had a disputed document to deal with without very carefully scrutinising the original if possible by submitting it to examination under a microscope, by holding it up to the light and by comparing it with other signatures and writing. It is the practice of most judges, certainly it was my own practice, whenever there was any question as to any document, to insist upon the disputed document being placed before me and a full explanation given of the alleged addition, alteration or insertion and where the signature was in dispute a comparison with other writings. I submit, Sir, without such scrutiny it is very difficult to decide a question of this kind in a court. I do not wish to weary the House further with this aspect of the question, but I do submit that this new process is a security against additions and alterations and false signatures and other tamperings with documents. It is a security against forgeries and therefore it is our duty to provide this sum required for it in the interest of the general public.

Then, Sir, another objection was raised and it was suggested that the photo-copy is not as durable as a hand-made copy. I think this is a misapprehension. I have been assured that a photo-copy is very much more lasting and indelible than the ordinary copy made by hand in ink. In the ordinary copy the writer writes with his pen and ink on the surface of the paper and it is not very difficult for an expert to remove the ink from the top of the surface of the paper with a sharp pen-knife and leave very little trace behind of his malicious work. It is also much easier for damp to damage the surface of the paper below the writing and make it impossible to read the purport of the document. I am informed in the case of photo-copying, the copy becomes part of the fibre of the paper and the copy cannot be altered by just scraping away the top, because you will only come to the further reproduction of the marks below the surface. So that as regards the durability there is not very much argument against the new process. In any case there is

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

of course this that even if the copy is defaced it is simple to produce several copies by the photo-copying process for permanent record.

[Sir, lastly, I would refer once more to the question of economy. It is undoubtedly an economy to produce a large number of copies by the photo-copying process rather than have these copies laboriously made over and over again by manual labour. I submit, Sir, that the economic question is one which ought to appeal to all members of this House who have been urging upon us the necessity of retrenchment in all departments. I submit that this economy, though for the time being detrimental to manual copyists will in the end do them no harm as they will find other and perhaps more profitable walks of life. Some of them will be required for this new process and will be retained. Those that are not required will find employment in other walks of life. Where new processes have been introduced this has been the universal experience. This argument as to unemployment is exactly the same that was urged many years ago when machinery was introduced at home for the first time in the mills. We know that even serious riots occurred and valuable machinery was destroyed and it was urged that everyone would be ruined by the introduction of machinery. But the result has been that instead of increasing unemployment the introduction of machinery has in the end resulted in very great increase of employment of work-people all over the world. Look at the extra amount of labour that has been demanded here after the introduction of machinery in Bombay. There ought to be no doubt in the minds of honourable members on this question that we ought to progress with the progress of other nations, and not to be kept back by the old argument of manual labour against machinery. There is reasonable room for both in this matter just as there is ample room in this country for the hand-loom alongside the machinery in the mills. Where there is progress there will be no lack of employment for those who have to turn their energies in new directions necessitated by progress. I submit, therefore, this item ought to be unanimously sanctioned by this House.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City) : Sir, I agree with the opinion expressed by the previous speaker that our presidency should advance with the progress of the world and that wherever an opportunity occurs we should prefer machinery to manual labour. But that is only one aspect of the case. I submit, there are also other considerations which should guide the deliberations of this House especially in view of the fact that it is a question which concerns more the illiterate masses than the literate classes. I would request the House to pay particular attention to this question as it primarily affects the interests of the illiterate agriculturists in Maharashtra. What are, Sir, the defects that are shown in the old process? The first defect that is pointed out is that by the old process of hand-copying there is the greatest likelihood of forgeries being committed in respect of original documents and their copies. It would have been far better if the Honourable the Home Member had furnished the House with statistics in this matter. I have been practising as a

[Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar]

pleader for the last 15 years at the Poona bar, and in the course of my practice I have come across nearly two thousand documents and copies of documents of various sorts. But I have hardly met with even two cases of forgeries. It has been urged that there could be a forgery of every kind in respect of the original documents. But it is an argument that does not hold water in the realities of actual life.

Then secondly, it is suggested that if the original document is lost or destroyed, the poor executant thereof is practically at the mercy of the person in whose favour the document is executed. I could say, Sir, that under the old system it was necessary to have the document copied in the book kept in the registry for that purpose and in case the original document was destroyed or lost, a copy of it, an exact replica of the original document, was easily available.

It is also said that if the registration office is burnt down, then along with it there goes away all record as regards the registered documents, the result of which is that the title to property is made most insecure. In this behalf I will make a suggestion for the serious consideration of the House. The Honourable the Home Member must be aware of the fact that in civil suits the plaintiffs are required to furnish true copies of the plaints to the defendants. It is legally obligatory upon the plaintiffs to do so. If a slight alteration be effected in the Registration Act to the effect that a person who comes to register a document ought to furnish two or three copies of that document to the registration officer, and such copies are preserved in different places, then the danger pointed out as above could easily be avoided.

Then there are two or three other minor points advanced against the old system which are unconvincing.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : On a point of explanation, Sir, may I ask what would be the delay and cost to have two or three copies under the hand-copying system.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : I shall deal later on with the question of cost after pointing out the defects inherent in the old system; the Honourable the Home Member has expatiated upon the so-called advantages of the new system, and the first advantage is stated to be the cheapness of the new system. In this connection I would certainly join issue with those honourable members who say that the photo-copies are cheaper than the hand-made copies. This side of the House can never be convinced with merely vague statements, that the new system is more economical than the old one. I wish that the Honourable the Minister in charge of the department had given us the actual figures in this behalf. Instead of the vague remark made at page 50 of the Blue Book, namely that the decrease in the current year's revised estimates is due mainly to saving in establishment charges in consequence of the extension of photography, etc., it would have been far better if a comparative table of expenditure under the old and the new

[Mr. L. B. Bhopalkar]

system had been given by him. As a matter of fact we find that instead of the figures showing any decrease in the expenditure on the registration department, it shows an increase of 60 thousand rupees. In the year 1923-24 while 6 lakhs 25 thousand were spent over this department in the current year 6 lakhs and 88 thousand rupees are proposed to be spent. Taking the figures as they stand in the Blue Book one cannot say that there has been any economy effected in the expenditure over this department.

Then the next point that is put forth in favour of the photo system is the permanency of the photo-copies. I do not propose to go into the scientific aspect of the question, namely, whether a hand-made copy by its very nature is bound to be less permanent than a photo-copy. But this much I can say that I have seen documents written by hand in the tenth and eleventh centuries, and I found them to be as clear and legible and permanent as the documents written in more recent times ; not only this but I have also found that photo copies of some of the documents taken only recently have absolutely faded away. These are the facts that have come to my notice ; and if we look at the question from a layman's point of view, we cannot be convinced as to the durability and permanence of the photo-copies of documents.

Then, as regards the third advantage, namely that on account of photo-copying there is the certainty of getting spare copies of the documents and of keeping them in separate places, so that if any one of the registration offices is unfortunately burnt down, there is another registration office containing a photo-copy of the document. Now it is from this point of view that at the outset of my remarks I spoke of the spare copies and referred to the copies of the plaints which the plaintiffs are required to supply to the defendants. If it be made compulsory under the law upon the executant or the person in whose favour the document is passed to supply the registrar's office with two or three copies of the document presented for registration, I think that the difficulty could be easily obviated. The advantages of the photo-copying system pointed out by the Honourable the Home Member and by the Honourable the Minister in charge are really of a doubtful nature. As against them, there are certain definite disadvantages of the new system which the parties concerned are made to labour under. The first of them is that the size of the copies is very small. These copies are of card size, and they are so small that it is well-nigh impossible for any person having a normal eye-sight to read them. At the time of the October session in Poona I had brought with me some specimens of the photo-copies, and I had challenged several honourable members of the House to read them. Sir, in truth, it is impossible for a person of normal eye-sight to read them. It is said that the card size may be enlarged into any size. Here, I would really like to put a question to the Honourable Member in charge of the Revenue Department, who interrupted me some time back, as to what would be the cost of enlarging such card-sized photo-copies to the ordinary foolscap size ? If he would supply me with the figures in this respect, then certainly I shall be able to

[L. B. Bhopatkar]

convince the House that the two or three copies prepared by manual labour will be far cheaper than the copies that will be prepared by means of the photo-copying system. We oftentimes find—and to my mind, that is a very serious disadvantage so far as the photo-copying system is concerned—that the signature of the executant and the signatures of the attesting witnesses do not appear in the photograph. Not only that, but at times even some of the paragraphs in the document do not appear at all. I have seen several documents in which the signature of the executant and the signatures of the attesting witnesses have not appeared in the copies. I know of a case which I lost on account of this defect in the photo-copy. I lost it because the signatures not being there I could not prove the document. I do not see why a person should lose his case on account of such a defective document. That is a very serious defect which the photo-copying system is subject to, and if we find that on account of the absence of the executant's signature or the signatures of the attestors a document becomes useless, then certainly it is a system which every reasonable man should be slow to countenance.

There is also a further disadvantage, and that has got an entirely economic aspect. To some extent, I agree with the sentiments expressed by the Honourable the Home Member so far as this aspect is concerned. But there is also one circumstance that we have got to take into consideration, and it is that if really the photo-copying system possesses all the advantages which the Government credits it with, then why is it that in England this system is not in vogue. It is only in some minor states of the United States of America that this system is practised, and I would certainly like to have the information from the honourable member the Home Secretary, as to whether this system is in vogue in England.....

Mr. A. MONTGOMERIE: I could give the honourable member the information at once. It is not in vogue in England, because the system of registration is not in vogue in England. The only places where there is a system of registration are Middlesex and I think the West Riding of Yorkshire, but there too only an abstract of the documents is taken. There is no such system of registration in England at all. That, I think, meets the honourable member's point.

An Honourable MEMBER: We have not been able to hear a word of the Home Secretary's remarks.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member was inaudible.

Mr. A. MONTGOMERIE: The photo-copying system is not in use in England for registration purposes for the simple reason that there is no system of registration in England, except in Middlesex and the West Riding of Yorkshire, I think, where abstracts of documents are taken. There is nothing in England in the nature of the registration offices in vogue in India under the Registration Act.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR: What about those parts which the honourable member excepted?

Mr. A. MONTGOMERIE: Only abstracts are taken there.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : Sir, I was speaking of the economic aspect of this question, and it is really one which should be seriously considered by the House. In reply to a question put by the honourable member for Satara, which we find in the fourth list of questions, it was stated that on account of the introduction of the photo-copying system in some parts of Satara, 10 clerks have been cashiered away ; and after referring to the time during which they served the Government and the date on which they were asked to leave the service, I find that 7 out of 10 clerks were of more than 15 years' standing in the service. That you will find in a statement which is given in reply to a question put by the honourable member, Mr. Soman. Sir, in these days, when there is the cry of unemployment of the middle classes, if this system, which for more reasons than one cannot be preferred to the old system, results in the dismissal of 10 clerks, only when two or three talukas of a district are concerned, the question naturally arises, what will be the effect if the system is extended to the whole of the presidency. Over and above that, there is also the question, namely, if this system is made applicable to the whole of the presidency, what will be the extent of the trade which this presidency will have necessarily to make with foreign countries in photo materials ? What I mean to say is, to supply the wants of a few talukas only there is a demand made of Rs. 12,000. If the photo-copying system is brought into operation in the whole presidency, the Government will have to order foreign goods to the extent of lakhs of rupees. Is it something that should be encouraged, and encouraged after clearly seeing that it will absurdly make the middle class unemployment problem more complex and delicate ? I submit that in these days it is positively dangerous to adopt any system which will encourage not any indigenous industry but the industry of some foreign country. The right economic policy of every presidency should be to make it self-contained and self-sustained. If the House accepts this economic principle—a principle which has been accepted in all countries, and which is considered to be one of the main principles of the national system of economics—then its only attitude should be to discard this system, inasmuch as it would encourage foreign trade and not indigenous trade. In every country if the adoption of any system is likely to encourage foreign trade, that system is at once rejected. If for the above reasons the House considers that this system is abnormal and extraordinary in nature, in that it will involve this presidency in foreign trade to the extent of lakhs of rupees, then the House should set its seal of disapproval upon it by its rejection. With these remarks I request the House to support the motion under discussion.

Mr. G. A. THOMAS : Mr. President, so much has been said not only in the course of the present debate, but on various previous occasions, about the photo-copying system that I am not going to occupy much of the time of the House in covering the old ground. I wish, however, to make a brief reference to the figures on page 50 of the Blue Book which have been alluded to by the honourable member for Satara

[Mr. G. A. Thomas]

district who moved this motion and the honourable member for Poona city who has just spoken. It is a fact that the total expenditure, Accounts 1923-24, was 6,75 ; in the following year, that is to say the current year, the budget estimate was 7,42 ; and the revised estimate was 7,06. Well, now, the reason why we have been able to reduce the budget estimate of 7,42 to the revised estimate of 7,06 is that we have been extending this photo-copying experiment into wider areas than before. Now, for next year, that is to say, in the present budget, the figure goes up from 7,06 to 7,44 and it is argued therefrom that the photo-copying process does not give us any economy, that the cost of the department is still rising. Well, that is an error. The cost of the department is rising simply and solely because so long as we maintain these large number of clerks in the department we have to go on paying incremental salaries to them and the difference between 7,06 and 7,44 is almost entirely made up by these incremental salaries. There was a complaint by the last speaker that we have not given figures to show what is the actual saving which has resulted already from the introduction of this experiment. The actual saving is as follows :

Reduction of permanent staff in the present year of grace is Rs. 32,000 in value ; on temporary staff there is a saving of about Rs. 30,000 ; and there is a saving in travelling allowances and incidental contingencies, etc., of about Rs. 10,000. That means a total retrenchment of about Rs. 72,000. As against that, we have to place, of course, the cost of the photo-copying process. That amounts to Rs. 24,500, of which Rs. 19,000 is represented by stores and about Rs. 4,500 by the pay of the cameramen.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN : On a point of information, in how many offices is the saving of Rs. 32,000, to which the honourable member refers, made ?

Mr. G. A. THOMAS : I do not remember, but it includes the Satara district, Sholapur district, Poona district, Bombay Suburban district, and Bombay city. I forget the exact figures. (After a pause) : It is in 15 places. I say the present cost of the establishment for the photo-copying system is Rs. 24,500, Rs. 19,000 of which is represented by stores. Rs. 7,000 is under 9, Registration, Rs. 4,000 of which is for exchange and Rs. 3,000 of which is for customs duty. Now, the difference between Rs. 72,000 and Rs. 24,000 is Rs. 48,000. So the House may take it as a fact, an indisputable fact, that we are at present saving about Rs. 48,000 a year by this experiment, and if and when the experiment is extended to the whole of the Presidency, we estimate that our total gain will be about Rs. 1,40,000 or Rs. 1,50,000.

Now, rather an interesting point, which I would submit for the Chair's ruling, arises out of this motion for omission of the Rs. 12,000 to be spent in England for stores. If we are going to omit this Rs. 12,000, it means we are going to discontinue the photo-copying process. That means we have to bring back a very large number of those clerks who have been

[Mr. G. A. Thomas]

dismissed but for reinstating whom there is no budget provision. What, then, is going to happen? If we are going to discontinue the photo-copying process and we are unable to reinstate those clerks for lack of budget money, we shall have no copyists to make copies for the public. The public will ask for copies.

An Honourable MEMBER: Ask for a budget provision.

Mr. G. A. THOMAS: It is contrary to the rules governing this House for any motion to be moved for the increase of a budget provision and I submit, Sir, that the motion we are at present discussing for the omission of Rs. 12,000 is equivalent to a motion for increasing the budget provision under 9, Registration, by a very much larger amount. That is to say, the mover of this motion aims at obtaining, by indirect means, what he cannot obtain by direct means. I understand, Sir, that it is contrary to the procedure of this House. Am I correct?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: As an argument it is quite good; but as a point of order, there is nothing in it.

Mr. G. A. THOMAS: The fact is that we have no provision of Rs. 48,000 which we will require for reinstating these clerks who have been dismissed and I suggest, therefore, that a great responsibility rests upon this House. It may mean that in certain areas, in Bombay city, for instance, people would not be able to obtain copies of documents.

As far as I have been able to follow the arguments made by the various speakers, the chief objections to this photo-copying process are, first, the smallness of the copies; secondly, that they are not durable; and thirdly, the dismissal of clerks which is involved. As regards the smallness of copies, I sympathise very much with that complaint. In my opinion, these copies by their very smallness are most offensive to one's sight and I haven't myself a strong enough sight to read them easily. But as the Honourable the Leader of the House has pointed out, it is perfectly easy—and I may add at no great further expense—to produce larger copies. The honourable the Home Secretary, who tells me he is an expert in the science of photography, will show you a few large copies which he has taken. As regards the permanence, the Honourable the Home Member has informed the House that copies taken with this photo-copying process are more permanent than the hand-copied ones, and I would just like to read two or three lines from an editorial of the "Times of India" of the last week, in which it was said:

"Nearly a century of experience has shown that for permanency of appearance and simplicity of production, this ferro-prussiate blue print process is unique. In ordinary copying by hand the iron in the ink merely remains on the surface of the paper and can be removed by certain re-agents and, as is generally known, rapidly fades when exposed to light. But in the blue print process the iron actually becomes part and parcel of the fabric of the paper, and hence can be declared almost indestructible until the paper itself is destroyed Even should the blue prints grow faint by prolonged exposure to light, the original intensity can be recovered by a period of retention in the dark."

I do not know many honourable members are students of the advertising columns of the "Times of India." But those who are may possibly have noticed an advertisement appearing in the issue of the 20th or

[Mr. G. A. Thomas]

21st February put in by the Kodak Company, whose reputation is well established all over the world, it is a very short notice which runs as follows :

“Kodak, Limited, Bombay, have to announce that they have installed a Photostat Copying Machine and are now able to make photographic copies of :
 Shop and Engineering drawings ;
 Architects and Builders plans ;
 Manuscripts and Book pages, etc. ;
 Records, Documents and Deeds ;
 Reports, Accounts, Letters and Statements ;
 These copies are quickly and cheaply prepared and are quite permanent.”

This shows that this experiment we have introduced for the Deccan years is not merely a fad of an eccentric official of Government but is a sound commercial proposition and I hope this House will regard it as such.

MOULVI RAFTUDDIN AHMAD (Central Division) : I rise, Sir, to oppose the reduction and to support the grant. My honourable friend and my learned brother in law, Mr. Bhopatkar—(Mr. D. R. Patil : Your brother-in-law ?) (Laughter)—supported the motion with some arguments, but I find those arguments are neither sound in law nor useful in practice. Sir, it was only yesterday that my learned friend the leader of the Swaraj party took the Indian members of the Government to task for not applying their minds to certain things in their departments, like the coal contract, and he was angered that they had left them to their European officers. Now, I find, Sir, that almost all the Indian members of the Government have applied their minds closely to this question, and I also find that the European officer who is responsible for introducing it, Mr. Anderson, has done it for the benefit of this country. Sir, a great deal has been said of the agriculturists of the Deccan in this connection. Well, Sir, my learned friend will excuse me if I say that I do not think that the agriculturists of the Deccan will suffer a bit. On the contrary, I am strongly of the opinion that the so-called agriculturists, whose interests are so much trotted out here, will benefit by it, because this is a question of improvement, of economy of progress, of civilization and my honourable friend (Mr. Bhopatkar) has asked what country has adopted this system. He said that England and other European countries do not employ this method. Well, this argument is not always good, but I will give him the example of a country which is using it with great profit. It is Egypt. In Egypt, this process is in use. As everybody knows the Arabic character is the most difficult and the most intricate to transcribe, and in Egypt the process of photo-copying those documents is a very great success. If it is a great success in an Oriental country like Egypt, I do not see why it should not be a success in our own country.

Sir, it has been pointed out that the copies are too small, but as the Honourable the Leader of the House has pointed out—and he has been supported by the honourable member Mr. Thomas—this is a question of perfection of the machinery. If we do not give a trial to the machinery, if we refuse to continue the further trial of this system, how can we expect further improvement in this matter ?

[Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad]

Now, my honourable friend Mr. Bhopatkar says that it will benefit the indigenous industry of England. I fail to see any argument in that, Sir. Science has to develop in India, and for the development of science in India certain materials have to be bought from Europe or America. That does not necessarily mean that our object is to benefit the indigenous industry of those countries. We shall in time be able to produce those materials here, and we shall utilise them for science in this country. To stop all progress in this country because we have to buy certain commodities from other countries, is the greatest imprudence. I therefore think, Sir, that there is no reasonable argument except this—that I must say as a lawyer—that some of our clerks and *umedwars* will suffer and must suffer. But the solicitors' clerks and the lawyers' *kar-kuns* are not the only individuals in the country whose interest we have to guard. As science advances some people will have to be displaced, but that is for our progress. I fail to see where America or European countries come in. For these reasons, Sir, I oppose the motion.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Mr. President, as I was responsible for the introduction of this system in 1921, I think, Sir, it would be permissible for me to try to meet some of the objections that have from time to time been raised to this process and that have again been repeated to-day. Sir, I cannot do better than refer to some statements that I made giving the facts and figures which my honourable friend from Poona demanded, even though I have to refer to a speech made by myself. It has been contended that from all parts there are great many complaints with regard to this photo-copying process. Now, I hold a report from the Inspector-General of Registration which says that since the debate that took place in this Council in March 1923, so far as the mofussil offices are concerned, no complaints have been received. That, Sir, will give you some idea as to how popular or unpopular this system is in the mofussil and what weight we must attach to the objections that are mentioned here. That is borne out more or less by the fact that during the period from the 25th of April 1921, when this system was first introduced, to the end of June 1922, a little more than a year, 9,132 documents were photographed, and out of these only 108 had to be returned as unfit for reproduction, not because there were any mistakes in photography, but because the documents themselves were not amenable to the process of photography. This shows that more than 98 per cent. of the documents that were presented for photography were amenable to the process and excellent copies were made from them. The same percentage, Sir, I understand, continues to the present day, after two years of further experience and after 15,000 documents have been photographed. The system has been gradually extended. It was first introduced in the Haveli taluka, and at the present moment there are so many as fifteen places where photo-copying takes place, and Bombay, which presents a large number of these documents, is included in that number of fifteen. The reason why the 1·2 per cent. of the documents had to be returned was not because photography was to blame, but because those documents were written either in violet or green ink, or

[Mr. C. V. Mehta]

were folded in such a manner that the creases made it impossible for the photographs to be properly reproduced. That does not mean that those documents are useless : it only means that they have to be hand copied in the old fashion. I am further given to understand that as experience is gained even the green and violet inks will also yield to photography. In any case the public are being fully informed that green and violet inks should be avoided, and if they do so, we shall get all the documents properly photographed. The Honourable Minister says that the public are already avoiding these inks under the instructions that have been issued. This reminds me of the interesting information given by my honourable friend from Poona with regard to legibility of documents written in the 10th or 11th century. I have seen even older documents. Whether they are readable or not, depends upon the kind of paper that was used and the quality of ink that was used. If the present-day inferior quality of paper and of ink were used for the documents, I do not think the life of those documents would be a century of months. The ordinary Indian black ink is amenable to photography and there is no hardship in asking cultivators to use the ink to which they are accustomed.

There remains now the question of the advantages of this new process and I cannot do better than quote what I stated in March 1923. "As regards the question of cost, a little saving is of no consequence if people are not prepared to accept this system." I wish honourable members to understand that it is from the same view point I wish them to determine to-day the suitability or otherwise of this system purely on a consideration of its merits. Then I said :

"The great advantage is that you get three copies instead of one, that you can store them at different places and that you have certain safeguard against the copies being destroyed. Take the case of hand copying and the damage done in 1919 in Ahmedabad. With the hand copy you get only one copy of the document ; it is liable to be destroyed by fire or some other calamity, and in Ahmedabad all those documents were actually destroyed and thus the only evidence of transactions was lost. Here, by this process you get three copies, two of them you can preserve and they occupy a space less than two-thirds of the hand-written documents. What is more, you can get an absolutely faithful impression of the document, of all the curves of the handwriting and even of thumb marks. Moreover you do away with the natural danger of mistakes being made in hand copying as well as in comparing these documents, and to my mind it seems an extraordinary pity that some three hundred or four hundred of our people should spend all their lives in doing nothing but copying these documents, serving on a pittance on a scale of wages against which I have received constant complaints."

This brings us on to another point which was raised by my honourable friend for Poona. He says that a disaster will overtake the establishment. I have every sympathy with the establishment. I would however like honourable members to remember that the majority of these clerks who may suffer are not on the permanent staff but only temporary men who are taken from time to time when the rush of work for registration demands it. The Inspector General of Registration in a statement which he has prepared says that if the photo-copying is to be abandoned if the Council discards the system he will have to ask for a temporary establishment which will cost Rs. 27,000 and for a permanent establishment which will cost Rs. 28,200. From this it

[Mr. C. V. Mehta]

will be seen that though the amounts are equal the temporary men far outnumber the permanent staff and it is scarcely legitimate to reject an improvement because temporary establishment may be affected. I think that the question of unemployment of the temporary establishment should not weigh very much with the Council.

There remains another question of helping a foreign country by the purchase of various materials and chemicals which cannot be produced in this country. This system has been introduced in 15 talukas including Bombay and the demand is made for the purchase of stores worth Rs. 12,000 and I believe some more talukas will come in during the course of next year where this system will be introduced. The whole of these talukas is going to cost Rs. 12,000 and it is not difficult for honourable members to calculate the cost for the whole presidency, bearing in mind that Bombay producing the largest number of documents is also included, I do not think that the estimate of several lakhs of rupees made by my honourable friend for Poona can therefore be correct. For these reasons I would venture to ask honourable members to allow this system to go on. It costs less to cultivators; it means three times less cost if the honourable member, Mr. Bhopatkar's suggestion of three hand copies is accepted. Further, the cultivator will get three copies instead of the one he gets at present at a higher cost, and which, as has been pointed out by the Honourable the Home Member are practically indestructible. For these advantages, the Council will be well-advised in voting for this demand.

Mr. N. E. NAVLE: 4 annas a copy?

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North): Sir, last time when this item had come before us in the October session as a supplementary grant I had opposed it because the manner in which it was placed before the House was not proper. At that time I had said that I did not find any fault with the scientific aspect of the system. Even to-day I say that if the scientific aspect of the question is to be looked at, it is certainly far superior to the ordinary hand-copying process. It has various advantages. First of all, if the original document is lost and the transactions are to be proved by handwritten document, then it becomes very difficult to find out if there is to be any fraud or forgery. But in the case of a photo which is an exact reproduction of the original document the chance of fraud or forgery is altogether eliminated. Another point is that a document written with ordinary ink having iron in it does not impregnate the fibres of the paper itself as the scientists say. If ordinary handwritten paper is subjected to chemical action it can be washed out, but under the photo system even if the paper is subjected to that treatment by employing further chemical process, what is washed out can be reproduced, because the fibers of the paper are impregnated under the action of the rays of the sun. So, scientifically it is certainly far superior to the ordinary system of copying documents by writing them by manual labour. Another advantage is that it is a great saviour of time. Suppose a document is there extending

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

over 20 pages and you have to copy it each time, then each reproduction takes two or three hours ; but under the photo process what happens is that one glass is prepared and you have to put the paper under it and expose it to the sun and in five or ten minutes you can have a fresh copy. This ordinarily would require three hours for one copy under the hand-copying system and three copies would require nine hours. But under the photo-copying system this can be done in half an hour. It would save time and labour.

The honourable member for Satara was using one big word and that word was "machinery" employed in photo-copying system. That word machinery is a very big word and it creates pictures of similar heavy machines and rotary machines which are perhaps used in a press. I have visited the photo-copying press in Poona on behalf of the non-Brahmin party to examine the process, and I can tell honourable members that the only machinery that is in use there is nothing but a large piece of glass and one lens. That is the only important part of this whole system. There is no camera. The glasses are fixed in the wall of a dark room and in front of it there are screens on which the documents are hung up and behind the lens in the dark room there is another frame, on which the glass on which the image is taken is placed. This is the part of the whole machinery. The image of the document outside is taken on the glass which is inside. Now you may perhaps be under the mistake that the glasses may become useless. But that is not so. This is what is called the wet process ; that is when you have taken the impression on the glass and produced copies from them, those glasses can be washed quite clean and re-used. Therefore the only expensive item in this whole system is the chemicals that are used and the paper. There is every likelihood of these chemicals, as the chemical industry advances, being obtainable in India. Whether it is possible to have paper in India I am not able to say. But looking at this point one has to admit that the great impression which is created in the mind by some words is not actually to be found when one goes and sees things there. Therefore one can say that the system has many merits and perhaps in the interests of economy and progress it will be far better if we continue this process for a little more time until we come to a final decision.

Now, what are the defects ? The defects are that some people do not like the size of the copies. It is very small. I have got the report of the Registration Department for the year 1922 in which a sample of the photo paper is given. This is the size of one page. It is certainly very small, but it is perfectly legible. I admit at the same time that the size is so small that people do not like to have it. Now Government comes forward and says if you do not want small size we can give you big size. Then the question of economy arises. At five annas a page Government can give us a small size but if Government give us a full size of a foolscap, I maintain that the system will not prove as economical as Government represent it to us. Therefore at present we cannot definitely say that there is really economy to the public at large, because with this size the

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

public is in disfavour. If we want larger size the cost becomes prohibitive. Therefore one has to find out whether one should allow Government to proceed in their own way.

Another difficulty is about throwing out the men that are in actual employment of the Registration Department. The Honourable the Revenue Member has told us that some of these men who are thrown out of employment are re-employed. I have brought one case to the notice of the Inspector-General of a man who was actually thrown out of work, but in his case unfortunately though he had better claims, his claims were ignored and another man was given preference in this temporary vacancy. I mentioned the fact to him and he was not much moved. So the idea of throwing these men out of employment must be looked into. There are real grievances. We are passing through very hard times. We must at the same time remember that India is a country where the human element is in abundance. You cannot introduce these time-saving devices simply to throw out of employment people who are already employed. You are thereby increasing and magnifying the hardship from which people are already suffering. If you want that people should not be thrown out of employment all at once, it is for you to introduce this system gradually so that the people who are actually in employment will not feel the harshness of the measure.

Another point I have to mention is that Government have proceeded far in advance of the wishes of this House. I may refer to the Government Resolution No. 528A of 26th January, by which Government have already sanctioned that this process should be gradually extended throughout the presidency. I say that the Registration Department is a transferred subject, and if the people have a grievance about the system, then, without consulting the people, without giving an opportunity to the representatives of the people to place the views of the public in this House, why is this particular process thrust upon them? Certainly, Government ought not to have passed that order, without obtaining the sanction of this House. Registration is a transferred department, and the popular element in this House must ventilate what the popular view is. For these reasons, I say that we have proceeded so far in the adoption of this process that we cannot now retreat from it, and it will be our duty to grant the item before this House, but we must do it only on one condition, namely that this system is not extended in its scope, that is, it is not made applicable to any other areas than those where it is actually worked to-day, for some time more; after a year or two, when more experience will have accumulated, when we can examine the prejudices and the merits of this system with a cool and temperate head, then perhaps Government can obtain the sanction of this House and make it applicable to the whole presidency. But, without the consent of the representatives of the people I request Government not to go on in this fashion. If the Honourable Minister in charge gives us an undertaking that, during the course of this year, he will not introduce

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

this system in any further talukas, I think I shall be very happy to support the demand that he has made.

Mr. ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAZRAT KHAN: Sir, I move for a closure.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I accept the closure and call upon the honourable mover to reply.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District): Mr. President, I shall not be long in my remarks, because what I find is that honourable members of this House have discussed the question from both points of view. The honourable Government members have said that it is still an experimental measure and it requires further trial. Some of the non-official members, it appears, have been dazzled by the scientific aspect of the question—that the copies produced by the photo-copying system are much better and more durable, that the impression enters into the fibres of the paper, and so on. But, so far as the copies are concerned, we must first of all look to the economic side of the question, and then to the other questions, as to whether the system can be improved in any way so far as the scientific side of the question is concerned, and whether the copies should be of a larger size. The last is a point on which Government members have expressed themselves favourably. But so far as the full size copy is concerned, I have heard from some of my honourable friends that even at present there are orders that if full size copies are required by any applicant, they should be supplied at a higher cost. If that is so, then certainly the full size copy would require something more to be paid for by the applicant, and he will be saddled with greater cost in the matter of such a copy. But, so far as the ordinary economic side of this question is concerned, the Government officers as well as my non-official friends are forgetting one fact, and I hope that the Honourable Minister will make it clear in his reply. I should like to know whether, when the copies are sent to the applicants, the postal charges are included in the copying fees, or whether they are over and above the copying charges; and if we take into account the postal charges, then certainly, so far as I am informed, the charges will be much higher. If we take into account this circumstance, then I submit that the photo-copies that are now supplied are, so far as I am aware, not certainly cheaper than the hand-written copies, and I expect the Honourable Minister to explain to the non-official side of this House by giving statistics, as to what amounts have been spent in postal charges. The non-official members will understand the process if I give one illustration of one registration office. If a document is presented in the registration office at Satara—I take the instance of Satara—it has to be sent from Satara to Poona for being photo-copied. Then of course, the copy has again to be sent to the Satara office for preservation there in the sub-registrar's office, and one copy has to be sent to the taluka office. When the applicant applies for a copy, the Poona office has to be written to, the copy is prepared there, and that copy has to be sent from Poona to Satara, from where it is posted to the address of the applicant. So this postal charge, in addition to the copying fees, is included in

[Mr. R. G. Soman]

the charge to be recovered from the applicant. That is my information; but I am speaking subject to correction. If the Honourable Minister gives us any statistics to show that it is not so, I shall accept it. But I submit that to my mind the charges are more than the ordinary copying charges.

Then, I was surprised to hear the remark of the Honourable the Revenue Member when he said that there were no complaints since the year 1922, and he says this from the report of the Inspector-General of Registration. Who is to complain? The sub-registrars are to complain, they are to complain to their superior officers? I submit that they would never do that, if we look to the ordinary course of human conduct. A subordinate complaining to the superior officer that the system should not be introduced is a thing that would never happen. But, so far as the Honourable the Revenue Member is concerned, he has found it out from the non-official members of this House. On several occasions when the question arose in this House, he has found that the non-official side of this House was opposed to the introduction of this system, and still he has the boldness to say that there are no complaints raised by the public. I am simply surprised at this statement of the Honourable the Revenue Member. So far as the other aspects of the question are concerned, they have been discussed by both sides of the House, and I do not wish to take more time, but I have to state only one more circumstance.

The Honourable the Revenue Member put a question to my honourable friend from Poona as to what would be the cost of any more copies, if they were supplied to the executants. So far as this system of additional copy to the executant is concerned, he must be aware that it was in vogue up to some time ago, and it is only now that it has been discontinued. So, I submit Government should not have any objection to the suggestion of the honourable member from Poona in this respect.

It was stated that two per cent. of the documents were not amenable to the system of photo-copying, and that was on account of the different kind of ink that was used. Now, look at the ordinary experience; look at this question from the viewpoint of a practical man. If a man goes to the sub-registrar's office, he is asked to have the document written in a particular kind of ink. If that ink is not at hand, then he is asked to get it from the bazar, and he is sent back once, twice, thrice. That I know from personal experience having had occasion to move among persons who have got to execute documents in the registration office, and it is not under the instructions issued by Government that the people have to use special inks, but, if I may say so, it is under the direct or indirect compulsion of the registering officers that the people have to do that. And that again adds to the cost. Perhaps it may again be a monopoly in favour of some English firm preparing these special inks. If people do not use those special inks the firms from Europe or England cannot monopolise. As some honourable member said, there would be a day when chemicals would be prepared in India and every one would be proud of that day, but, so far as the present circumstances are concerned, it is favouritism

[Mr. R. G. Soman]

which is being shown to the foreign firms by introducing this system and by indenting cameras, special inks, chemicals and all these special things, and the costs are being saddled on the poor ryots of this Presidency.

With these remarks I appeal to the non-official members of this House to vote for this motion of omission and reject the demand that is made for Rs. 12,000.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Which Minister or Member is to reply, Sir ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Yesterday a question was raised and as it is a very important point of procedure, I should like to explain what the procedure is according to the Standing Orders. When a general demand is made by one Member of Government, it is as far as I can judge for the mere purpose of enabling honourable members to move motions for reduction or omission. It becomes side-tracked for the time being till the question has been examined in detail and all the motions on that general demand have been disposed of. Then, the motion for the actual demand is submitted afresh; and voted upon. The preliminary motion that is made for a demand is a motion merely to enable the House to deal with all the motions of which notice has been received for omissions or reductions ; otherwise the fundamental principle that no negative motions could be allowed would apply. If the original motion was held to be proposing an actual demand for that amount then the motion for omission would be a direct negative. Therefore, the procedure laid down is that the original motion is placed before the House for the purposes of enabling honourable members to deal with motions for omissions or reductions. The motion before the House on each occasion is that particular proposal for the purpose either of reducing a grant or for omitting it. That being the real procedure, I hold that Chapter V, 9, applies, clause (3) of which says :

“ The mover of a motion,”—in this case the honourable member Mr. Soman—“ but not the mover of an amendment other than an amendment of a Bill or of the Standing Orders, may speak a second time on the conclusion of the debate by way of reply ”—because it is a direct motion and not an amendment on which the honourable mover is allowed the right of reply. The Standing Order continues to lay down : “ and if such motion is moved by a non-official Member, ” as is the case at present, “ the Member of the Government in charge of the Department concerned shall have the right of speaking after the mover has replied whether such Member of Government has previously spoken in the debate or not.” That clearly applies, and, therefore, that Member of Government who is in charge is entitled to reply.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Sir, as already pointed out, much has been said on the subject on both sides of the House and I need not take much time over the question. I should however like to refer to just a few points which have been raised and which need answering. The honourable member Mr. Bhopatkar pointed out, Sir, as an instance

[Mr. A. M. K. Dehlavi]

and asked : What would happen if the original document were lost? He thought that the simple remedy was that a copy under the old system could be applied for and a copy could be got from the registration office. Now, my reply to that is this, that no doubt, under the old system if the original document were lost or burnt, as documents were burnt at Ahmedabad and other places, you certainly could get a copy from the registration office, but then supposing after having got the copy from the registration office the executor of the document denied his signature, what would happen in that case? In the case of the photo, the exact facsimile of the signature is there and no attempt at denying the signature could be made at all. Then, the other argument which the honourable member made was that during his long practice at the bar he found only a few documents—if I remember right, he said only two—in which an attempt at forgery was made. I am afraid, Sir, the experience of other members who have practised at the bar is not the same, nor of the honourable Judges presiding over courts. I am not exaggerating but I think in every case a judge has to decide, possibly out of the large number of documents he has got to deal with in it, there may be at least one, the originality of which is challenged. Well, Sir, there was another argument that was used by the honourable member that he had seen documents of centuries old and they were preserved. Those were documents specially prepared, I suppose, in the old regime, as *firman*s or sanads of inams or certain rare documents—and not documents from the registry office where hundreds of documents have to be prepared, and had the system been in vogue in the old days, I am afraid the documents so given out would not have really existed for centuries.

Well, Sir, many of the points have been answered and I would simply submit one thing that the old debate on this question was a full debate and the matter was considered; and there were only ten votes against the system and 50 votes in favour of it. Sir, this honourable House has to decide the question once for all after weighing the *pros* and *cons* of the question and in doing so we have to represent the interests of the general public and not of individuals, who may suffer in some instances. The experiment has been tried, it has been found successful, it is cheaper, its advantages are greater than its disadvantages and it is bound to improve as we get along. I therefore ask the House not to support the motion for rejection of Rs. 12,000 as is proposed by the mover.

Question put. House divided. Ayes 30, Noes 56. Motion lost.

Division No. 9.

Ayes.

ABDULPURKAR, Mr. N. A.
ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
BHOPATEAR, Mr. L. B.
COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.

KARKI, Mr. M. D.
KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
NANAL, Mr. B. R.
NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
PATEL, Mr. A. E.
PATEL, Mr. D. N.
PATEL, Mr. G. I.

Ayes—contd.

POWAR, Mr. M. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
 SAPTARSHI, Mr. C. M.

SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.
 SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
 VELKAR, Dr. M. B.

Tellers for the Ayes : Messrs. R. G. SOMAN and L. B. BHOPATKAR.

Noes.

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
 AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
 ATHAVLE, Mr. S. N.
 BHURGRI, Mr. J. M.
 BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
 BIJARANI, Khan Saheb SHEER MAHOMED
 KHAN
 BOLE, Mr. S. K.
 CLAYTON, Mr. F.
 DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
 DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
 DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
 FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
 FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
 GHOSAL, Mr. J.
 GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan
 Bahadur SHAIKH
 GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
 GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
 HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
 HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
 HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
 HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
 HUDSON, Mr. L. S.
 JADHAY, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
 JATOI, KHAN SAHEB KARIMBAKSH
 JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
 KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.
 KAY, Mr. J. A.
 KAZI INAITULLAKHAN
 KOKANI, Mr. G. J.

LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 LENFORD, Mr. J. W.
 MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHHO,
 Mr.
 MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
 NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
 OWEN, Mr. A. C.
 PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED
 KHAN
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 Pir RASULBAKSH SHAH
 PRATT, Mr. F. G.
 SARDESAL, Mr. S. A.
 SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH.
 SAYED MUHAMMAD KAMIL SHAH.
 SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HA DAR SAHRE.
 SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNARRAO,
 Mr.
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 THAKOR OF KERWADA, the
 THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
 TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
 WILES, Mr. G.
 WOODS, Mr. E. E.

Tellers for the Noes : MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD and Mr. V. A. GRANTHAM.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN:
 Sir, I move for a grant of Rs. 3,40,000 (for expenditure in England under
 the control of the High Commissioner, in relation to the transferred
 departments).

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: Sir, may I bring it to your notice that there are
 other motions under this head?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Those are against the Reserved
 items, and they will be put when the Reserved demand is made. There
 is, however, one motion for reducing the total amount to 9 lakhs, from
 the honourable member Mr. Nariman. I wanted to say something about
 it if that honourable member had been present. But he is absent, and
 I have therefore called upon the Honourable Minister to move for the
 total demand against which there are no more motions of reduction
 or omission. The motion has been made and I ask the House to
 vote on it.

Question put and agreed to.

(After recess.)

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : Sir, I beg to move item No. 35 of demands :

“ That a grant of Rs. 5,90,000 be made for expenditure through High Commissioner.”

The details are to be found in the White Book, pages 256 to 258.

Question proposed.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District) : Sir, I move :

“ That the provision of 3 lakhs for stores under Stationery and Printing on page 288 of the Civil Estimate be reduced by 2 lakhs.”

When I gave notice of this motion I had before my eyes only the revised estimate of Rs. 70,000 for 1924-25. I did not see then the amount provided for the purchase of stationery in India. Now I find that even after the reduction that I have proposed the remaining amount will be quite sufficient. My honourable friend Mr. Soman is not moving his motion for omitting the whole provision, otherwise it will have been also justified.

There are no particulars given of stores to be purchased. We do not know what kind of stationery and stores are being purchased in England. The note given on page 98 of the Blue Book is certainly disappointing. There it is stated :

“ The current year's revised and next year's budget show a decrease over the sanctioned estimate for the current year ”

What the House would like to know is why the budgetted expenditure of 3 lakhs is in excess of the revised estimate for the current year by 2 lakhs and odd. That is the point on which explanation is necessary. Government are telling us that budgetted provision is less than the amount which was provided for 1924-25. If we look to the provisions on page 234 of the White Book for the purchase of stationery stores, you will find 8 lakhs have been provided for the purchase of stationery and stores in India. If we add 3 lakhs to that provision we get 11 lakhs for the purchase of stationery and stores. During the current year only Rs. 7,41,000 have been spent for stationery and stores. Therefore, Sir, if we reduce this amount by 2 lakhs still there will be in the hands of the Government 9 lakhs to be spent on stationery in India and in England. I think my reduction is very moderate and justifiable. I therefore move that the provision be reduced by 2 lakhs.

Mr. C. W. A. TURNER : Sir, the honourable member has asked why the amount of 3 lakhs has been provided for 1925-26 as against Rs. 70,000 under the revised estimate for the current year. He also went on to point out that there is a provision of 11 lakhs and odd for the next year as against Rs. 7,41,000 under the revised estimate for the current year. I hope I can satisfy him on these points. Before the year 1924, most of the departments and the district officers used to purchase their stationery stores locally and this system was stopped and a new system was introduced in 1923-24 whereby the Superintendent of Government Stationery and Printing purchased stores and supplied them to all departments and district officers. I may also explain to the House why

[Mr. C. W. A. Turner]

this new system has been introduced. It was found on enquiry that a saving of about 25 per cent. on the purchase of stores could be effected by this system. It is only in pursuance of the policy of economy insisted upon by this honourable House that this system has been introduced. When this system was started the Superintendent had considerable stocks in the Central Offices and was able to meet the requirements of stationery for Government offices for 1923-24 and also he actually spent Rs. 70,000 for 1924-25 because he had a large stock on hand. During the next year he will not be able to carry on without additional stores and he estimates that the expenditure in England will be something like 3 lakhs. As the system is new it is not possible for him exactly to estimate the amount he would require. But the House may rest assured that money will not be spent unless it is absolutely necessary. Further these stores cannot be obtained in India at all. I shall just enumerate the articles that are to be purchased in England :

- Roneo Stencils, Roneo Ink and all other Roneo accessories.
- Straw Boards for binding purposes.
- All drawing materials.
- Typewriter Ribbons and carbon papers.
- Drawing instruments.
- Stationery stores.
- Perro type process papers, and perro pushing papers on long cloth.
- Drawing papers and pencils.
- All colours for drawing.
- Blue and red pencils.
- Drawing brushes.
- Erasers.
- Gloy.
- Drawing Boards and Instruments.

There is also another point. If this item is reduced as proposed by the honourable member the only alternative will be to revert to the old system of local purchases and for that too sufficient provision has not been made under contract grants which have been very heavily reduced. I am afraid the cut proposed is drastic and will seriously affect these items.

I should like to say that this item of 3 lakhs customs duty has to be provided for under orders of the Government of India. This will be refunded and will have to be used for the redemption of debt. These stores include printing stores also.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District) : Sir, I have not been able to follow the honourable member closely but I understood him to say that the supply which the Government had in stock was sufficient for 1923-24 and 1924-25. We see that they spent Rs. 10,54,000 for 1923-24 and Rs. 7,41,000 for the current year. In all during these two years they spent Rs. 17,95,000, that is about 18 lakhs. If 18 lakhs were sufficient for stationery for the last two years, stationery for 9 lakhs would be quite sufficient for the Government during the coming year, one lakh for stores to be purchased in England and 8 lakhs in India.

I understood the honourable member to say that some machinery was to be purchased. The description of the machinery is given on page 223 of the Blue Book. And the machinery is worth merely Rs. 16,000. I

[Mr. P. G. Joshi]

think it does not make much difference, and the House should remember that this provision is in addition to the provision of Rs. 1,60,000 for contract contingencies and purchase of raw materials for Government stores which will be found on pages 237 to 243 of the White Book. So this fact may be borne in mind that this 9 lakhs is in addition to the Rs. 1,32,000 which has been budgeted for, and I think my proposal will be carried by the House.

Mr. C. W. A. TURNER : The honourable member said Rs. 45,000 for Rs. 23,000 ; that is a mistake. That is a new item. The lowest amount for articles.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I cannot allow a speech after the reply of the honourable mover. Will the Honourable the Finance Member reply ?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : It is the department of the Honourable the General Member. I am merely asking for a demand for all the departments.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Mr. President, if my honourable friend the mover will look at the figures on page 258 of the White Book he will see that we budgeted for Rs. 2,86,661 in 1923-24. At the end of that year, as the Secretary, General Department, has explained a new system was introduced, viz., that the Superintendent of Stationery and Printing had to buy stores for the whole of the Presidency. Before that, each district officer bought his own stores and there was a separate provision for each district officer. Therefore you see next year we budgeted Rs. 4,37,000, a much higher figure than 2 lakhs 86 thousand. This demand included all demands of district officers and we pointed out on that occasion that the small amounts throughout the budget were all eliminated, and combined and put in this grant of Rs. 4,37,000. There was retrenchment carried out in the stationery department ; all stores were first issued to officers before any new stock was bought. In consonance with that policy the superintendent found that it was not necessary in the current year to order out more than Rs. 70,000 worth of stores from the High Commissioner as shown by the revised figure. Next year we are asking for 3 lakhs but less than what we asked for originally in 1924-25. As honourable members know, the Government of India have now ordered that the local Government should pay duty on all imported stores and they have promised at present to refund that duty but they have ordered all local governments to use the refunds for redemption of debt. So it cannot be shown in this budget. Therefore the figure of 3 lakhs is a proper comparison with Rs. 4,37,000. This department supplies all the wants of all the other departments.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : I wanted to bring to the notice of the Honourable the General Member that there is a sum of Rs. 500 mentioned on page 24 for customs duty on imported stores under contingencies.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : That is for the Commissioner in Sind. It is a very small item. It is for the Commissioner in

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

Sind. The Secretary, General Department, has explained what sort of goods we order out through the High Commissioner. They are things that are not manufactured in this country, and the Superintendent of Printing who has done exceptionally well and whose services I am sorry to say we might have to lose has taken considerable pains to see that everything that is bought for these departments is strictly confined to things manufactured in this country wherever it is possible to do so. I have nothing further to add. I have shown that we are asking for less than we did when the new system was decided upon, and all this is for effecting economy.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : This amount of Rs. 63,000, customs duties, at page 237 of the White Book, is not for Sind. It is not included in 2 lakhs.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : The demand is a non-voted item ; it is included in the 3 lakhs. The duty is included in the 3 lakhs.

Question put and lost.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : Sir, I ask for a total demand of Rs. 5,90,000.

Question proposed.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City) : Sir, I beg to oppose the whole of this demand because I desire a definite and clear statement of policy to be made with regard to the purchase of these stores. This is a very important question, a question of policy with regard to the purchase of stores. Some time ago there was a debate in the House of Commons and some members of that House seemed to be under the impression and they gave expression to the view, that because England advanced some loans to India or that the capitalists of England subscribe to loans in India, that on that account England had claim for preferential treatment in the matter of purchase of stores and other machinery. Sir, we on this side of the House take emphatic objection to this view. We rather hold that capital for the loans that are raised in India should be raised in India, in the shape of rupee loans. However that is a different question altogether. The point which I now wish to make is that we want a clear and definite statement of policy. We desire to know whether tenders for these stores and machinery are open tenders and that no preferential treatment will be given to any particular country.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : Sir, I may assure the House that the purchases will be made through the High Commissioner. As this House is very well aware, the office was held up to a short time ago by Sir Dadiba Dalal of this city and is now held by Sir Atul Chatterjee of Calcutta, and we have every confidence that both have done and will do their best in the interests of this country. The High Commissioner has absolute discretion to buy in the cheapest market and the best possible materials available.

Question put and demand granted.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, I beg to move for a demand of Rs. 7,000 for expenditure in England through the Secretary of State.

Question put and demand granted.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : Sir, I ask for a sum of Rs. 18,000, demand No. 33, for expenditure in England through the Secretary of State.

Question put and demand granted.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Mr. President, I move for a grant of Rs. 11,000 under 51A, Miscellaneous adjustments between Central and Provincial Governments. This refers to the item on page 249.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : There are no amendments to the demand. The Honourable Minister need not go into details.

Question put and demand granted.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Sir, I move for a grant of Rs. 27,41,000.

Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI (Bombay City, South) : Sir, I beg to move :
 "Reduce to Rs. 6,00,000 item No. 212, budget page 224."

Sir, this is a grant to local boards for public purposes. There used to be an imperial grant of Rs. 7 lakhs, and I do not know for what reasons the Imperial Government has stopped the grant. Sir, up to now, they could get on with a reduced grant. The reason shown for the reduced grant, which is distributed by the Commissioners of the Divisions, is that there was financial stringency. If it was financial stringency in the past, I think the financial stringency is more acute for the budget under review than in the previous years, and hence, Sir, I propose to reduce the grant from Rs. 7,42,000 to Rs. 6 lakhs, which I think will serve the purpose.

Question proposed.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Sir, we used to have, during the pre-Reform days, a recurring grant of Rs. 7 lakhs for communications or for objects other than education for the local boards. After the provincialisation of the finances, as the honourable House knows, our sources of revenue are now quite separate from those of the Central Government. Therefore, the Central Government has stopped all the recurring and non-recurring grants which they used to make to us. That is the explanation for the Central Government not giving us any grant after the provincialisation of the finances.

I thought, Sir, that I had deserved well of this House for pressing on the Honourable the Finance Member the needs of the local boards for various purposes and for communications which are purely in the interest of the people in spite of the financial situation. I am simply amazed to see that when I have tried my best and succeeded in getting more money for the local boards, for which they have been clamouring for a number of years, there is a motion for a cut in the expenditure. If the House does not like it, the Honourable the Finance Member will thank them, and I will be put in an awkward position as it will seem that I have not represented the views of the people properly.

Rao SahebD. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Sir, I oppose the motion. I am rather surprised that the honourable member from Bombay (Dr. Dadachanji) who has been silent up to now should come down upon the local boards, by proposing a reduction in the grants to the local boards, for communications, dispensaries and other things, as has been stated by the Honourable Minister, the grant had been curtailed by the Government, and we have been clamouring both in this Council and outside the Council, and in various conferences to restore the original amount. After all, the Honourable Minister has found his way to do it, and when he has come forward with this grant, I fail to see why my honourable friend from Bombay should oppose this grant. In fact, he knows very well that the local boards are practically starved. They have no funds, of their own, because the people are poor. They are not rich like the Bombay people. They cannot bear any additional taxation. Under these circumstances, they rely upon Government, to whom the people in the districts are contributing most of their revenue, and it is but fair that this grant is given to them.

Mr. D. R. PATIL (East Khandesh District): Sir, I strongly oppose the motion of my honourable friend from Bombay (Dr. Dadachanji). He is a member of the Bombay Corporation, and he has no experience of district local boards. I would request him to buy some land in the mofussil and become a member of the district local board. I think he will then fully realise the value of those grants which are given by Government to the district local boards.

The THAKOR of KERWADA (Gujarat Sardars and Inamdars): Sir, I find some difficulty in finding words strong enough to oppose the motion, when Government have come forward so liberally to benefit the people living in the district local board areas. It is all very well for honourable members from Bombay, living luxuriously in palatial buildings to think that they are doing a service to the country by making reductions of this character, but I can tell the honourable mover that if he comes outside to the mofussil and sees the hardships that the people are put to, I think he will realise that he is doing a disservice to the people. Therefore, I strongly oppose the motion.

Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI (Bombay City South): Sir, my object in moving this reduction in the grant was to know the reason why the imperial grant of Rs. 7 lakhs had been stopped by the Government of India. The Honourable Minister has stated that several grants have been stopped by the Imperial Government, and it is left to the provincial Government to manage these affairs. That is one explanation. But my honourable friend from East Khandesh (Mr. Patil) says that I should become a member of the district local board. In reply, I should like to tell him that I do not like to become a member of any district local board, because the way in which they manage their business is disgraceful. I ask for leave of the House to withdraw my motion.

Question put and leave granted.

Mr. N. E. NAVLE: Sir, is the word disgraceful parliamentary?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: He did not apply it to any member.

Mr. N. E. NAVLE: He named the member for East Khandesh.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: He did not apply it to anybody.

Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI (Bombay City South): I beg to move, Sir:

"That the grant of Rs. 15,000 under item 213, page 225 of the Budget, be reduced to Rs. 10,000."

This is, Sir, under the provisions of Chapter II of the Workmen's Compensation Act of 1923. This is the first head in the accounts of the Bombay Government. Sir, this is a lump grant only, so why not reduce it? We have also provided—the municipality and the Improvement Trust—a small sum for the purpose, but a big sum is not required. It is not mentioned here on what basis this lump sum is calculated. It is a lump grant. It can be readily reduced.

Question proposed.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: The demand is only for Rs. 15,000, Sir, and it is for the purpose of paying compensation to workmen who may be injured and for awards that may be made against Government. If the awards are less, we shall spend less; if they are more, we shall spend more. We cannot go against the orders of a court because the authority who makes the award is for all practical purposes a judge and his awards must be honoured and respected. It is only a question of putting some reasonable amount in the budget; our putting in 10 lakhs and spending only 10 thousand wouldn't make any difference.

Question put and lost.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Sir, I move for a total demand of Rs. 27,41,000.

Question put and demand granted.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Sir, I move for a grant of Rs. 15,65,000 under 47, Miscellaneous. The items are shown on page 243 of the White Book.

Question put and demand granted.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Sir, I rise to make a demand for Rs. 17,68,000 under Head 46, Stationery and Printing.

Question proposed.

Mr. S. S. DEV: Sir, I wish to support the next motion for omission of 2 lakhs from the total demand and therefore do not move mine.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: Sir, I beg to move

"That a total cut of 2 lakhs be given to this grant on page 234 of the Stationery grant."

Now, it will be necessary, Sir, to go into the details of the different items that are given here and unless a satisfactory explanation is forthcoming for the considerable increases that have taken place in the expenditure, the House cannot sanction this grant.

The summary of estimates for this year appears on page 234 to start with and on page 236 details of certain branches are given. The total for the ensuing year is Rs. 18, 29,000 against the revised estimate of the year

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

1924-25 of Rs. 14,24,000 : accounts of 1923-24 also show the actuals spent during that year as Rs. 15,77,345, leaving, therefore, a clear difference of 2½ lakhs as increase of expenditure between the actuals of 1923-24 and the budget estimate of 1925-26. Now, we had expected certain definite reasons to be given in the Blue Book for such a considerable increase in this small department like Stationery. But they have not been so given and we have therefore to look to the details that are given on pages 237, 238, 240 and 241 of the White Book. Now, turning first to the Superintendent, we had last year budget estimate of 1924-25 amounting to Rs. 16,800 against actuals of 1923-24 of Rs 15,781 ; no revised estimate figures of 1924-25 are given. I am very sorry that this sort of book-keeping has been adopted this year in many places which is very perplexing. They have got a grant for a Superintendent, for a permanent officer, whose pay is not changed except by way of increment, and that grant is Rs. 19,800—an increase of Rs. 3,000 in one year. It would mean that one officer who remains the same would have an increase of Rs 250 per month when his pay is shown as Rs. 800-60-1,400 ! Then, Sir, turning to the next item lower down, they have got under "Pay of Establishment" 22 clerks—18 clerks last year, an increase to 22 clerks in the present year without any reason being given—at varying rates of pay from Rs. 70 to Rs. 190. Additions to menial establishment again, Rs. 2,933. Customs duties on imported stores, Rs. 63,000. This is an item of customs duties which are intended to be refunded to us by the Government of India. Therefore this item has to be excluded out of our calculation. Proceeding further to the next page, we have a sudden increase of Rs. 2,000, from Rs. 10,938 to Rs. 12,438, against office establishment. Against the composing establishment all of a sudden we have an increase of Rs. 4,000 from Rs. 25,173 to Rs. 29,208. Proceeding further we arrive at page 239, where there is an item of compositors on piece-work, under Government Central Press, Bombay, Rs. 1,35,000. This system of piece-work, Sir, is a system which ought to be discouraged as much as possible. On page 238 we have an enormous composing establishment, 12 foremen, 68 examiners and readers, 51 pressmen, and it does not seem fair that Rs. 1,35,000 should be spent upon composing on piece-work. Then, again, if you turn to the allowances, there is a big item under a new denomination which requires to be explained to the House. We have heard of travelling allowances, overtime allowances, house rent allowances, but we have not yet heard of dearness allowance. Is it a form of compensatory allowance which is at present given in Bombay and Poona ? Dearness allowance is, I think, a new term in the dictionary of the Secretariat : I have not seen it before in any one of the budgets introduced. This is an item of Rs. 30,000. (An honourable Member : Is it for the clerical establishment ?) It comes under "Allowances and honoraria, etc., Government Central Press". I go back to the revised estimates for this year and the accounts of 1923-24, but I find no such item there. This Rs. 30,000 is therefore a new item introduced in the Stationery and Printing department, without any reason whatever and without any previous sanction of this Council, and it is a votable item. I do not

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

think, Sir, that this new item of Rs. 30,000 was ever placed before the Finance Committee, and I do not think it has received the sanction of the Finance Committee. I do not know whether the Honourable the Finance Member himself considered this item of Rs. 30,000, whether it has been introduced under the administrative orders of Government without the sanction of the Legislative Council or what other circumstances. Then, Sir, I come to rent, rates and taxes, which seemed to be zero for the last two years, and are now Rs. 4,000 in the budget. Then, purchase of raw materials, in which the actuals for 1923-24 was 14,858, has now risen to Rs. 20,000, the budget estimate for the last year being Rs. 16,000. We do not know what the actual revised estimate is. But next year it is proposed to provide Rs. 20,000, instead of the actuals of 1923-24, Rs. 14,858. Lighting charges have risen from 18,548 in 1923-24 to Rs. 23,000 in the budget, an increase of Rs. 5,000. Dearness allowance occurs again on page 240, and piece-work compositors again figure in the Commissioner's Press. There is a further sum on page 242 against dearness allowance, Rs. 6,533. I respectfully submit, Sir, that there is no reason whatever shown why this Stationery Department should have all of a sudden an increase of 4 lakhs of rupees during one year. I will put it to the House whether it is necessary to increase expenditure under an establishment, which remains the same, by the introduction of certain items and allowances, to the tune of 4 lakhs. My submission is that two lakhs will be enough and I am sure if the Honourable Member in charge applies his mind to these cases, there will be no difficulty for him in accepting this cut and reducing the budget grant from Rs. 18,29,000 to Rs. 16,89,000.

Question proposed.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Sir, I may be allowed to support this reduction. There is a general tendency in the budget to exaggerate and to put up the estimates at a higher figure, and that tendency is more apparent in this department. I find proof of this tendency from 1923-24 down to the budgetary year. You will note, Sir, that in 1923-24, the budget for stationery and printing was for 21 lakhs, the revised estimates were 17 lakhs, but the actual accounts were only 15 lakhs. During the current year the budget estimate was for 17 lakhs, and the revised estimate is 14 lakhs. Therefore, I take it that in the next year's budget there must be a margin for at least a clear cut of 2 lakhs. I could have supported a cut of 4 lakhs, but I thought there would be no room left for the other side to oppose a cut of only 2 lakhs and so I refrained from moving the motion of a cut of 3 lakhs which stood in my name. There is in this department a clear tendency to put the estimates at a higher figure, and you will see, Sir, that there is undoubtedly a scope for a cut of 2 lakhs.

I have also noticed in this department some unnecessary expenditure and waste going on. Only recently one instance has come to light and there may be many more which have escaped our notice. An instance of it was furnished the other day when this small book was placed on our table. The book is entitled "Bombay Legislative Council, 1925". It

[Mr. S. S. Dev]

is certainly a handsome book. As I have some interest in a printing press at Dhulia, I have decided to take this book with me as a sample of good printing and good binding. It is so neatly bound and the printing is so elegant. But I maintain that this is certainly an unnecessary expenditure. The book gives life sketches of the honourable members of this House. What is curious is that these sketches are said to be furnished by the members themselves. But, Sir, we know the honourable members better by the part they take in the debates in this Council and by the lobbies they go to to record their votes, than from this book. Take for instance the name of the honourable member, Mr. Bunter. His life sketch consists of three words. We could well have afforded not to know it. We have come to know him much better than the description given of him in this book

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I find, Sir, that the page about the honourable member, Mr. Dev, is blank. It is regrettable that there is no information about the honourable member.

Mr. S. S. DEV: Certainly, it is bound to be so. It is said, Sir, that this is an imitation of a parliamentary practice. I maintain, Sir, that it is premature to imitate such parliamentary practices. There can be no comparison between M. L. C.'s and M. P.'s. We are too small and insignificant people. We have absolutely no control over the transactions of Government. It may tickle but we don't deserve such notices so as to justify any expenditure over them. Let Government therefore refrain from this expenditure. At any rate, there is sufficient room for a cut of 2 lakhs in this department, as the budget has shown, and I therefore most heartily support this motion.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): Sir, I have only one remark to make, and that has reference to what the honourable member the Deputy President said about the system of piece work for the compositors. I have received complaints with regard to the system in Karachi, and there is a lot of discontent among the compositors in the Commissioner's Press, and the matter calls for enquiry. There is discontent because the compositors in Karachi are receiving far less than they do in Bombay, and because the system is inequitable. I cannot go into the details, because I have not studied the matter, but the matter calls for careful enquiry.

Mr. D. R. PATIL (East Khandesh District): Mr. President, I concur with what my honourable friend has said so far as this grant is concerned. From the White Book we can see that the budget estimate for 1924-25 was Rs. 17,72,000 but the revised estimate is only Rs. 14,24,000. From this we can naturally infer that the figures were estimated higher than the actuals. Therefore, on the principle of economy, I hope Government will be pleased to reduce this amount by a reasonable cut.

Mr. C. W. A. TURNER: Mr. President, the honourable member the Deputy President made certain comments on certain items and he asked for certain explanations. I will endeavour to do my best to give him the explanation he requires.

[Mr. C. W. A. Turner]

The Honourable the Deputy President referred to page 238 of the White Book and said that there is an increase in the provision for the three assistant managers during the coming year. This increase is due to the increments to which those officers are entitled under the time-scale. The same argument applies to the item of Rs. 25,000 which has been increased to Rs. 29,000 for the next year. Then he referred to the question of engaging temporary compositors and said that it was an unfair system and unnecessary when we have got a large permanent staff. I must point out to the House that in the Central Press, the superintendent has to meet extraordinary demands, especially during the budget time and during the sessions of this House. The work has to be done at high speed and the only way to do it is by appointing temporary staff. I hope the House will admit that unless the work is done at high speed it cannot be finished.

I should like to reply to the arguments advanced by my honourable friend Mr. Adwani. He asked why a higher rate is paid to the staff in the Government Central Press than in the Commissioner in Sind's Press. There has never been pressure of work in the Commissioner in Sind's press comparable to what frequently happens in the Government Central Press. It is only fair therefore that you should pay a higher scale to the staff in the Government Central Press when you work them at high pressure.

I am really surprised that the honourable member the Deputy President had not taken the trouble to refer to last year's White Book with regard to dearness allowance. There he will find that a provision of Rs. 44,000 is made for dearness allowance. I am afraid through mistake in the Accountant General's office it has been omitted in this year's White Book. This dearness allowance was started at the time when the pay of all establishments in view of the rise in the cost of living was revised. The Superintendent of Government Printing and Stationery instead of revising the pay according to the rate which was given in all Government offices in Bombay gave relief to the staff by introducing a system of dearness allowance which was calculated on the current prices of articles. Last year it was Rs. 44,000 calculated on a basis of a 15 per cent. rise in prices. For the ensuing year the provision has been dropped to Rs. 30,000, because there is a reduction in the percentage rise of prices from 15 to 10. The actual provision is less than that of last year by Rs. 14,000. If the prices still go down in the current year, next year we will find a still further reduction in the provisions. In the interest of economy this allowance is retained.

As regards rates and taxes, owing to the absence of a proper building of our own, we have got to locate our extensive book depot in a bungalow in Poona and we have got to pay the rent for it.

With regard to stationery materials, I have already pointed out that the Superintendent had large stocks which have now run short. He has got to provide for a greater demand than he anticipated in his past year's charges.

[Mr. C. W. A. Turner]

As regards the lighting it has increased from Rs. 18,000 to Rs. 25,000 and Government cannot control this expenditure. The rates are fixed by the electric supply companies and they are according to the rates charged to the public. In this respect Government and the general public are in the same boat.

That concludes the special items on which the honourable member the Deputy President wanted explanation. As regards the dearness allowance in the High Court Press and Yeravda Press, I have already explained the nature of the allowance and I think it is only fair that we should give these people a living wage, when the prices are high.

Mr. G. WILES: Sir, I wish to say one word with regard to this department on behalf of the Finance Department. If there is any department of which we have reason to be proud for the saving it has effected it is the Stationery Department. The Superintendent, who, unfortunately, is leaving us shortly, has saved lakhs to Government by his efforts for economy. The reduction in expenditure which you find in past budgets by about 3 lakhs is directly due to the Superintendent's effort. By the introduction of the new system of central distribution we have effected a saving of lakhs and we are now going back again to the figure at which the estimates stood three years ago. Mr. Coombs has during the last year or two been distributing stationery to all departments throughout the presidency from the Central Depot. But we cannot go on supplying from the same store for ever. The old store from which Mr. Coombs has been distributing has now to be replenished in order to enable us to continue the work of economy in this department, which we have been carrying on during the last three years.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Eastern Sind): Sir, I am not prepared to withdraw my motion, because all the explanations given have turned out to be wrong. The honourable member the Finance Secretary has been unable to give the saving effected in this department. We would have been very thankful to him if he had explained to us and indicated on the Budget the directions in which this economy has been effected. We have nothing before us to show that the stationery store is being replenished and that a special amount is needed for that. Therefore I submit that so far as this amount is concerned, beyond that fact that the honourable members on behalf of Government have verbally stated, we have no evidence on record to show that the policy of economy is being followed in this department. When the General Secretary told us that dearness allowance for the last year was Rs. 44,000 and Rs. 33,000 this year, I turned to the revised estimate to see the figures but I found the columns blank. The total expenditure for this year is given, under all heads where expenditure has been incurred if any, though details may be blank. I find in the budget estimate that under the head of allowances and honoraria there is a provision of Rs. 46,360 for the year including Rs. 30,000 under discussion; but the figure given in the revised budget estimate is Rs. 21,000 only. Rs. 2,000 can by no means include

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

Rs. 44,000 said to be spent on dearness allowance. Then Sir, we are told that the dearness allowance has been in existence throughout, but we find it nowhere even in the accounts of 1923-24, which shows the actual amount spent. Dearness allowance is not shown in the actuals of 1923-24 nor is it shown at all in the revised estimates. Therefore the totals based on their absence should be manifestly wrong, a fact which we cannot assume on the mere word of the Secretaries. I have reason therefore to suppose that, in spite of the explanations of the General Secretary, that this item should not exist. From the figures placed before us we find a great deal of difference in the totals of 1923-24, 1924-25 and 1925-26. There should not be any difference in the totals I have given on page 234 of the White Book. Even if we accept that the Accountant General has by mistake omitted to enter those columns, the Finance Department must have taken all care to see that the correct estimates and expenditure of the previous year are entered. Under the circumstances it is not fair to attribute this mistake to the Accountant General. I request the honourable member to effect reasonable reduction in the expenditure of this department. Another explanation of the General Secretary will not appeal to anybody. It is with reference to the increase of Rs. 3,000 in the pay of the Superintendent. There is only one on Rs. 800—60—1,400. Last year's budget was Rs. 16,800 and it is raised to Rs. 19,800. If it is the usual increment of Rs. 60 it cannot amount to Rs. 3,000 per year which means a promotion of 250 per month, it is not an increment. It cannot be. One officer cannot have an incremental promotion of Rs. 3,000 in one year. If it is an increase of 60 in the pay, there will be a rise of 720 only per year. I refuse to accept the explanation. The honourable member in charge ought to tell me how Rs. 3,000 could be increased in one year. In view of these figures still unexplained I maintain that the department is capable of reducing its expenditure.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Sir, I realise how my honourable friend has been somewhat misled about the provision for Rs. 30,000 for dearness allowance and he was perfectly justified in his remarks. It was the fault of the Accountant General and it so happened that I was misled too, and had to send for the Superintendent from Poona to come and explain, and it was not till he referred me to the budget of 1923 in last year's White Book, that I was convinced and here is the last year's budget, "dearness allowance Rs. 44,050" and I put that figure in pencil on that very day on my White Book. Well, Sir, as regards the reason of putting dearness allowance in the budget, it was done in the interests of economy, and it was suggested by the Superintendent of Printing. He thought that instead of putting up the salaries as has been done in all other departments he would put them up by a percentage less than in the other departments and also provide for this dearness allowance, so that there could be some elasticity about it. This is the only department in which this has been allowed. The result is that we

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

budgetted for Rs. 44,050 and paid that in the current year, but we are budgetting for 30 thousand for next year. The Deputy President has also referred to the Superintendent's pay which is at Rs. 19,800 having risen from Rs. 17,000. It is merely through oversight that the General Secretary forgot to explain that item. The explanation is that we did raise the pay of the Superintendent as a special case in consideration of the economies effected, but I am sorry to say that he will not be in Bombay to claim this higher pay as the Government of India have taken him on Rs. 2,000 a month. Therefore, this budget item will be reduced when his successor is appointed.

Now, Sir, I will just refer to one more point before I conclude because the General Secretary has not referred to it. The Deputy President referred to another increase; he said that last year we budgetted for 18 clerks whose pay was Rs. 17,392 and it has risen to Rs. 25,786. That is perfectly correct, but a little lower down he failed to see that we had budgetted for Rs. 5,000 more for 8 clerks which are omitted for next year. That is the explanation. It is only shifted from one part to another part of the budget. As to economy, what I would point out to the House is.....

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: Those are book entries.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: They have been combined. I would point out that for Stores reserved, in 1922-23 the figure is Rs. 6,11,000, the revised figure for 1924-25 is Rs. 4,12,000, a saving of 2 lakhs. That is the saving that the Finance Secretary referred to. I have nothing further to say. I am very glad to have the corroboration of the Secretary of the Finance Department that they have been thoroughly satisfied with the working of this department.

Question put and lost.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Sir, I ask now for a grant of Rs. 17,68,000 for Stationery and Printing.

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Sir, I move for a grant of Rs. 57,17,000 for Superannuation Allowances and Pensions. The items are shown on pages 96-97 of the Blue Book.

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Sir, I beg to ask for a grant of Rs. 53,60,000 for Famine Relief and Insurance.

I was asked by several honourable members to explain the general policy of famine relief and of the famine insurance fund during the general discussion. It was not possible to do so at that time. It would have taken too long. I should like to ask the House and yourself, Sir, whether it would be desirable that I explain that now or whether I should explain that on the two motions of which notice has been given. I am entirely in the hands of the House, and I shall do exactly as they please.

Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI (Bombay City, South): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the amount of Rs. 42,39,000, for other expenditure in the Civil Department on Famine Relief, be reduced to Rs. 42,00,000.

[Dr. K. E. Dadachanji]

Sir, on page 95 of the Blue Book, in paragraph 180, entry No. (5) reads "Other expenditure in the Civil Department on Famine Relief". No explanation is given how this other expenditure comes to Rs. 42,00,000. It is nowhere accounted for, and no explanation is given. I should like to hear from the Honourable the Revenue Member an explanation as regards this item, and also about the general policy as regards famine relief that is being pursued by this Government.

Question proposed.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: May I explain the policy at once, Sir, so that I shall have the benefit of the suggestions of my honourable friends opposite?

It is perfectly true that in the year 1925-26 it is proposed to put down Rs. 42 lakhs and odd, the sum mentioned by my honourable friend opposite, into the famine relief fund. That has been done with a purpose, and I shall explain why it is that this large sum is put there. Under the Devolution Rules, the Government of Bombay, like several other provincial Governments who have to lay aside smaller amounts is bound to lay aside every year Rs. 63,60,000 for the purposes of famine relief or for accumulating a famine insurance fund, until that fund reaches a total of Rs. 4 crores. There are certain provisions in these Devolution Rules which determine in what manner this sum is to be expended, if there is a balance after defraying the expenditure on direct famine relief. It is unnecessary to go into the details of these rules at the present moment, but if any honourable member raises any question about that during the course of the discussion, I shall be very pleased to give replies. So that, the intention is that we should go on building up this fund until it reaches a total of Rs. 4 crores, which fund will continue to receive interest, and from the interest as well as the capital we can spend moneys on direct famine relief, and also on the construction of preventive famine works. To understand the situation fully and to understand the exact point which the honourable mover has made, it will be desirable to know what has been the disposition of this Rs. 63,60,000 which, under the rules, we are every year bound to set aside. In the year 1921-22 we made a direct expenditure on famine relief of Rs. 27,27,000 and we transferred to the head 55-Irrigation Rs. 40,84,000. In 1922-23 we spent Rs. 2,79,000 on direct relief and carried Rs. 60,81,000 to Famine Reserve 43-B. In 1923-24 we spent Rs. 3,92,000 on direct relief, took Rs. 30,00,000 for 55-Irrigation and took Rs. 29,68,000 to 43-B Famine Reserve. In 1924-25 we spent Rs. 23,60,000 on direct relief and transferred Rs. 10,00,000 to 14-Interest, which represents the interest charges on the Lloyd Barrage, and carried Rs. 30,00,000 to 43-B Reserve.

You will see, therefore, Sir, that during two years, at all events, we have spent no less than 70 lakhs of rupees on 55-Irrigation out of the Famine Fund. We are also committed to paying Rs. 10,00,000 a year for 20 years, I believe, towards the cost of interest on the Sukkur Barrage. There is, therefore, left ordinarily only Rs. 53,60,000 to be spent both on direct relief as well as preventive famine works. Now,

[Mr. C. V. Mehta]

Government propose that in the very first instance, at any rate, the Famine Relief Fund—43-B, Reserve—should be built up until it gets in the first instance to a total of at least 2 crores of rupees. I would like to invite attention of the honourable members to the fact that this sum of 2 crores has not been arrived at by any precise mathematical calculation, but is only a rough estimate of what may be required to be spent in the case of a very severe year of famine like 1899-1900 or 1918-19. I think the Honourable the Finance Member has told you in his opening speech that in the very worst years of famine like 1896-97 and the following two or three years together no less a sum than 7 crores was required to be spent on direct famine expenditure. Therefore, the Council will realise that 2 crores is not a sum too big for the purpose and that, indeed, it is desirable to build it up even till it rises to the extent of 4 crores. That is the reason why nothing, besides 10 lakhs to the Sukkur Barrage, is proposed to be expended on any other large irrigation schemes as was done in the year 1921-22 and the year 1923-24.

I will now come, Sir, to the general question of the policy which this Government are contemplating in the method of famine relief both direct and indirect. In the first place, I would like to refer to the change which we have made in the Famine Relief Code which was revised only very recently and which ought to be ready for publication in a short time. I will refer to only one important departure in the revision of that Code, which, as honourable members are aware, extends over many pages and contains very many sections. This is contained in section 55 of the revised Famine Code and I think it would be advisable if I read out what the revised section says :

"The following rules shall be observed in the management of district local board and municipal scarcity works :—

(a) They shall be conducted departmentally by the District Local Board or Municipal staffs, subject to the general rules.

(b) In case a District Local Board or Municipality has insufficient funds available to finance a useful scarcity work, which it is anxious to undertake, Government may advance the funds required, the amount advanced being made payable by instalments at a rate of interest at 2 per cent. below the rate at which the Government of Bombay may be raising loans at the time plus 4 per cent. sinking fund.

(c) When the cost of a District Local Board or Municipal scarcity work is higher than it would have been if undertaken in normal times owing to the employment of inefficient labour and weakly persons, or the payment of wages, at a higher rate owing to an abnormal rise in the prices of staple food-grains due to a scarcity or famine, the District Local Board or the Municipality shall be entitled to claim a grant from Government to cover the difference between the cost of the work calculated at normal rates and the cost actually incurred... which shall be debited to the head "43, Famine Relief."

I quote this, Sir, because it is an important departure from the present practice and the intention of Government is to utilise moneys from this fund, both departmentally and through municipal and local agencies, in carrying out works of permanent utility, instead of using them on purely famine relief works for the purpose of finding employment only. In the past there have been occasions when it was necessary that such works should be opened. Happily that time has now gone and we propose to ask local bodies to use their own agencies for carrying out these works of permanent utility a programme for which will be prepared beforehand

[Mr. C. V. Mehta]

for each district and with the assistance which will be given out of the Famine Relief Fund under the revised Code.

This brings me, Sir, to the actual measures of famine relief which are required in the present times. I am happy, Sir, to be able to say that the work of famine relief now-a-days has ceased to be the heavy direct expenditure which was a feature of the famines of 1896 and 1897. Through the net-work of railways and through the improvement of communications, which enable grain to be poured into stricken tracts at a very short notice and, I think even more important, through the experience which people have now learnt of meeting the shock of famine, it is not required in these days to give direct famine relief on the same large measure or to open famine relief works purely for the purpose of finding casual employment on relief wages, which used to be, in those days, 2 annas per day. The experience gained during the last ten or fifteen years leads one to believe that this direct famine relief is not called for to the same extent as was the case in the past, and that it is now more or less confined to the provision of fodder the prices of which soar to intolerable heights for the relief of cattle and of direct assistance required for the infirm and the old, and the inferior village servants who, owing to the nature of their work, are unable to emigrate. Government consider, therefore, that the direct form of famine relief should, in the first place, take the shape of fodder reserves—fodder reserves of kadbi as well as of grass—and I believe that honourable members will agree with Government that the very best form of relief which can now be given, under the present day circumstances, is the saving of the cattle which are the most cherished possession of the agriculturists and on which the cultivation, when the new rains come, so largely depends. Government in the past have already started schemes for the storage of grass at Dohad and Godhra in the Panch Mahals at Nawapur in the Khandesh district, and at Palghar somewhat further south. By experience we have found that the grass that has been stored at these places is not much relished in the Deccan or in the Southern Division, and that the cattle in these parts are more accustomed to eating kadbi on which they thrive, whereas on grass they are only able to keep body and soul together and not to be in a fit condition to carry on cultivation when the monsoon arrives. (Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad: What about the prickly-pear?) That of course has been tried. In times of extreme scarcity it is of considerable value and when such scarcity occurs prickly-pear is utilised for the purpose of fodder. But neither prickly-pear nor grass gives the same sustenance which kadbi gives. (Kadbi is supposed to be about 2½ times the value of grass in nutritive value or more and it is capable of being transported if it is baled and shredded as we are attempting to do at Karajgi in the current year.) I may say that I myself arrived at that conclusion after personal investigation in Satara. Having come to that conclusion we tried to see in what manner it was best that we should store the kadbi, at what time it should be stored and in what places. I held a conference with several non-official gentlemen,

[Mr. C. V. Mehta]

representative of the various tracts which are liable to suffer from famine. I had the Director of Agriculture find out for me the places where surplus kadbi is available. We also examined whether the storage of kadbi through co-operative means would not be an excellent method of fodder storage, and we came to the conclusion that all the means that are at the disposal of Government and of the public should be utilised in order to store the surplus kadbi which in good years is available and which sometimes in some places even goes to waste. There is a reason why people do not stock this kadbi themselves in very large quantities on account of the fear of incendiarism. I do not say they do not stock it: on the contrary the fact that people are used to stocking it in several parts gives every hope of success to this idea of stocking on a large scale through Government agency in order that it may not only be used in the locality where it is held but also transported and carried to tracts where there is no surplus. For instance in the Satara district, where famine occurs but too frequently, but where there is no surplus of kadbi which can be stocked, it will have to be imported from other districts. Similarly in Poona there is no very large surplus of kadbi, and it is proposed that the stock that is going to be created at Ahmednagar should also serve certain talukas of the Poona district. I entered into negotiations with several non-official members and as a result of conferences we proposed to stock kadbi to the extent of 5 crores of lbs. in the district of Ahmednagar alone. I do not say we propose; I advisedly use the past tense "we proposed", because the shortage of the late rains has unfortunately affected our plans considerably and the scheme can only be put into operation when kadbi is plentiful and prices cheap. Well, we started with the idea of stocking 5 crores of lbs. of kadbi in Ahmednagar through the agency of the district local board. I am sorry to say that owing to the unfavourably late rains, it will not be possible to work up to that full amount of 5 crores of lbs., nor will it be possible as I understood it only yesterday, to purchase kadbi at the rate which we fixed for the district local board, namely Rs. 15 per thousand lbs. I may state that we may have to pay a somewhat higher rate. I may also state that even at the higher rate it is desirable that this kadbi should be stored. The arrangement with the district local board is that Government will advance a sum of 7½ lakhs of rupees which will cover the cost as well as the stocking in a particular way, covering with corrugated iron sheets, etc., the whole amount to be within Rs. 15 per 1,000 lbs., Government to give this loan without any interest and whatever profit the district local board may make on the scheme to be laid aside by the district local board in their own funds for the specific purpose of famine relief. I am sure this is going to give them a profit, and that profit is not going to Government, but is to be maintained by the district local boards for the purposes of direct famine relief. Similarly in Belgaum, Sholapur and Bijapur and Dharwar these stocks are to be held. I do not think it is necessary at the present moment to give the House the details of what we propose to do in these four districts. I

[Mr. C. V. Mehta]

need only mention that the storage is going to be distributed, in many villages in each district in order to minimise as far as possible the risk of loss by fire. (An Honourable Member: What about Satara?) Well, Satara has got no surplus stock and must therefore depend upon being able to get whatever is available from the stores that will be made at these other places. We propose to store in such a way that railway transport will be easily possible. An experiment of the cost which we will have to incur in the shredding as well as the baling of kadbi is being carried on at present at Karajgi by Government. When we find out what that cost is, we shall be in a position to see how far it may be transported to places like Satara.

There are other ways of dealing with this storage of kadbi. You can shed or bale it or you can chaff it. But chaffing can only be resorted to in the time of famine at the places where the store exists, and I propose to lay aside a certain sum of money from the famine fund for the purchase of chaffing machines which would be available to the cultivators whenever scarcity occurs in the places where these stores are kept. By cutting up the thick hard ends we should save 30 per cent. of the *Kadbi* which is now wasted as cattle cannot eat it. In Sholapur we are working departmentally through the collector with the advice of an advisory committee of well known people who are interested in agriculture. In Belgaum we are trying to see whether contractors will not be available to do this storage, so that Government may be relieved of all risk. In Bijapur it is going to be done entirely departmentally. (An Honourable Member: What about Khandesh?) Khandesh does not require any kadbi storage. I will come to the case of Khandesh presently. From our experience of these various methods we shall be able to find out what is the best to be done in the interests of the public and whether private enterprise will not like to come forward to do this work when they see the profits that are derivable from it. With regard to Gujarat, we propose to have grass storage done in various places. We propose in the first place to increase the storage at Dohad in the Panch Mahals where grass is available. In the second place in Kaira also we are considering whether contracts cannot be entered into by which the contractors, will be liable to supply a large part of the grass they get from the 'Kurans' and 'bids' to Government in famine times at certain fixed rates. In Ahmedabad district a contract has already been entered into by which the contractor takes all the liability and supplies to Government at a certain fixed rate. Other negotiations are in progress. With regard to Khandesh grass is available there in any quantity, but it is at a distance and it is not very easily brought to the doors of cultivators.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI: On account of the raised rates.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Certainly not. In Khandesh the condition is that people near forest areas are quite willing to send their cattle to forests during famine times. This is the best form of protection they can get. This ought to be sufficient with proper facilities.

An Honourable MEMBER: With regard to water supply?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: We are going to do something. I am going to deal with it. If water facilities were made available and cattle can easily go to forests, a specific storage of grass will not be necessary. Storage means money and interest. If we can make use of the forests and supply water facilities I think we can be said to have done all that is required. The Forest Department has been asked to provide water supply in the forests to be financed partly from the famine fund and partly from the grant of the Forest Department. I do not think it will cost very much and whatever money is required can be found from the Famine Fund. The existing stores of grass total 350 lakhs of pounds. In Gujarat alone if our negotiations are successful the store will be more than double this figure. With 5 crores of lbs. in Ahmednagar and proportionate amounts in the other districts of the Central and Southern Divisions which I have mentioned above, the Council will realise how extensive is the scheme which we have put before ourselves especially when it is remembered that kadbi is $2\frac{1}{2}$ times as nutritious as grass. In years of famine prices rise four-fold and they are known to go up as much as Rs. 60. If we are able to prevent them from rising more than double, enormous sums will be saved to the cultivator and yet this large scheme is undertaken not to supplant but to supplement private effort and by no means to interfere with the ordinary trade movement of hay. If we calculate only 10lbs. per day per head of cattle for 4 months during scarcity, we can only provide for 8,000 cattle for every crore of lbs. of fodder. We can thus hope to provide for only a certain small proportion and these must be the most useful animals. I consider that we have taken sufficient precautions to eliminate the risk of fire as far as possible. If Providence favours us I believe that the scheme instead of costing anything to the Famine Fund will in the end give a profit, and that although a portion of the fund will thus be locked up it does not mean that the money is lost. On the contrary I believe that it will be more than repaid with interest. I have now dealt with the storage of fodder and of grass throughout the presidency. I think this is the first step we should take in regard to direct famine relief.

I now come to another important measure which should be taken on a large scale by Government and the people. I refer to the provision of water which I consider to be the best means of relieving the necessities of the people and giving them the necessary resources to face the shock of famine. In the debate which took place in August last I dealt with the question of sinking wells and of giving assistance to people for sinking wells. I explained how small a proportion of the cultivable area is likely to be protected by large irrigation schemes and how in certain parts of the presidency the natural facilities do not exist for large irrigation schemes. It might surprise people to know that the area irrigated by wells even in the Deccan considerably exceeds the area protected by canal irrigation. I have got the figures here but I do not think it necessary to go into the details. The one fact that remains for the consideration of the House is that if we are to do anything to give the necessary support to the people, you must go in for a large and

[Mr. C. V. Mehta]

intensive programme of well sinking. What are Government doing in this direction? I will not refer to the resolution that was passed by the Council at the last session, and to the manner in which the honourable members opposite threw out the liberal proposal of Government assistance that was then adumbrated. I regretted it very much and I may say several members opposite also shared my view. But I do not think Government will be deterred by the mere fact that the hand offered for co-operation and assistance was not accepted by the honourable members opposite. It is necessary to expand well irrigation in the interest of cultivators. Sir, (the impediment in the way of cultivators taking advantage of even the present takkavi rules is the great danger of failure of well sinking and that the danger is very great the honourable member for Ahmedabad may not be aware of. Cultivators have often spent thousands of rupees on a well which in the end proved a failure, wiping out perhaps all their resources. In this respect Gujarat stands on a more favourable footing. We have found that the boring activities of Government in Gujarat and North Thana have given most satisfactory results. Over 90 per cent. of the bores have been successful whereas in the Central and Southern Divisions the failures are many. We propose to help the cultivator to sink his well by means of preliminary machines and even earlier than that by water divining for which purpose we have engaged a diviner recently. I may mention at once that the rates for boring will have to undergo a certain amount of change in favour of the cultivator because we are able now to meet the loss that will accrue from the famine fund. The whole of the expenditure on boring and all the loss that I mentioned is now transferred to the famine fund instead of being debited to the head of agriculture the burden of which I used to bear when I was Minister. This liberalisation will, therefore, enable the cultivators when unsuccessful to be relieved of practically the whole cost. It is impossible to estimate what the cost to Government may be of an intensive programme of well boring, because of the many uncertain factors. Water-finding machines are also in use and there is provision in the budget for purchasing some more. We have received an application from a gentleman who did very good work both for the agricultural department and for private parties in Sholapur and various other parts of the presidency, and who has got the gift of divining where underground water exists. We have employed this gentleman at present in Ahmednagar for 2 months to test his powers of divination, and I feel confident that from the papers which I have read and from the discussion which I have had with this gentleman and from the scientific manner in which he treated this subject before the meeting of the Institute of Engineers, I have reason to believe that we shall succeed in this venture, and I think if we do succeed, it will be a very great gain indeed.

An Honourable MEMBER: What is his name?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. METHA: Major Pockson. He is at present employed in Ahmednagar, the worst famine area. The new

[Mr. C. V. Mehta]

rates of boring will be published and I have already told the House that the assistance Government propose to give is very liberal. With these reduced rates of boring we shall receive, we hope, a good many demands from cultivators for well sinking. (Tagavi loans will be given and interest as well as capital will only be recovered in the case of successful wells and in the case of unsuccessful ones not only the whole of the interest but a good portion of the capital will also be remitted by Government.) This gentleman on the receipt of applications from cultivators through the collector will go and examine the various sites where wells are wanted. He then makes a sort of chart definitely pointing out the spot where wells should be sunk and whether wells which are in disuse can be repaired, or deepened and brought into use. We propose then to put the boring machines to work at once and if water is found, then the cultivator can at once proceed to build his well with tagai from Government where required. We propose to spend 2 lakhs of rupees on the purchase of 56 new boring machines to add to our present stock of only 27. Some of them are made locally, some of them will have to be imported, and I daresay that honourable members of this Council who raised some objection this morning to the importation of chemicals will not raise a similar objection to the importation of these machines. This expansion must be accompanied by the training of qualified foremen. Having got the necessary number of machines we hope that the progress of well sinking will go on very rapidly and I believe that if honourable members opposite realize, that this is the best way of meeting famine relief, they will help Government whole-heartedly in advertising it among cultivators as the best means of providing full time employment that everybody recognises the cultivator must have. There is nothing better than the provision of a perennial supply of water either by means of canals or wells in order to occupy the full time of the cultivator. The search for suitable subsidiary industries to occupy the spare time of the ryot has been long and difficult, and while I recognise that no efforts in that direction must be relaxed to strengthen the resources of the people, I venture to suggest well irrigation as of most valuable assistance in the solution of this great problem, for after all the best industry for agriculturists is agriculture itself. I must add in passing that the supply of manure will have to be considered in conjunction with a vast increase in irrigation.

The well programme is also meant to supply drinking water in all the villages in the presidency.) We propose that there should be a programme to be worked up to say in the next 7 or 8 years by which every village in each district must have its well to supply drinking water. The honourable member from Ratnagiri made an impassioned speech during the general discussion on the budget, pointing out the extraordinarily small amount of money that is provided in the budget for the supply of drinking water in village sites. I think I must tell the Council that it is somewhat doubtful whether under a strict interpretation of the rules

[Mr. C. V. Mehta]

the famine fund can be used for the purpose of drinking water supply in tracts which are not ordinarily liable to famine. It might, however, be a case of seeing how the rules can be made to fit the circumstances, for I believe myself that the inhabitant of every village has a claim upon the famine fund, so that his very first necessity of life, namely, water is supplied in sufficient quantity both in the cold weather and in the hot weather. In the current year we have put in for the repairs of tanks which are to supply drinking water as well as irrigation water a sum of 70 thousand rupees. This sum is larger than was ever provided before by more than 4 times. It will be found on page 63 item 15, other expenditure financed from ordinary revenue. You will see, Sir, that the accounts for the year 1923-24 shows only 16 thousand for this purpose and if honourable members will turn to the White Book, they will find in previous years the amounts provided under this head had been very small indeed. We have asked the commissioners to spend much larger sums this year and to see that the tanks are properly repaired. I would like to refer to the provision of tanks for drinking water purposes in the northern parts of Gujarat. I am happy to be able to say, Sir, that the "Sourashtra water fund" have spent about 30 thousand rupees from private collections for the improvement of water supply in the villages of Dhanduka taluka. I have visited this God-forsaken tract myself and I am convinced that Government must give all possible assistance especially when the people have helped themselves by collecting this comparatively large sum of money from private resources. I hope that the work of the improvement of tanks in the *Bhal* area will be taken up by the district local board as early as possible and a considerable amount of repair work will be done in the current year when labour is available. The original intention was that work should be spread over a period of 5 years, but I shall be quite willing to provide funds for pushing on the work during the next year or two. There are other means of providing water than wells, viz., small irrigation works which can be divided into two parts. They are the *bandharas*, bunds on streams, and tanks in certain favourable localities. Honourable members are aware that in the hilly tracts of the Deccan, particularly in the Satara and in the Nasik districts, an excellent system of *pat bandharas* has long been in existence, for which we are indebted to rulers before the British time. It is probable that the most favourable sites for the purposes of *pat bandharas* have already been made use of in the days of Maratha rule. But it is conceivable that investigation may show other sites which may still be made use of, on account of the largely extended area brought under the plough during the last 60 or 70 years. I propose that an investigation should be made, and that wherever possible *pat bandharas* should be encouraged, and those that have fallen into disuse examined with a view to their flowing again. This is possible only of course in the hilly tracts where natural conditions permit it.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR: Can it not be done in the Poona district?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Wherever the natural conditions permit it. I do not think it is the intention of Government to leave out any district from the beneficence of this measure. The money is contributed by the whole province ; it is kept aside as a famine insurance fund ; it is to be used for the people, and in a way which I am sure they will approve, for famine relief as well as for famine prevention. Sir, when I was Minister of Agriculture, I was sometimes presented with this difficulty on behalf of the cultivators, both cultivators individually and collectively in co-operative societies. They came to me with schemes for the bunding up of certain small streams which did not flow perennially, which were sparse of water, but which by means of bunding may be able to keep a sufficient supply to help *rabi* cultivation in the cold weather. I found it extremely difficult to advise because I had not sufficient technical expert advice at my disposal, and the funds being limited, I was not in a position to employ new staff. Fortunately, through the means of the famine fund, we were able to appoint what we call a land development officer whose particular business would be to examine such schemes wherever they were placed before him and to give the technical assurance that the schemes were likely to be successful, and with that assurance I am hopeful that the various co-operative banks in the presidency and particularly the provincial bank in Bombay would be prepared to advance the necessary funds to the cultivators on long term loans. That officer has only been appointed some few months ago, and he is at present working in the Poona District, a district which I understand my honourable friend Mr. Bhopatkar particularly favours. But I have now come to the conclusion that if we want to make wide impression upon this problem at an early period, it will be necessary to utilize the advising expert agencies in the various districts and not to restrict ourselves to one officer alone. Indeed, it will be impossible for any one officer to cover more than a very small part of each district in two or three years and I do not think it fair that other districts should be made to wait. I therefore consider that the best plan would be for the people to send their schemes of either small bunds or of tanks through the local officers to the Collector who will, in his turn, take the advice of the Executive Engineer of the district and give the necessary assurance which the cultivators want, and then, either by means of co-operative funds or through Government *tagai* loans, the cultivators will be placed in a position to carry out the works. There is a difference of opinion, Sir, as to protective value of these small schemes of bunding as well as tanks, as compared with large schemes of canal irrigation. It is claimed for canal irrigation that it gives a perennial supply of water, and it is likely to benefit a larger number of people. I myself am somewhat doubtful of this point of view, and I feel that the very least that we can do is to make a proper investigation and of course there are many parts which cannot be reached by canals.

Mr. S. S. DEV : What are the agencies for investigation ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : The Public Works Department agency that I mentioned, in each district. We cannot have a better agency than that or an agency that is more widespread or one

[Mr. C. V. Mehta]

which will be able to give more immediate attention to the schemes that may be put forward by the cultivators. I feel that it is essential that Government should examine these small schemes of irrigation, with a view to see for every lakh of rupees how many acres of land are benefited and how many persons are benefited as compared with the huge amounts necessary for canal irrigation. Cultivators tilling their own land have come to me direct without outside intervention, talking to me about their schemes and prepared to contribute towards the cost if the returns were satisfactory and from their enthusiasm for these small schemes, I feel that it is necessary that Government should examine in the first instance and should provide moneys out of the famine insurance fund to undertake these small schemes.

There remains the question of tanks, and I think I must warn honourable members that it is not advisable to build too large hopes on the success of tanks. Apart from their unremunerative character which can be seen from the administration reports of the Public Works Department even in the case of tanks which were built at a very much lower cost than would have to be incurred now. Their value is doubtful as direct sources of irrigation in times of scarcity. It is quite conceivable, however, that these tanks may be of use in raising the sub-soil water round about and in improving the level of water in the wells which has probably gone down on account of the shortage of rain during the last 20 to 25 years. An officer, a district deputy collector, has been appointed to look after the fodder storage scheme in Ahmednagar and at the same time to examine the question of these tanks, with the assistance of the chairman of the district local board—a gentleman whom we all know, Rao Bahadur Chitale, who has taken very considerable interest in the matter.

An Honourable MEMBER: What is the name of the district deputy collector?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Mr. Hulyal. He has been placed on special duty. A word with regard to the disposal of the Famine Insurance Fund for these small irrigation works. The question must be approached with considerable discrimination for while on the one hand certain badly affected villages may not be able to produce remunerative schemes but must not therefore be neglected, on the other hand the scope of these operations must be widened to benefit as many people as possible and in order to do that remunerative schemes be given a certain amount of preference; otherwise the Fund would be soon exhausted without the steady expansion of preventive measures which a turnover alone can give. Cases will therefore have to be considered on their merits, and, as I have said before, people are willing to contribute either towards the capital cost or by yearly payments. I am afraid, Sir, I have been overlong in this matter, but I believe, Sir, the importance of the subject demands a long explanation, and I do want now the honourable members opposite to let me have their suggestions and their criticisms as freely and frankly as possible. I wish them to tell me whether they approve

[Mr. C. V. Mehta]

of the Famine Insurance Fund being used on the various projects I have mentioned and to be used in the manner I have indicated.

Mr. N. E. NAVLE (Ahmednagar District): Sir, I want a little explanation from the honourable member. Who are the persons who are put in charge of famine fodder and kadba storage, and who are the persons who are asked to serve on those committees, if there are any committees in charge of this storage? Are any members who are representatives of the agriculturists taken on those committees? Is Government aware that there was a scandal with regard to kadba storage in Ahmednagar two or three years ago, and what steps have Government taken to prevent any such scandals in the future?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I think it would be convenient if the Honourable the Revenue Member makes a note of all the points which different honourable members may make and then, at the end, gives a reply to all those points.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Yes; I will do so, Sir.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA (Ahmedabad District): Sir, first of all, I would say something as regards famine fodder fund. Debt loans are given to Lloyd Barrage out of Famine Insurance Fund. I want to ask the Honourable the Revenue Member whether they are to be recovered, because I understand that the Lloyd Barrage scheme is a productive one and if for the space of 20 years these 10 lakhs are diverted towards that scheme, it would come to two crores of rupees, plus interest on all loans. Then, I have very great doubts about the success of the Lloyd Barrage as a productive work. Now, when the Honourable the Revenue Member spoke about this kadbi and storage of kadbi and subsequent selling of it, even in famine times realising some profit out of it, my heart was taken out of my body.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: I would just like to say a word, Sir, about this point now, in order to remove any misapprehension in this matter. I think I should have mentioned it in my speech. It is impossible to sell it (the grass) at the price at which it was stored. It would only mean that a few people would get the benefit. We have to sell it gradually so as to keep the market down.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA: That is, even if there is a subsequent loss, Government will not, I think, mind it.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: No; that is it.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA: Then, my only consideration is about this small canal irrigation and small tanks. My opinion about this matter is that it is useless waste of money, because these are not continually flowing canals. They are dried up for the rest of the season. They depend on rain water and in famine times there is absolutely no rain water. So at the time of the great urgency—that is in famine emergency—these works fail on which you have spent so much capital expenditure. The great *desiderata* must be the increase of sub-soil water and utilisation of it.

[Mr. H. D. Saheba]

Therefore, I had moved a resolution in the last year, in the July session, that the cultivators might be encouraged by foregoing a little bit of interest to sink wells and that loss of interest may be debited to this famine fund, then it would be a great help to the cultivators. At present, Sir, my experience about this matter is that cultivators are hard put to it in sinking of wells by taking takavi loans because the rate of interest is considerable, sums of money are returnable every year plus interest; the cost of cultivation from the well water does not give them any large margin for the repaying of the debt. Therefore, if Government will think of foregoing this interest and debiting it to the famine fund, then many cultivators will be encouraged in sinking of wells, and when I said that the owners of unsuccessful wells might be charged for the sums they have taken, my proposition was a great gain to the cultivators because they would think twice before asking for a loan to sink wells in any area where sub-soil water is not to be found or where wells will fail. They will think twice before taking loans. But why in the case of those areas where sub-soil water exists should you not encourage cultivators to sink wells; you are relieved of the anxiety as regards famine in those areas? Therefore, my proposition was a very good one, both in the interests of the cultivators and in the interests of Government. But though it was passed by a very large majority of the House—I think it was a majority of 20 members—still that resolution is flouted. The next day after the resolution was passed I think some question was asked as regards boring machines, and it was elicited that scale of the boring expenses had been increased. I therefore request the honourable member to consider this: that after all the loss on boring charges Government must debit to this fund.

And one other thing. All these borings are useful only when there is a well in existence. Therefore the great necessity is of wells. There are three kinds of wells, artesian, sub-artesian and tube wells. A tube well is not good for irrigation purposes where irrigation has to be done by motes. Artesian well is out of consideration because its cost is prohibitive and the sub-artesian well remains in the field; but it presumes a well in existence for boring purposes. Government should therefore first of all encourage the sinking of wells, and if the present rules do not permit of Government granting tagavi free of interest or at a smaller rate of interest, then those rules should go. I hope the Honourable the Revenue Member will now be inclined to consider favourably my resolution passed in July last.

The THAKOR of KERWADA (Gujarat Sardars and Inamdars): Mr. President, coming as I do from one of the parts of the northern districts of Gujarat to which the Honourable Member has referred in his speech I must, on behalf of the people of those parts, offer my hearty thanks to him for proposing to follow such comprehensive famine policy as he has outlined for the benefit of the dumb masses. This policy, with some modifications and alterations, will remove some of the great hardships which they are suffering. Sir, for the last twelve years I have been

[Thakor of Kerwada]

president of the taluka local board of Wagra. That portion of the district which runs parallel to the sea coast is in the same position as the Bhal track of the district of Ahmedabad. The hardship that those people are suffering it is very difficult for me to describe. Sir, in those villages people do not get even water for most part of the year after the monsoon is over, and particularly in lean years. They dig a small well in a tank bed and one member of each family has to keep a watch at the well throughout the night guarding the well in which water slowly accumulates during the night. And with all that the water they get is only just enough for their purpose. I further welcome the scheme for storage of grass and fodder. The scarcity of grass and fodder is very acute in Ahmedabad and Gujarat, and particularly in the sea coast villages. People have money, but they do not get grass. I would only suggest one thing, and that is that Government should give tagavi liberally for digging wells in these places and not charge interest. So far as the district local boards are concerned, the Broach District Local Board has made an arrangement with Major Pockson to find sweet water in the Wagra taluka and he is coming there in the month of April and we trust that he will meet with success.

Then, Sir, there is one more point I should like to refer to. In the years of scarcity great difficulty is felt in the transportation of fodder for want of good roads connecting one district from another. My district like many other districts in the Northern Division is suffering for want of communications. The honourable member Mr. Pratt will bear me out in this matter. These communications should be improved, so that in times of scarcity people may be able to carry fodder from one place to another easily and thus save their cattle from the clutches of death.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: Mr. President, I wish to bring to the notice of the Honourable Member in charge of the Revenue Department two things. I find that boring machines for sinking wells are useful to the agriculturists, but the number of boring machines is very inadequate and Government is not able to meet the demands of the agriculturists. So I think the Honourable Member should increase the number of those machines. Another thing is, when I went to Belgaum I saw a contrivance known as the water finder. That is very useful to the agriculturists. It indicates whether there is water on a certain spot or not, and that contrivance is also found very useful to the agriculturists. I understand that their number is very few, only two. So, I would request Government to increase the number of these machines also for the use of the agriculturists.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The House will now adjourn till 2 o'clock on Saturday, the 7th March 1925.

Saturday, the 7th March 1925.

The Council re-assembled at the Town Hall, Bombay, at 2 p.m., on Saturday, the 7th March 1925, the Honourable the President, Sir IBRAHIM RAHIMTOOLA, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
ABDULPURKAR, Mr. N. A.
ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
ARMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
ATHAVALE, Mr. S. N.
BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
BHURGRI, Mr. J. M.
BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
BIJARANI, Khan Saheb SHER MAHOMED KHAN
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
CLAYTON, Mr. F.
COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
GHOSAL, Mr. J.
GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH
GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
JATOI, Khan Saheb HAJI SERAI IMAMBAKSH
JATOI, Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
JOG, Mr. V. N.
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
KALBHOR, Mr. G. M.

KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.
 KARKI, Mr. M. D.
 KAY, Mr. J. A.
 KAZI INAITULLAKHAN
 KOKANI, Mr. G. J.
 KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
 LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
 LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.
 LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHQRO, Mr.
 MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
 MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 MUJUMDAR, SARDAR G. N.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
 NANAL, Mr. B. R.
 NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
 NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
 PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
 PATEL, Mr. A. E.
 PATEL, Mr. D. N.
 PATEL, Mr. G. I.
 PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED KHAN
 PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
 PATIL, Mr. D. R.
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 PIR RASULBAKSH SHAH
 POWAR, Mr. M. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 PRATT, Mr. F. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSENALLY M.
 SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
 SAPTARSHI, Mr. C. M.
 SARDESAI, Mr. S. A.
 SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH
 SAYED MUHAMMAD KAMIL SHAH
 SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
 SEDGWICK, Mr. L. J.
 SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO, Mr.
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
 SURVE, Mr. A. N.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.

SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
 THAKOR OF KERWADA, the
 THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
 TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
 VELKAR, Dr. M. B.
 WILES, Mr. G.
 WOODS, Mr. E. E.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Order, order. Questions.

SIND ALLOWANCE FOR PRIMARY TEACHERS.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that according to Press Note No. 560, dated the 3rd December 1923, primary teachers in Sind are entitled to the Sind allowance ?

(b) Is it a fact that the Director of Public Instruction has issued orders to the effect that teachers who were not permanent on, or were appointed after, the 1st July 1923 should not get this allowance ?

(c) If so, do Government intend to take any action in this connection ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a), (b) and (c) The Sind allowance is admissible only to those teachers who were permanent on 30th June 1923, and whose pay has been fixed according to the scales laid down in the memorandum accompanying the Press Note (*vide* paragraph 1 of the memorandum). It is not admissible to teachers appointed on or after 1st July 1923. The question of taking action in the matter does not therefore arise.

COMPENSATORY ALLOWANCE : SUBORDINATE OFFICERS IN BOMBAY,
 POONA, THANA AND KARACHI.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): Will Government be pleased to state whether they intend to grant compensatory allowance to subordinate officers, *i.e.*, non-gazetted ministerial and non-ministerial officers in the several departments of Government in Bombay, Poona, Thana and Karachi, and, if so, when are the orders to that effect likely to be issued ?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: The honourable member is referred to the answer given to his next question.

COMPENSATORY OR PROVINCIAL ALLOWANCE TO NON-GAZETTED
 MINISTERIAL OFFICERS AND SERVANTS.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they intend to give compensatory allowance to the non-gazetted ministerial officers and menial servants serving at Bombay, Karachi, Poona and Salsette ?

(b) If so, when and at what rate ?

(c) Will it be given retrospective effect as in the case of gazetted officers under Government Resolution No. 2837 dated 5th December 1923, Finance Department ?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: The question of giving allowances to those officers and establishments which do not already receive adequate allowances, or have not had their pay revised, is still under the consideration of Government.

The granting of allowances to menial servants is not under consideration.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR: May I know why the granting of allowance to menial servants has not been taken into consideration ?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: For the reason that those menial servants have had their pay revised, and the pay is now considered sufficient to attract such servants and give them a living wage.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: May I know approximately the time when the Government will come to a decision with regard to the giving of allowances to those officers and establishments which do not already receive adequate allowances, or have not had their pay revised ?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: It is a difficult and intricate question and I cannot give the honourable member a definite answer.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: I don't want a definite reply: only approximate time.

An Honourable MEMBER: When was their pay revised ?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: At different times from 1919 onwards.

Mr. D. R. PATIL: What is the maximum and minimum pay of the menial servants ?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: I want notice of that question.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE PRESIDENCY.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): Will Government be pleased to state whether they have noticed the growing unemployment in the Presidency, and what steps they have taken or propose to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Government have not so far received any reports indicating that unemployment exists to an extent requiring official interference.

Government's Famine Relief Code provides for the automatic relief of unemployment in time of scarcity in the mofussil. But recent experience has shown that bad seasons send far fewer persons on to relief works than formerly and there is at the present time a scarcity of agricultural labour.

Government are not aware that at present any unemployment exists among the working classes in Bombay City and as regards the middle

classes reference is invited to the reply which will shortly be given to the honourable member nominated for Bombay City.

VISHRAMBAG BUILDINGS, POONA.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City) : Has the attention of Government been drawn to the fact that the ordinary amenities and conveniences of life are lacking in the Vishrambag Buildings in the City of Poona ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : A reference is requested to the reply given to a similar* question last Sessions.

NEW ENGLISH SCHOOL AT BHALOD.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state how many Anglo-Vernacular schools in East Khandesh had unqualified teachers on their staff at the time of their recognition ?

(b) Why the recognition of the New English School at Bhalod in East Khandesh has been withheld ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) The information is not available.

(b) The New English School at Bhalod has now been recognised provisionally for this year and the next.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI : Will the Honourable Member please direct enquiries to be made to ascertain the number of unqualified teachers in the Anglo-vernacular schools at the time of recognition.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Every school is examined before recognition by the deputy educational inspector and an enquiry can be made then.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI : Will the result of the enquiry be made known to the House ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : When it is received.

GRIEVANCES REGARDING GRAZING FEES IN EAST KHANDESH.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of applications submitted to the sub-divisional forest officer and the Collector of East Khandesh in connection with grazing fees and grievances arising therefrom ?

(b) If so, have Government taken any steps in the matter ? If so, what action has been taken ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : (a) and (b) The Collector received 15 applications during 1924 for reduction of grazing fees, one for free grazing on account of drought, and one for refund of grazing fee, charged for cattle *en route* to the Indore State territory. Out of the

* Vide Vol. XIII, pp. 164, 165.

above 15 cases, the penal rates were reduced in two cases and in one case the rate was reduced to normal and in the remaining 12 cases the penal rates were confirmed on account of serious cattle trespass or failure on the part of villagers to help in the extinction of fires that occurred in the forests. The application for free grazing on account of drought was rejected as it was found on enquiry that the grievances were not real, and as the supposed signatory disavowed sending it. As regards the application for the refund of grazing fees charged for cattle *en route* to the Indore territory, it was rejected, as it was found on enquiry that the cattle grazed in the British territory. The Divisional Forest Officer received 18 applications against the levy of penal rates, in all of which the penal rates were ordered either on account of serious cattle trespass or failure to give assistance in the case of extinction of fire and the penal rates were therefore confirmed except in two cases in which they were reversed.

TRANSFER OF TALATIS IN EAST KHANDESH.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of talatis in East Khandesh who have been at present appointed for villages including their own native place?

(b) For how many years they have been posted in their native places?

(c) From how many villages applications for the transfer of the talati have been received by the Collector of East Khandesh during the last two years?

(d) How many talatis have been transferred on account of such applications?

(e) Whether one of the grounds urged in these applications was that the talatis had been in their own villages for more than five years?

(f) Were any inquiries made in connection with these applications?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Information has been called for.

GRANT OF LANDS TO GOVERNMENT SERVANTS AND OTHERS AFTER THE WAR.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of acres of land granted since the end of the war to Government servants including military servants and private persons in this presidency, giving the number of acres given to each person, his name, caste, kind of service rendered by him and the villages and talukas in which the lands are situate?

(b) How many acres out of such lands were pasture land?

(c) Have Government made any provision for the villages whose pasture lands have been thus disposed of?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Information has been called for.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I desire to read the answer to question No. 11 by the honourable member Mr. Bole, because

I have referred the honourable member for Poona City (Mr. Bhopatkar) to the reply to that question.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Will the Honourable Member please wait till the questions are disposed of. The honourable member Mr. Bole may come in the meantime. If he does not come, then I will try to arrange that the honourable member is able to do so.

SALARY OF PRIMARY TEACHERS.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(1) whether they intend to add the annual increments in the salary of primary teachers to the datum line every year from 1925?

(2) If the reply to the above be in the negative, will Government be pleased to state what action they propose to take in case the local authorities refuse to bear the ever increasing salaries of teachers after the schools are transferred to them?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (1) No.

(2) The question will be considered if and when the occasion arises.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: Will Government be pleased to state in what proportion they are prepared to bear the burden of the expenses on account of increased salary to primary teachers?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: It is presumed there would be no additional burden on the district local boards, because highly paid teachers will retire and teachers on the lowest rung will be employed in the vacancy.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: If Government increase the salary will they bear the burden?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: It will be considered when the question arises.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS FOR BACKWARD CLASSES IN GUJARAT DISTRICTS.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state how many special and central primary schools for backward classes are in existence in each of the Gujarat districts and the year in which they were opened?

(b) Are the Government aware that there are no such schools in the Ahmedabad district and only one in the Kaira district?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state whether there are any such central schools for depressed classes in Gujarat?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Information has been called for.

STAFF OF THE SIR J. J. SCHOOL OF ART, BOMBAY.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(1) whether it is a fact that the School of Art, Bombay (Sir J. J. School of Art), is not provided with the full complement of scheduled staff;

(2) whether it is true that there is no vice-principal and that the principal's time is taken up by other duties than those of teaching ;

(3) how long the post of vice-principal has remained vacant ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (1), (2) and (3) Information has been called for.

CONVERSION OF PREMCHAND ROYCHAND TRAINING COLLEGE
INTO A SCHOOL.

* Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : (a) Is it true that the Premchand Roychand Training College at Ahmedabad has been reduced into a school and placed under a head master in the subordinate educational service ? If so, what are the reasons for the change ?

(b) How many other training colleges in the presidency have been converted into schools and for what reasons ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state how many students in each of the institutions mentioned in the previous question receive Government or local board or municipal stipends or scholarships ?

(d) How many Mahomedan students are there in the Premchand Roychand Training College and how many of them receive Government stipends and scholarships ? How many Hindus belonging to backward communities are there in the above college and how many of them receive Government stipends and scholarships ?

(e) Is it true that the head master of the Premchand Roychand Training School (as it is now called) has under him three separate training institutions, namely, an Urdu school, a Gujarati school and the " practising " school ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) and (b) These parts have already been answered.

(c) The following statement gives the information required :—

| Name of Institution. | Number of Government, local board and municipal stipendiary students. |
|------------------------------------|---|
| (1) Training College, Ahmedabad .. | 116 |
| (2) Training College, Dharwar .. | 20 |

(d) The following statement gives the information required :—

| Class of students. | Total number. | Number receiving Government stipends. |
|--------------------|---------------|---|
| Mahomedan .. | 77 | 50 |
| Hindu Backward .. | 49 | 13 |

(e) The Head Master of the Premchand Roychand Training College has under him as administrative head both the Gujarati and the Urdu Training Classes, and the Gujarati and Urdu Practising schools attached to them, but all the teaching arrangements of the Urdu Training Classes and the Urdu Practising School are under the direct supervision of a separate officer, viz., the Head Master of the Urdu Training Classes.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : What is the reason for not giving him the appellation of Principal ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Because Government find that the present appellation is quite sufficient.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : What has become of removing the Urdu training class ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Orders have been issued to that effect.

DUTIES OF THE INSPECTOR OF DRAWING AND CRAFT WORK.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state what were the duties originally assigned to the present Inspector of Drawing and Craft Work and what changes have since been made in his position and the reasons for the changes ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The information is being collected.

CLERICAL ESTABLISHMENTS OF THE SIR J. J. SCHOOL OF ARTS AND OF THE INSPECTOR OF DRAWING AND CRAFT WORK.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(i) the number of persons on the clerical establishments of the Principal, Sir J. J. School of Arts, and of the Inspector of Drawing and Craft Work ; and

(ii) the amount of expenditure incurred on each of the above two establishments ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : As regards the number of clerks on the establishments of the Principal, Sir J. J. School of Art, and the amount of expenditure incurred on account of them, attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply* given to an identical question put by Mr. M. R. Jayakar at the last session of the Legislative Council. There are three clerks on the establishment of the Inspector of Drawing and Craft Work and the expenditure on account of these clerks is Rs. 3,092 per annum.

ABOLITION OF FREE-HAND DRAWING EXAMINATION.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that they have issued orders to discontinue the teaching of free-hand drawing and have abolished it in the elementary and intermediate examinations in drawing in the schools of this presidency ? Will they be pleased to lay on the table the orders issued in the matter ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether the Principal, School of Art, Bombay, was consulted in regard to the proposal for the abolition of free-hand drawing in the elementary and intermediate drawing

* Vide Vol. XIII page 799.

examinations? If so, will Government be pleased to place on the table a copy of his opinion?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state on whose recommendation the orders referred to above were issued?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state whether persons competent to judge of Art matters were consulted before issuing the orders for the abolition of free-hand drawing? If so, please state the names of such persons?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) Yes. Government regret that they cannot place on the table the orders issued by them in the matter as these are intended only for the information and guidance of their officers.

(b) Yes. A copy of the Principal's opinion cannot be placed on the table for the reasons given in reply to the latter portion of part (a) of the question.

(c) The orders were issued on the recommendation of the Director of Public Instruction.

(d) No one, except the officials of the School of Art.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: Is not this Council competent to read those orders intended for the guidance of officers?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: It is not proposed to publish the order.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: When requested by a member of this House, is it not the practice to place such orders on the table?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Not on all occasions.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: I want to know the speciality on this occasion?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: If you give notice I shall see whether it can be supplied.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: As regards (c) is the Director of Instruction an artist?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: He is the head of the department.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: Is he an artist?

(No reply).

DESIGNS OF THE BOMBAY GENERAL POST OFFICE AND THE GATEWAY OF INDIA.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state who designed the General Post Office near Victoria Terminus station and the person who designed the Gateway of India?

Will Government be pleased to state the total amount spent on the construction of each of the above two buildings?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: The General Post Office near Victoria Terminus station was designed

by Mr. John Begg, F.R.I.B.A., late Consulting Architect to the Government of Bombay, and was constructed at a cost of Rs. 18 lakhs exclusive of the site which was valued at the time (1905) at Rs. 9,25,000.

The Gateway of India was designed by Mr. George Wittet, F.R.I.B.A., formerly Consulting Architect to the Government of Bombay, and was constructed at a cost of Rs. 12 lakhs, exclusive of the site, which was reclaimed from the sea at a cost of Rs. 8 lakhs including the new sea wall.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : Have both these officers left the service ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Yes.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : Is the Gateway of India to cost Rs. 26 lakhs as estimated in the budget, or Rs. 12 lakhs ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSIAN : I should like to ask for notice of the question.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : Do the Government pay any rent for the Post Office building ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : The Post Office belongs to the Central Government.

SCHOLARSHIPS TO POTTERY CLASS STUDENTS IN THE BOMBAY SCHOOL OF ART.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(1) how many students there are in the pottery class attached to the School of Art, Bombay, and how many of them are given scholarships ?

(2) the amount spent annually on the pottery class in the School of Art ?

(3) the salary of the superintendent of the pottery class ?

(4) what type of pottery work is being taught in the class ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (1), (2) and (4) Information has been called for.

(3) Rs. 700 per mensem.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : When is Government going to abolish the whole thing.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : That depends on the vote of the Council.

PRINCE OF WALES MUSEUM.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state whether their attention has been drawn to the inconvenient lighting arrangements in the art section of the Prince of Wales Museum ? If so, will they be pleased to state what steps they propose to suggest to the Trustees to remedy this defect in the construction of the building ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Yes.

2. The Trustees of the Board of the Prince of Wales Museum have long been aware of the defective lighting arrangements of the picture galleries and have done what they could by means of blocking up the lunettes to exclude the cross lights which were found to conflict. The upper windows have been painted white in default of being made of ground glass so as to exclude the sunlight and green curtains have also been added. Owing to want of funds the Board is not able to make further improvements.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : Was the Prince of Wales Museum designed by the same architect who designed the General Post Office and the Gateway of India?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : I would ask for notice of the question.

SATARA MUSEUM AND ART COLLECTION OF RAO BAHADUR PARASNIS.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the well-known art collection of Rao Bahadur Parasnisi is to be sold outside India, and if so, whether they propose to take any steps in the matter?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the space in the museum at Satara is not sufficient to accommodate the whole of the Parasnisi collection and that many of the old paintings will be left out for want of space?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state the terms on which Rao Bahadur Parasnisi is prepared to hand over to the nation his collection?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Enquiries are being made.

WATER WORKS AT PILGRIM CENTRES.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(1) the number of pilgrim centres in which Government have constructed water works at their own expense or given free grants to the municipalities for constructing such works;

(2) the amount of such grants and the total expenditure on the water works in each case where the municipalities have constructed the water works?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN :

(1) Pandharpur, Nasik and Trimbak.

| | Total Expen- diture. | Government grant. |
|-----------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| | Rs. | Rs. |
| (2) Nasik | 5,55,967 | 3,47,726 |
| Trimbak | 1,56,920 | 1,56,920 |

The total cost of the Pandharpur water works was Rs. 5,16,445 which has been wholly borne by Government.

Rao Sahab D. P. DESAI : Why is Dakore, which is also a pilgrim centre, left out ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : I would refer the honourable member to his question.

Rao Sahab D. P. DESAI : Yes, but what are the reasons for leaving out Dakore ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : It is under consideration.

Rao Sahab D. P. DESAI : May I understand that the construction of water works in Dakore is under consideration by Government ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Yes.

BAD CLIMATE ALLOWANCE : TALATIS IN WEST KHANDESH.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(1) whether it is true that a talati in Pimpalner and Dahivel circles in West Khandesh gets only rupees two per month as bad climate allowance, whereas a police constable in the same circles gets rupees five ?

(2) Whether it is also true that a talati in Navapur Taluka in West Khandesh gets rupees five per month as bad climate allowance ?

(3) Whether there are any reasons for such discriminations, and, if so, what are they ?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : (1) Yes.

(2) Yes.

(3) The question of revising the rates of bad climate allowances at various places is under consideration of Government.

DEMONSTRATION FACTORY FOR SCREW JARS.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(1) whether they have sanctioned any sum for a demonstration factory for screw jars at the J. J. School of Arts ?

(2) If so, what is the sum sanctioned for it ?

(3) Whether it was represented to them before the sum was sanctioned that such jars were not manufactured anywhere else in the presidency ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (1) and (2) Government have sanctioned various amounts for the Demonstration Pottery Factory at the Sir J. J. School of Arts which has been opened with a view to demonstrate and teach the designing and the manufacture of all classes of pottery and not only screw jars. No particular sum of money has been sanctioned for the manufacture of screw jars only.

(3) This question does not arise.

Mr. S. S. DEV: Are Government aware that the manufacture of pottery is more successful at the Paisa Fund Talegaon factory than in the Government School of Art, Bombay?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Government are not aware of it.

POTTERY DEPARTMENT ATTACHED TO J. J. SCHOOL OF ART.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(1) in what year the Pottery Department attached to the J. J. School of Arts was started?

(2) What sum has so far been spent on the department?

(3) How many students in pottery did the department turn out so far and where are they posted?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (1) 1913.

(2) and (3) Information has been called for.

EXPORTATION OF CATTLE.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(1) how many cattle were exported from the ports in the presidency in the year commencing from 1st April 1922 and ending on 31st March 1923?

(2) Of these cattle, how many were cows, how many were buffaloes and how many were bullocks?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (1) The information has been published in the Annual Statement of the Trade and Navigation of the Presidency of Bombay (excluding Sind) and in the Annual Statement of the Trade and Navigation of the Province of Sind for 1922-23 to which the honourable member is referred.

(2) The figures are not available on the records of the Government of Bombay. As the Customs Department which compiles the foreign trade statistics is now directly under the Government of India, the honourable member may apply to that Government for the necessary information.

SLAUGHTER OF CATTLE.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(1) how many cattle were slaughtered in the presidency in the year commencing from 1st April 1922 and ending on 31st March 1923;

(2) of these cattle, how many were cows, buffaloes and bullocks?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Information is being obtained.

COLLECTION FOR ADDRESS TO EDUCATION MINISTER.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a sum of about one thousand

rupees was recently collected by some patils and Government servants for defraying the necessary expenses for presenting an address to the Honourable Mr. B. V. Jadhav, the present Minister of Education, in taluka Junnar, district Poona ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : The address was presented by the taluka local board on the Shivneri fort at the request of the Shivneri Committee. The local board sanctioned Rs. 25 for presenting the address and the Shivneri Committee collected Rs. 450-8-0 for celebrating and illuminating the birth-place of Shivaji.

Mr. V. R. KOTHARI : Is it true that the Shivneri Committee consisted chiefly of village patils and Government servants ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I have no information.

PAY OF LOWER SUBORDINATE ESTABLISHMENT OF GOVERNMENT.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District) : Will Government be pleased to furnish the dates from which the several scales of the pay of the lower subordinate establishments were improved in the Educational, Revenue, Judicial, Registration, Forests, Abkari, Police, Public Works Department and other principal departments of the public service showing at the same time the extent of the improvement in each case ?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : Information is being collected.

ENGLISH TEACHING IN VERNACULAR STANDARDS.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District) : Will Government be pleased to state the reasons why they have not taken any action under Government Resolution No. 605 of 12th June 1922 and 1st July 1923, Educational Department, in the Poona district, for teaching English to boys and girls of vernacular standards V to VII in schools with full primary course ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The attachment of English classes to standards V, VI and VII of first grade primary schools was first tried as an experimental measure only in twenty selected places in the whole of the presidency including Sind. The circumstances under which the experiment could not be extended by Government are explained in their Press Note No. 605, dated the 1st September 1923, to which the honourable member's attention is invited.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Is the Honourable Minister aware that such classes are very badly needed for Urdu primary schools, and, if so, is it under consideration to supply that need ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : That has not been brought to my notice.

PERSONS OF HIGH RANK IN POONA EXEMPT FROM JURISDICTION OF COURTS.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District) : Will Government be pleased to give the names of persons against whom action cannot be

taken, owing to the high rank, staying in the Poona district, in ordinary courts, civil or criminal ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : The only person in the Poona district who is exempt from the jurisdiction of the ordinary Civil Courts is Sardar Lakshmibai, widow of Chimarrao Vithal Purandhare. No such exemption is enjoyed by any person in criminal matters.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR : Why is this lady exempted ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Because the rest have died.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR : There are so many other Sardars in Poona among whom this lady is one. I want to know why the other Sardars are not similarly exempted.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : The list of persons who were entitled to this exemption was prepared many years ago, and all the exemptees except this lady have since died.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : Are not the heirs of the Sardars on the list entitled to the exemption ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : The exemptions do not apply except to those on the original list.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF PILGRIMS TO MECCA.

Mr. HOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City) : Will Government be pleased to state (a) How many medical men have been appointed by them at Kamaran for the medical examination of pilgrims to Mecca and at what cost ?

(b) Is it a fact that the pilgrims are twice examined, first at the port of embarkation and then at Aden before reaching Kamaran ?

(c) What is the amount of pilgrim dues which every pilgrim has to pay at Kamaran while there for medical examination ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : (a) The following medical staff has been sanctioned by the Government of India in connection with the Kamaran Lazaretto :—

(i) *Permanent.*

- 1 Chief Medical Officer at Rs. 750—50—1,000 per mensem.
- 1 Medical Officer at Rs. 450—50—700 per mensem.
- 1 Lady Doctor at Rs. 450—50—700 per mensem.
- 1 Sub-Assistant Surgeon at Rs. 150—10—290 per mensem.
- 1 Laboratory Assistant and Compounder at Rs. 100—5—150 per mensem.

(ii) *Temporary.*

- 1 Medical Officer at Rs. 450 per mensem.
- 3 Sub-Assistant Surgeons at double Indian pay per mensem (average about Rs. 200 per mensem).
- 1 Compounder (if necessary) at Rs. 75 per mensem.
- 1 Cook at Rs. 30 per mensem.
- 1 Female servant (if necessary) at Rs. 30 per mensem.

- 1 Dhobi at Rs. 30 per mensem.
- 2 Male Attendants at Rs. 30 each per mensem.
- 1 Messenger at Rs. 20 per mensem.
- 1 Head Sweeper at Rs. 25 per mensem.
- 2 Nurses at Rs. 100 each.

(b) It is a fact that pilgrims are medically examined at the port of embarkation. Inquiry is being made as to whether they are examined again at Aden.

(c) Rs. 10.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: Will the Honourable Member enquire how many of these higher medical officers are Indian Mahomedans?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: If the honourable member will ask a separate question, I will get him the information.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: Is he in a position to do so?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Certainly.

HAKKADAR KULKARNI OF HANGAL, DHARWAR DISTRICT.

* Mr. V. N. JOG (Dharwar District): Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a notice has been issued by the Deputy Collector, Second Division, Dharwar, to one Mr. Motiram, a hakkadar of Hangal, to show cause why he should not be disqualified as a hakkadar kulkarni on the ground that he lent the use of his open plot for the District Conference at Hangal in April last?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Yes.

Mr. V. N. JOG: Under what section of the Watan Act was this notice issued?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: I may explain to the honourable member that it is perfectly true that the deputy collector issued this notice under section 58 of the Watan Act. He was wrong in doing so. The Commissioner has reported that the notice should have issued under section 45 (e) of the Watan Act.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR: Is it an offence on the part of a watan-dar to lend his plot of land or house to any body for the purposes of conference or meetings of any kind?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: I do not think so.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA: Then why was this man disqualified?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: I have already explained that the deputy collector issued the notice under section 58, but the Commissioner has directed notice under section 45 (e). The notice was issued not for his lending the plot of land for the conference but for repeated misconduct since 1921.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : What was the repeated misconduct overlooked up to the date the notice was given ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : If the honourable member will give notice, I shall have it enquired into.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : How long after the loan of the plot for the conference was action taken ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I cannot give you the exact date without notice.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : (Asked a question which was inaudible).

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : If the honourable member will give me notice, I will give full particulars. But I may mention to the honourable House that the matter is under investigation.

IRRIGATION IN THE DHARWAR DISTRICT.

Mr. V. N. JOG (Dharwar District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether any irrigation survey has ever been made or any irrigation schemes prepared in connection with any of the rivers, the Tungabhadra, the Malaprabha and the Vardha in the Dharwar District ?

(b) Are they aware that scarcity of water and famines are frequent occurrences in the Nargund petha and Ron taluka of the Dharwar District.

(c) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have any schemes in contemplation for the alleviation of this condition ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : (a) No irrigation schemes has been considered in connection with the Tungabhadra river. Investigations regarding irrigation schemes in connection with the Malaprabha and Vardha rivers were made in 1897 and 1911 respectively. They were abandoned in the case of Malaprabha river as likely to lead to small benefit and financial return against very heavy expenditure and in the case of the Vardha river because of the difficulty in finding a suitable site for a weir and of the submersion of much land in Mysore territory.

(b) No. Scarcity of water occurs in some villages of the Nargund petha and Ron taluka and consequently grant-in-aid to the extent of the amounts noted below have been sanctioned by Government for the improvement of water supply : —

(1) Rs. 15,000 for repairs to the tank at Nargund.

(2) Rs. 1,000 for repairs to the tank at Bhairankatti in the Nargund petha.

(3) Rs. 1,000 (Provisional grant) was made last year for repairs to the tank at Mollapur in the Ron taluka.

(c) A small scheme for repairing tanks has been under preparation and some work has been done. Some good results are expected to be achieved in a few years.

KULKARNI WATAN IN HANGAL TALUKA.

*Mr. V. N. JOG (Dharwar District): (i) Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of watandar kulkarnis in the Hangal taluka who surrendered their hereditary rights to officiate as kulkarnis to Government in 1916-17, and

(b) the number of applications which were subsequently made by the said kulkarnis to Government complaining of their surrender as having been involuntary or not made of free will?

(ii) Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) what was the total annual amount of potgi given to these kulkarnis in the Hangal taluka before they surrendered their rights, and

(b) what is the total amount of pay now given to the talatis appointed in their places, as well as the total of the one-third allowances which are being paid to the kulkarnis who have relinquished their hereditary rights?

(iii) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are financially gainers by this arrangement? If not, do they intend to take any action in this connection?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA:

(i) (a) 28.

(b) No record is kept of such applications, if any.

(ii) (a) Rs. 2, 596-5-0.

(b) Rs. 3,722 and Rs. 574-15-2.

(iii) Government are not gainers financially by the arrangement, . . . but the work done by the talatis is decidedly superior to that of the watandar kulkarnis. It is therefore not intended to modify the arrangement.

PRINCIPAL OF POLICE TRAINING SCHOOL AT NASIK.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the duties of the Principal of the Police Training School at Nasik;

(b) the qualifications and the rank of the Principal of the said School;

(c) the salary with allowances attached to the post of the said Principal;

(d) whether the said Principal is expected to deliver any lecture at the school, and if so, the number of lectures he is expected to deliver annually and the number actually delivered by him during the year 1924?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a) General supervision and the special duties laid down in rule 116 of Chapter V of Volume I of the Bombay District Police Manual.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

(b) A competent officer capable of maintaining the discipline and tone of the school is specially selected. His rank is that of Superintendent of Police.

(c) A special allowance of Rs. 100 a month *plus* time-scale pay as Superintendent of Police.

(d) It is usual for him to deliver lectures as occasion may require but lectures are not specially prescribed for the Principal.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : My queries in part (d) of the question are not fully answered. What was the number actually delivered by the principal during the year 1924 ? That question has not been answered.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I must refer the honourable member to the answer to (d) as printed.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : In view of the answer given in (d), may I know why the charge has not been given to the district superintendent of police, Nasik ? Why is the district police superintendent not kept in charge of the school in view of the answer in (d) ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Because the district superintendent of police is busily engaged in maintaining law and order in the large district of Nasik.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : May I know if the difficulty could not be removed by having an additional deputy superintendent of police ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : It could not.

CIVIL COURT WORK OF RAVER TALUKA.

2. Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District) : Are Government aware (a) that the people in some parts of the Raver taluka (East Khandesh) have, in the rainy season, to go to Yawal for civil court purposes, *via* Bhusawal.

(b) that this inconvenience could be remedied by attaching such part of Raver taluka to Bhusawal civil court or by posting a sub-judge at Raver for some part of the year ?

(c) If the reply to (a) and (b) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state what steps they intend to take in the matter.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : (a) and (b) Yes.

(c) It is proposed to include the whole of the Raver taluka in the Sub-Court of Bhusawal.

Mr. D. R. PATIL : Within how much time will this whole of the Raver taluka be included in the sub-court of Bhusawal ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I could not say without notice.

AMENDMENT OF COURT FEES ACT.

1. Mr. S. T. KAMBLI (Dharwar District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government of India have consulted the Government of Bombay with regard to the proposed amendment of the Court Fees Act ?

(b) if so, have the Bombay Government considered this question ?
 (c) if so, have they submitted their views and opinions thereon to the Government of India ?

(d) If so, will a copy of the same be placed on the Council table ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : (a), (b) and (c) Yes.

(d) This Government is precluded by rules from publishing its communications with the Government of India.

MR. HONAVAR, SUB-JUDGE.

Mr. S. T. KAMBLI (Dharwar District): Will Government be pleased to give the caste and age of Mr. Honavar, whose appointment as Sub-Judge was notified in the *Bombay Government Gazette* of the 20th November 1924 ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD, : Mr. Honavar is 30 years of age and belongs to the Bandi caste of non-Brahmin Hindus.

PLAYING OF MUSIC ON PUBLIC ROADS IN KARWAR.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that, when in October 1922, the honorary Secretaries of the local Congress Committee of Karwar applied for permission for playing music along with the procession in connection with the visit of Mr. Gangadharrao Deshpande and Mr. Majali of Belgaum to that place, the said permission was refused without any reasons being assigned by the then town magistrate of Karwar ?

(b) Is it a fact that the procession was held without music and that no disturbance to public peace and tranquillity was caused thereby ?

(c) If so, will Government be pleased to state what was the object in not allowing music to be played on the above occasion ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : (a) and (b) In the affirmative.

(c) It is presumed a breach of the peace was apprehended by the Town Magistrate.

TRANSPORT OF TIMBER.

* Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether in Kanara or in any other place in the presidency any of the following kinds of work have been done or undertaken by them for transporting timber from the forests to depôts :

1. Extension of railway.
2. Improvement of waterways.
3. Construction of slides and flumes.
4. Organisation and installation of mechanical road transport.

(b) If so, will they be pleased to state—

(i) the place where they were undertaken :

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

(ii) the date of commencement and completion of such works in each case and the amount of money expended on such works ;

(iii) whether they are still existing and serving the purpose for which they were constructed ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) and (b) Yes.

1. Extension of Railway.

(i) A railway was constructed from Alnawar to Dandeli in Kanara, N. D.

(ii) The work was commenced in January 1917 and the line opened to traffic in February 1919; the capital expenditure on the work up to the end of March 1924 is Rs. 8,86,819-0-10.

(iii) The railway line is still in existence and it is serving the purpose for which it was constructed.

No other extension of railway has been undertaken. Projects for a light feeder railway between Potoli and Dandeli in N. D., Kanara, and a 2' 6" gauge railway from Jharia to Pimpri in the Surat Dangs have been investigated and worked out.

The construction of the former was undertaken in the year 1922; but the project was not continued as the Madras and Southern Maratha Railway gave notice of their intention to stop from 1925 onwards their demand for wood fuel for the supply of which mainly the project was undertaken. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,89,411. There has been no expenditure on the second mentioned railway.

2. Improvement of Waterways.

In 1917-18, the Kaneri River was improved for floating logs and this proved most successful. The amount spent was Rs. 8,744. Floating in this river is still being carried on.

3. Construction of Slides.

Three slides have been constructed and worked in Gund, West Kanara Division, with great success.

A.—Jogle Slide.

(i) In the middle of compartment XI-10 in Kanara, W. D.

(ii) Originally constructed by Mr. V. A. Coelho, Forest Contractor, at his expense in about 1903 or 1904. Rs. 150 were spent by Government for repairs in 1908-09 and Rs. 14 in 1909-10.

(iii) Still existing, but not used at present as work is not going on that side. It will be used when compartments XI-10, X-19, 20 and 21 are worked.

B.—Old Hologadda Slide in Kanara, W. D.

(i) At north end of compartment XI-6.

| Year. | Amount. Rs. a. p. | |
|---------|----------------------|---|
| 1912-13 | .. 110- 5-0 | (ii) Started in 1909-10 and completed in 1910-11 at a total cost of Rs. 2,701. The marginally noted expenditure was incurred for repairs in Northern Division, Kanara, and a further expenditure of Rs. 1,130-6-0 was incurred in W. D., Kanara, in 1916-17 on transfer of the Gund Range to that Division for blasting rocks which were damaging the logs. |
| 1913-14 | .. 55-10-9 | |
| 1914-15 | .. 138-10-6 | |
| 1915-16 | .. 448-15-0 | |
| 1916-17 | .. 15- 5-0 | |
| Total | | 766-14-3 |

(iii) Now out of use. It was worked for about 10 years. As continuous sliding exposed a large rock which damaged the logs, this slide was abandoned in favour of the present Hologadda Slide.

C.—The present Hologadda Slide in Kanara, W. D.

- (i) About a furlong south of B (the old slide).
- (ii) Constructed in 1917-18 at a cost of Rs. 1,551-8-0. Special repairs, *i.e.*, paving with jamba blocks—were executed in 1921-22 at a cost of Rs. 914-10-0.
- (iii) Still in use and working satisfactorily.

4. Mechanical Transport.

(a) A start in this branch has been made in North Kanara Division. One Steam Tractor and Trailer has been purchased and worked for one working season, 1923-24. The cost of the outfit was Rs. 21,750. The work of this branch is being continued and is very successful.

(b) (i) A Fowler traction Engine was used for transport of timber from Gobral to Tavargatti in the Southern Circle.

(ii) The engine was purchased in July 1912 and it worked till the end of March 1913. The engine could not be continued on transport work as the ordinary Public Works Department road from Travargatti to Gobral, an 8½ mile run, broke up very badly under pressure of it and was quite unfit for further work of this nature. The engine is therefore used for working a saw mill.

The price of the machinery was Rs. 24,698, and other expenses amounted to Rs. 3,304-10-6.

(iii) The machine is at present working in the Dandeli Mill for sawing timber.

(c) A Fowler road train was purchased in 1913-14 at a cost of Rs. 31,014 for the better transport of timber in the Dangs. Owing to the unsuitability of the roads in the Dangs, its use for this purpose had to be discontinued after its first trip. The engine is now being used in a saw mill.

REALISATION OF LAND REVENUE IN KANARA.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether they have called for any report as regards the extent and manner of the use of major and minor coercive processes in Kanara

by the district administration in realising the land revenue during the year 1922-23 ?

(b) If so, will they be pleased to lay the whole correspondence on the question on the Council table ?

(c) Was the application of such processes made with the sanction of Government ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA.

(a) No.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Mr. M. D. KARKI : Did not Government notice that severe coercive measures were taken in realising land revenue in the 1922-23. Did it not come to the notice of Government ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I am afraid it did not come to the notice of Government.

Mr. M. D. KARKI : Is it not a fact that Kanara was singled out in that year in respect of this matter ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : No ; I don't think so.

MALNAD IMPROVEMENT SCHEME.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether their attention has been drawn to the scheme known as Malnad Improvement Scheme introduced by the Government of Mysore, the various provisions of which were set out by the District Deputy Collector, Sirsi Division, Kanara, in his report on the revenue administration of his Division for the year 1919-20 (*vide* extracts of his report quoted in the Land Revenue Administration Report of the Bombay Presidency for the year 1919-20) ?

(b) If so, have they made any enquiry into the said scheme, and if so, what has been the result of the enquiry ? Will they be pleased to place on the Council table any literature dealing with the said scheme that they may be in possession of ?

(c) Do Government intend to take any action in this connection, besides what is referred to by the said District Deputy Collector in his report abovementioned ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) Yes.

(b) No regular enquiry was made ; the District Deputy Collector, Sirsi Division, in his Land Revenue Administration Report for 1920-21, wrote as follows :—

(1) " It is understood that the Malnad Improvement Scheme of the Mysore State which attracted and took away some of the cultivators from Honavar and Siddapur talukas to that State in previous years has not proved a success and is not being worked with enthusiasm. "

(2) " grants of lands are being made in this (Kanara) district to *bona fide* self-cultivators on very liberal terms, namely, waste lands fit to grow rice and ragi are given free of occupancy price and free of assessment for two years and at reduced assessment for a further term of three years, and abandoned betelnut gardens which

cannot be maintained as garden and are fit for rice cultivation are given out on similar concessions at tari rates. In localities where there are no sources of potable water-supply within easy reach wells are dug out and constructed at Government expense."

(c) No.

FOREST PASTURE AND FODDER RESERVE.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to state:—

(a) Whether there are forest pastures and fodder reserves either in Kanara or elsewhere in the Presidency?

(b) If so, the places or localities where they exist together with the names, acreage and the average annual income of each of them?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) and (b) The total area of forest pastures and fodder reserves in each district is given in form No. 51-D. appended to the Annual Administration Report of the Forest Department for the year 1922-23 to which the attention of the honourable member is invited. The collection of the other information asked for by the honourable member would require an undue amount of time and labour. Government therefore regret they cannot undertake it.

AREA AVAILABLE FOR GRAZING OF CATTLE.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to state the quantity of pasture land available for grazing of cattle in this Presidency?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: The area of land open to grazing of all animals is 3,104 square miles and to all animals except browsers is 9,181 square miles.

Mr. M. D. KARKI: Is this "9,181 square miles" inclusive or exclusive of the forests?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: I think it is exclusive of the forests.

FODDER CROP OR GRASS AREA IN THE PRESIDENCY.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the area of land on which fodder crops are grown by the people in this province and the average quantity of fodder crops grown per acre;

(b) whether they have found it necessary to encourage the growing of more fodder crops;

(c) if so, what steps have they taken in the matter?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) Attention of the honourable member is invited to the latest Season and Crop Report of the Presidency.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

SLAUGHTER OF BOVINE CATTLE.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of slaughter houses in the Presidency and the names of places where they are situated?

(b) the exact number (or in the absence of exact number, fairly approximate number) of bovine cattle classified according to their kinds that are annually slaughtered for food and hide in each of the said slaughter houses?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Information is being obtained.

DEFICIENCY OF LIVE-STOCK AND AGRICULTURE.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) What is the existing number of cattle and the area of arable lands under cultivation both in Kanara and the presidency?

(b) What is the present extent of arable lands lying idle and classed as "culturable waste" and "current fallows" respectively in Kanara and in the Presidency?

(c) Whether they are aware that the cultivation of land in this Presidency is seriously handicapped by the great deficiency of live-stock?

(d) Whether they are aware that arable lands are lying idle on account of deficiency of cattle?

(e) If the reply to clauses (c) and (d) is in the affirmative, whether any steps have been taken by Government to increase and improve the live-stock in the Presidency; if so, what are they?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) and (b) The attention of the honourable member is invited to Tables VIII and II in the Season and Crop Reports for the years 1919-20 and 1922-23 respectively.

(c) No.

(d) No.

(e) Does not arise. The attention of the honourable member is however invited to the report of the Committee appointed to consider the question of improvement of the breeds of cattle in this Presidency and to the Resolution of Government issued on it, which will give an idea of the steps taken in the direction indicated by the honourable member.

MILK PRODUCTION.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any figures are available showing the total production of milk in the province and the quantity of milk available per head of the population?

(b) If so, what is the production and the quantity per head in the Kanara District and in the Presidency?

(c) Have any, if so what, steps been taken to increase the supply of milk in the presidency ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The only feasible step that can be taken is to improve the milking qualities of the animals. This is being done by giving out breeding bulls from Government cattle farms. Government are also ready to give reasonable facilities to *bona fide* dairying concerns started for the supply of milk to the public.

LAND REVENUE DEFAULTERS IN KANARA IN 1922-23.

*Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of kabjedars who were defaulters in respect of land revenue in the district of Kanara in the year 1922-23, and whether it is a fact that notices of demand were not issued in all the cases of 3,116 defaulting kabjedars (*vide* Revenue Administration Report for 1922-23, page 94) on whom the one-fourth fine was inflicted but were issued only in 699 cases ? If so, what are the reasons therefor ?

(b) Are there any special orders issued by Government or by the Divisional Commissioner to the district administration in Kanara to the effect that arrears of land revenue recoverable in any year should be fully recovered with the help of coercive processes, if necessary, before the close of that year, so as to leave no arrears for the next year ?

(c) Have Government ascertained why so many cases of default occurred in that year in Kanara ? If so, what has been the result of the inquiry ?

The Honourable Mr. O. V. MEHTA : (a) The number of defaulters of land revenue, as defined in section 147, Land Revenue Code, was 3,116 during the year 1922-23. Notices of demand were issued only in 699 cases under the usual practice of issuing them only to absentee kabjedars. In the case of others the practice is to give a general warning that one-fourth fine is leviable which is considered sufficient.

(b) During 1922-23 all Commissioners were asked to make special efforts for the collection of the land revenue due during that year.

(c) The number of cases of default was not unusual. In the previous years, no record was kept of *all* cases in which land revenue was not paid by the appointed date inasmuch as levy of one-fourth penalty or the adoption of a compulsory process was deferred for some time with the result that large arrears were left to be recovered till late in the year. The general warning regarding levy of one-fourth fine enabled prompt collections of land revenue throughout the District.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

WATER SUPPLY AT DAKOR.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI (Indian Merchants' Chamber): (a) Are Government aware that Dakor, which is an important place of pilgrimage in Gujarat, is exposed to the danger of epidemics spreading there owing to great inadequacy of water supply?

(b) Have Government had any representation from the municipality of Dakor in connection with inadequacy of water supply there?

(c) If the reply to (b) is in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state what steps they have taken till now to relieve this source of danger to public health in Dakor?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) The Dakor municipality requested in 1924 for supply of water to supplement the water in the Gomti tank and Government have sanctioned a supply of about 20 millions cubic feet of water either from the Wangroli or the Matewal tank at the rate of Rs. 2 per 1,000 cubic feet. No other representation from the municipality in the matter has been received.

Mr. G. I. PATEL: May I know what arrangements are proposed to be made by Government for the supply of drinking water at least?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: The honourable member should know that it is the primary concern of the local body. When local bodies apply for assistance, we give them grants-in-aid.

Mr. G. I. PATEL: Just a few minutes ago the Honourable Minister in replying to my honourable friend Rao Saheb Desai stated that the matter of giving grant for water supply at Dakor would be considered. How is the present reply of the Honourable Minister consistent with the reply given a few minutes ago?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: If the local body won't apply for a grant, we cannot take independent action.

Rao. Saheb D. P. DESAI: Dakor being a small village, they may not be able to do anything in the matter and depend on Government to construct the tank.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: If the local bodies do not apply for a grant, it means they are not anxious to have water.

INCONVENIENCE OF KAPADVANJ COURT FOR LITIGANTS FROM HARSOL.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities): Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware of the inconvenience caused to the people of Harsol, in the Prantij taluka, by reason of their having to go for civil litigation all the way to Kapadvanj (in the Kaira district) instead of to Ahmedabad, which is nearer and more convenient?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Representations in the matter are under the consideration of Government.

REMOVAL OF LIQUOR SHOP OPENED AT KAPASIA.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA on behalf of Mr. G. K. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad City): Will Government be pleased to state whether any undertaking has been given by the Collector of Ahmedabad to the local Khoja community to the effect that the new foreign liquor shop opened at Kapasia Bazaar just opposite the Agakhan Khoja Khana would be removed within a particular time? If so, will Government be pleased to state within what date the said liquor shop will be removed?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: No undertaking of the nature referred to has been given by the Collector of Ahmedabad to the local Khoja community. Orders have however been issued by Government prohibiting the use of the present premises in Kapasia Bazaar as a liquor shop from 1st April 1925.

MURDERS IN AHMEDABAD.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA on behalf of Mr. G. K. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many murders inspired by pecuniary motives took place in Raipur A division of Ahmedabad city during the years 1921 to 1924 and in how many of them were the culprits detected and duly punished;

(b) the names of the sub-inspectors of Police during the period in the said division;

(c) whether the Government have taken any special steps to prevent the recurrence of such crimes, and if so, what steps have they taken?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a) There were two, both undetected, in 1924.

(b) The Sub-Inspector in charge at the time was Mr. S. K. Karanjawala.

(c) The Criminal Investigation Department was called in to help the investigation in one but not in the other. No other special steps have been taken.

NUMBER OF TODDY SHOPS CLOSED.

Dr. M. M. MEHTA (Surat City): Will Government be pleased to state how many toddy shops were closed in the Surat district during the years 1922, 1923 and 1924 respectively?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: The honourable member is referred to Appendix D to the Excise Administration Reports for the years 1921-22, 1922-23 and 1923-24. Since 1st August 1924 the number of toddy shops in the Surat district has been reduced by 5.

DAKOR PILGRIM CESS.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Mahomedans and Jains are exempted from the pilgrim cess of Dakor of Kaira district?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state why Arya Samajists are not exempted from the Dakor pilgrim cess like Mahomedans and Jains ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN :
The information is being obtained.

NON-PAYMENT OF MUNICIPAL SCHOOL TEACHERS BY GHOGHA
MUNICIPALITY.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the municipality of Ghogha made no payment to the teachers of the municipal schools for several months after October 1923 ?

(b) If so, for how many months were their salaries withheld ?

(c) if it is a fact, will the Government be pleased to state the reasons for such action ?

(d) will Government be pleased to state whether the Ghogha municipality paid the monthly salaries of the municipal secretary, the municipal clerks and the dispensary staff during those months ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN :
The information is being obtained.

FORCED DOMESTIC WORK BY WATANDAR MAHARS.

Mr. R. S. NEKALJAY: Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that watandar mahars are often required to do domestic work for their superior officers ? If so, do Government intend to take any action in this connection ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : The alleged practice is of very rare occurrence. Where it does occur, it is found to be based on long traditions. Government do not consider it necessary to take any action. If any individual case is brought to the notice of the Collector he will take the necessary steps for giving redress.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : Will Government be pleased to state whether they consider this sort of forced domestic labour is a breach of section 374 of the Indian Penal Code ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Will the honourable member kindly enlighten me what is section 374 of the Indian Penal Code ?

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : Forced labour.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I am afraid I cannot give any legal opinion. I have stated the facts.

INCOME TAX AND EXCISE DUTY COLLECTED FROM MILLS AND
FACTORIES IN BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.

Mr. G. I. PATEL (Ahmedabad Millowners' Association): Will Government be pleased to state the respective amounts of income-tax and cotton excise duty realised from the mills and factories of this presidency during the years 1922, 1923 and 1924, respectively ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Statistics of realizations from cotton excise duty during the years 1921-22, 1922-23 and 1923-24 will be found in the Reports on the Sea-borne Trade and Customs Administration of the Bombay presidency for these years. As regards income-tax collections the honourable member is referred to the Honourable the Finance Member.

Mr. G. I. PATEL: May I bring to your notice, Sir, that when a similar question was asked on a previous occasion, reply was given by two members of Government separately. I have addressed my question to the Government as a body.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I have already explained that under the rules questions have to be asked of individual members of Government.

STATISTICS OF INCOME TAX REALISED FROM MILLS AND FACTORIES.

Mr. G. I. PATEL (Ahmedabad Millowners' Association): Will Government be pleased to state the respective amounts of the income tax and cotton excise duty realised from the mills and factories of this Presidency during the years 1922, 1923 and 1924, respectively?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: As income tax is a Central subject, the honourable member is referred to the Government of India.

Mr. G. I. PATEL: In view of the provision of Rs. 3 lakhs on account of the contribution from the Central Government towards the cost of revenue establishment employed on income-tax work, were Government entitled to give such a reply to this question?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: We are not committed to reply, Sir.

COST OF SUBORDINATE INDIAN SERVICES IN BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.

Mr. G. I. PATEL (Ahmedabad Millowners' Association): Will Government be pleased to state—

(i) the total cost of the subordinate Indian Services (Indian Services as defined in the Civil Service Regulations) for our presidency?

(ii) the amount so far accumulated to meet the charges of pensions of such services?

(iii) the annual average expenditure incurred during the last 25 years out of the same amount.

(iv) the surplus or deficit, if any, at the end of each year from the year 1900 to 1924, left after meeting the annual expenses.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: (i) Attention is invited to Civil Budget Estimate for 1924-25 which gives the estimated cost of all subordinate services for the year 1924-25 as well as actual cost for 1922-23.

(ii), (iii) and (iv) No permanent fund for the grant of pensions is maintained by Government. The annual charge is met from the lump

provision made in the budget estimates every year which is based on past actuals.

Mr. G. I. PATEL : May I know if there is any surplus of the so-called lump provision so far collected ?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : There is no surplus, Sir.

EXPENDITURE ON ANDHERI-CHEMBUR RAILWAY.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts) :
(a) Will Government be pleased to state the estimated cost of laying the Andheri-Chembur line ?

(b) How much expenditure has been already incurred ?

(c) What return do Government expect from this outlay ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : (a) Rs. 37,61,318.

(b) Rs. 35,23,992.

(c) The earnings to be derived from the working of the tramway service, which, it is hoped to commence early in 1925, will not, it is expected, do much more than cover the working expenses of such a service for the first few years.

It was never anticipated that the line would prove a paying proposition until the areas served became fully developed, and it has, therefore, from the first, been treated as a losing scheme, the interest on the cost of construction being met from the Rs. 4 lakhs per annum set apart out of the cotton cess to cover such schemes.

A special railway betterment charge per square yard on all land sold in areas served by the line is being levied and credited to the construction account which will in time reduce the capital liability to the extent that such sales are effected.

As net earnings and sales of land increase, the demand on the cotton cess will diminish.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : May I know if at the time the cotton cess was levied, it was intended to draw from the proceeds of that cess to meet the loss on this railway ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : It was for development.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : When this cess was levied, was it not meant for meeting the loss in rent charges for housing labour ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : A large percentage of it was for housing labour, but not all.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : Was this scheme undertaken with open eyes that it would be a losing concern ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : Government undertook it with their eyes open that in the beginning it would be a losing concern.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : It has been stated in the answer that it was anticipated that it would be a losing concern.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Please read the reply further.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: I have read the whole reply.

BENCH MAGISTRATES, PALGHAR.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts):

(a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they intend to appoint a bench of honorary magistrates at Palghar?

(b) Are not the present stipendiary magistrates and the Chinchani bench able to cope with the work?

(c) Has there been any demand from the public for such a bench?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a) and (c) The replies are in the negative.

(b) The reply is in the affirmative.

SUBORDINATE ENGINEERING SERVICE.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): With reference to my question regarding the formation of the subordinate engineering service and the reply given thereto (*vide* Council Debates, Volume XI, Part II, page 40), will the Honourable the General Member be pleased to state whether orders have been issued on the question of the formation of the service, and if so, to place them on the table?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Orders have not issued as the question is still under consideration.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN: May I know why there has been this inordinately long delay in this matter?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: I am afraid I cannot explain.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN: It was under consideration even last year about this time. (No reply.)

INTEREST ON PROVINCIAL BALANCE.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): With reference to my question regarding interest on provincial balance and the reply given thereto (*vide* Council Debates, Volume XI, Part II, page 42), will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state at what decision the Government of India have arrived on the general question of giving to Provincial Governments interest on their balances?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: It is understood that the Secretary of State's sanction is awaited to the proposals made by the Government of India.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN: May I know what are the proposals of the Government of India?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: We do not know them ourselves, Sir.

ABOLITION OF GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOLS.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): With reference to my question on the abolition of Government high schools and the reply given thereto (*vide* Council Debates, Volume XI, Part XX, page 1108), will the Honourable the Minister of Education be pleased to lay on the table the report referred to in the reply?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The report is still under consideration of Government and Government think that it will be premature to publish it at this stage and will not serve any useful purpose.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN: When was this report submitted to Government?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Will the honourable member kindly give notice of the question?

REDUCTION OF GOVERNMENT SERVANTS OWING TO RETRENCHMENT.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): With reference to my question regarding the reductions of Government servants owing to retrenchment (*vide* Debates, Volume XI, Part II, page 42), will Government be pleased to state whether the information asked for has been collected, and, if so, when will it be placed on the table.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Almost all replies have been received. It is hoped that the complete information will be ready soon and will be placed on the table during this sessions of the Legislative Council.

WORKING OF THE VILLAGE PANCHAYATS ACT.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Will the Honourable the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether he has appointed a committee to investigate all objections to the proper working of the Village Panchayats Act, as promised by him in his speech at Hyderabad on 15th December 1924? If not, when will the committee be appointed?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Government have decided that it will be convenient for the Committee to meet in Poona during the rains when the seat of Government is there. It is proposed to constitute the committee about May next.

ORDINARY REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF SIND.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to state the amount of ordinary revenue and expenditure of Sind (only), for each of the years 1921-22, 1922-23, 1923-24 and 1924-25? Is it a fact that the ordinary expenditure of Sind exceeds its ordinary revenue?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: For the year 1921-22, Provincial Receipts in Sind amounted to Rs. 210.5 lakhs and provincial

expenditure to Rs. 250 lakhs. Information for the years 1922-23 and 1923-24 has been called for. Figures for the year 1924-25 cannot be obtained until the accounts are finally closed.

FINANCE MEMBERS' CONFERENCE AT DELHI.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state what decisions, if any, affecting this Presidency, were arrived at, at the conference of all the Finance Members held at Delhi in November or December last?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: No final decisions are arrived at at the Conference which is held solely for the interchange of views.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN: May I know on what questions there was interchange of views?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: I am afraid I cannot give that information.

NASIK ROAD STATION.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): (a) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the editorial note under the heading "Inconvenience at the Nasik Road Station", published in the issue, dated 10th January 1925, of "Lokasatta", a weekly newspaper published at Nasik?

(b) Have the Government inquired into the grievances alleged therein?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN: Was not this question sent to the Collector of Nasik for enquiry?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: No, so far as I am aware.

Mr. S. S. DEV: Whose duty was it to bring to the notice of Government such editorial notes?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: I do not know if it is anybody's particular duty to do so.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: Is there not an officer called the Oriental Translator to Government whose duty it is to do so?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: I do not know whether he considered this matter to be of sufficient importance to bring it to the notice of Government.

Mr. R. D. SHINDE: When the honourable member for Nasik has drawn the attention of Government to a specific issue of the paper has not Government read it?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: The question is "Has the attention of Government been drawn?"

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: The object of it was to draw the attention of Government.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : If so, I shall be very glad to go into it, but I must answer the question as sent to me.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA : When the question was asked was not the attention of Government drawn to it ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : If honourable members wish to draw the attention of Government to anything, it is perfectly easy for them to frame the question in that way.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN : Is not the Honourable Member's reply too technical ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : The Honourable Member's reply is correct.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : Do Government maintain any department whose duty it is to draw the attention of Government to such editorial notes ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Yes.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : What is the name of that department ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Oriental Translator's department.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN : Has not the Collector drawn the attention of Government to this editorial note ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : The attention of Government has not been drawn to it by anybody.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INDIAN BAR COMMITTEE.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District) : Will Government be pleased to state what action the Bombay High Court has taken on the recommendations of the Indian Bar Committee ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : The action to be taken is still under consideration with the Government of India.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN : May I know what are the recommendations of the Bombay High Court ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I am not permitted to say.

STATEMENT BEFORE REFORMS COMMITTEE BY MINISTER OF LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District) : Will the Honourable the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether he presented to the Reforms Inquiry Committee any statement dealing with the evidence presented by Sir Chimanlal Setalvad to the Committee.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : No.
Mr. R. G. PRADHAN : Why not. (No reply.)

COUNCIL SECRETARIES.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District) : Will the Honourable the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Ministers have urged the appointment of Council Secretaries ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Government regret that they are unable to give this information, as the nature of the advice which may be tendered to His Excellency by a Minister is confidential.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN : Sir, with regard to this question I would invite your attention to the fact that this question was put to the Honourable Minister in charge of Local Self-Government, and I find that the reply is given by the Honourable the Home Member.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I should like to know why the Honourable Minister in charge, Local Self-Government, has not replied, as the question has not been asked generally of Government ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Because the question referred to the action taken on the advice given to His Excellency. Such questions are generally answered by the senior Member of Government.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN : Will the Honourable Minister, Local Self-Government, state whether the views expressed on this subject by many honourable members of this Council were placed before His Excellency ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I submit that the question has been answered by me and any supplementary question must be put to me.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN : May I know whether the views expressed on this subject by many honourable members of this Council were put before His Excellency ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I cannot give an answer because any communication between the Honourable Minister and His Excellency is confidential.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND DEPRESSED CLASSES CHILDREN.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District) : Will the Honourable the Minister of Education be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing (a) the primary schools in which the Government order that children of the depressed classes must be seated along with other children has not been carried out, and (b) the reasons in each case for not carrying it out ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Information has been called for.

POLICE FORCE AT SANTA CRUZ.

Mr. PUNJABHAI THAKERSI (Bombay City, North) : Will Government be pleased to state why adequate increase in the police force at Santa Cruz has not been made in conformity with the increase made at other places in the Bombay Suburban district ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Government are satisfied that adequate arrangements are being made.

Mr. PUNJABHAI THAKERSI: Has any increase been made as at other places?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I do not quite understand the question. What does the honourable member mean by 'as in other places'?

Mr. PUNJABHAI THAKERSI: That means the suburbs.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I am sorry it is rather difficult to answer vague questions of that sort, but we are making increases throughout the suburban district. We have a general scheme for the protection of the suburban district which I think was discussed on the supplementary grants not very long ago, and I think we gave the details of the scheme then. I would ask the honourable member to refer to that statement and if any further information is required of a specific nature I shall be very glad to give it.

LAW SCHOOL AND SCIENCE INSTITUTE APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. PUNJABHAI THAKERSI (Bombay City, North): Will Government be pleased to state—

(1) What new appointments have been made since January 1924 in (a) the Government Law Class, Bombay, and (b) the Science Institute, Bombay?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: 1 (a) The following gentlemen have been appointed as Professors of Law, Government Law School, Bombay, since January 1924:—

- (1) Mr. Pandurang Kashinath Pendse, M.A., LL.M., Advocate;
- (2) Mr. Mahomed Yonus Ghulam Hussain Haindaday, B.A., LL.B., Advocate;
- (3) Mr. Manmukhram Krishnamukhram Mehta, B.A., LL.B.;
- (4) Mr. Dattaram Ganpat Dalvi, M.A., LL.B.;
- (5) Mr. Shivrao Vithal Palekar, B.A., LL.B.;
- (6) Dr. Jehangir Sorabji Khergamvala, LL.D. (Lond.), B.A., LL.M., Bar.-at-Law;
- (7) Mr. Ramzanali Bhaloo Velani, Bar.-at-Law.

Nos. 1—6 have been re-appointed while No. 7 has been appointed for the first time.

1 (b) The following non-gazetted new appointments have been made in the Royal Institute of Science, Bombay, since the date referred to above:—

| Posts newly created. | Name of the person appointed. |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Assistant Lecturer in Chemistry | .. Mr. G. V. Jadhav. |
| 2. Assistant Lecturer in Physics | .. „ N. R. Tawade. |
| 3. Assistant Lecturer in Botany | .. „ S. B. Ranade. |

- | | | |
|---|--------|---|
| 4. Assistant Lecturer in Zoology | .. | Mr. S. B. Sethna. |
| 5. Field and Laboratory Artist and Photographer. | and .. | D. C. Joglekar. |
| 6. Laboratory Assistant in Chemistry | .. | .. P. D. Saxon. |
| 7. Two Field Collectors | .. .. | .. T. K. Sabnis. .. S. D. Sulvi. |
| 8. Assistant Lecturer in Chemistry* | .. | .. R. C. Shah vice Mr. Alimahamdani promoted to the Bombay Educational Service. |
| 9. Assistant Lecturer in Physics* | .. | Mr. V. D. Majundar vice Mr. H. V. Varada Rajlengar resigned. |
| 10. Assistant Lecturer in Botany* | .. | Mr. S. M. Phadnis vice Mr. R. H. Dastur on study leave. |

Mr. K. R. Gunjekar, Professor of Mathematics, has also been transferred from the Elphinstone College to the Royal Institute of Science, Bombay, and Mr. G. D. Dhavle has been appointed to act as Librarian in the latter Institute during the absence on study leave of Mr. M. B. Arte.

Mr. PUNJABHAI THAKERSI: Were the recommendations of the heads of these institutes set aside in making any of these appointments? If so, for what reason?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Do you mean to say about this Law College or the College of Science?

Mr. PUNJABHAI THAKERSI: I mean both.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: In the case of the Law College the recommendations are made by the High Court and not by the principal, and the professors appointed are from the persons recommended; and in the case of the Science Institute generally the recommendations are made by the Director of Public Instruction.

Mr. PUNJABHAI THAKERSI: Were any of these appointments made on communal considerations? If so, have Government sacrificed better qualifications to communal considerations?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: No, not on communal considerations. It is only with a view to efficiency.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN: If there are better qualified men?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I do not think the honourable member is serious enough in asking that question.

LOCAL FUND MADRESSAH, THAR PARKAR.

Khan Saheb SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH (Thar Parkar District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware that the Director of Public Instruction has advised the Board of the Local Fund Madressah, Thar and Parkar, through the Commissioner in Sind. to withdraw the condition bid

* These are not newly created posts.

down by them in their unanimous resolution No. 8, dated the 2nd October 1923, saying that Government were not likely to take over the Local Fund Madressah unless the board agreed to hand it over unconditionally and free of charge?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state why they are unable to agree with the resolution passed by the said board?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) Yes; but the District Local Board was told in addition, that Government would try (a) to retain such of the present teachers as are efficient, (b) to appoint suitable Mahomedan teachers whenever possible in the future, (c) to admit Mahomedan boys to the Madressah usually in preference to Hindu boys and (d) to consider the Board's suggestion regarding the existing holidays. It was intended to convey that Government could not agree to the conditions as they were laid down by the Board.

(b) The conditions referred to as they stood were obviously unacceptable by Government as they were unreasonably narrow and strict. The Board has since agreed to relax these conditions and Government have lately decided to accept, with certain modifications, the revised conditions subsequently proposed by the Board.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO: Is it not a fact that in reply to a supplementary question put in October last the Honourable Minister had expressed that he would convert this Madressah into a high school and would make provision in the budget of 1925-26?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Yes.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO: Then, why no money has been provided in the budget?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Money has been provided in the budget.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO: Yes, but that is for its running only as a school up to five standards and not for a high school.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Government are looking into the whole matter and would make it a high school very soon.

Mr. HOOSFINBHOY A. LALLJEE: How long will the Government take to do so?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I cannot definitely say that but it will be done as soon as possible.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO: Are Government aware that it is the only district that has no high school in the whole presidency?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Yes.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO: Then why do they give different treatment to this Thar and Parkar district alone? Is it an institution which has not equal educational facilities?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: We are soon going to give it a high school.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO: Are you going to provide money in a supplementary grant, at least for the sixth standard this year?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Yes, I will try to do so, but it rests with the Council to sanction the amount.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO: Is not the Honourable Minister prepared to make a definite statement that he is going to provide this money in this year's budget definitely?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I am afraid I am not in a position to make a definite promise, but I assure the honourable member that I will try to provide the money.

AYURVEDIC DISPENSARY AT VADUJ.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that an Ayurvedic dispensary was opened by the Satara district local board at Vaduj in the Khatav taluka in the year 1922?

(b) Is it a fact that this dispensary was inspected by the Civil Surgeon at Satara and certified to be working satisfactorily?

(c) Did the district local board ask for a grant from Government in aid of this dispensary?

(d) If so, has any grant been sanctioned?

(e) Is it a fact that the local board was informed in 1923 that the question of a grant to the dispensary would be considered by Government?

(f) Is it a fact that the Surgeon General has recently unfavourably considered the application of the board for a grant, and if so, will Government be pleased to place on the Council table the correspondence in this respect?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) (b) and (c) Yes.

(d) The requisite provision for a grant has been proposed in the budget estimates for 1925-26, and order sanctioning it will be issued if it is passed by the Legislative Council.

(e) The local board was so informed in 1921.

(f) Government regret that they cannot make any statement or place any correspondence on the Council table.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN: Why is it that Government cannot make a statement as to whether the Surgeon-General favourably or unfavourably considered the application?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: It will amount to placing the whole correspondence on the table.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM: May I know the reason why it is not placed on the table?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Because it is official.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : Is it official or confidential ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : It is official.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : Will it be placed on the table when it is required ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : If it is not confidential.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : Is it confidential ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Reports of officers are generally confidential.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : Is it an ordinary correspondence or a report or a confidential document ? (No reply.)

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : In determining the question whether a correspondence is confidential or not, are Government guided by any principle or policy ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Government are guided by experience.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS BETWEEN DADAR AND ELPHINSTONE ROAD STATIONS OF THE B. B. & C. I. RAILWAY.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City North) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of accidents that has occurred to passengers while travelling in trains in consequence of open doors of trains passing each other in opposite directions during the past four years, between the Dadar and Elphinstone Road stations of the B. B. & C. I. Railway ?

(b) Is it true that the distance between the two sets of rail-lines between the stations mentioned above is less than at other places ?

(c) If so, do Government intend to take any action ?

(d) Is a limit prescribed regulating the minimum distance between two sets of rail-lines, and, if so, is the distance between the two sets mentioned above less than that limit ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) From 6th April 1921 to 13th October 1924 there were ten cases of injuries to passengers while travelling in trains between Dadar and Elphinstone Road and in only one case could definite proof be obtained that the injury was due to an open door. In the other cases the Railway Company has not been able to elicit any information as to how the accidents occurred.

(b) The distance between the centres of tracks between Dadar and Elphinstone Road stations is less than that at some other stations.

(c) Action is being taken by the Railway Company to increase the spacing to 15' 6" in connection with the work of quadrupling which is in hand and is being completed as expeditiously as possible.

(d) Yes, a minimum distance of 14' between centres of tracks is prescribed. The actual distance between centres of tracks between the stations in question is 12' 0".

SALE PRICE OF MADI IN RATNAGIRI DISTRICT.

Mr. V. A. SURVE (Ratnagiri District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether there is any limit of selling price for *madi* in the Ratnagiri district?

(b) What was the highest and lowest rate of selling price per bottle of *madi* in the different talukas of the Ratnagiri district in the years 1910 and 1924?

(c) In which of the talukas did the highest and lowest rates prevail in the abovementioned years?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) No.

(b) and (c) In the year 1910 the prescribed maximum selling price of toddy in the whole of the Ratnagiri district was nine pies per bottle. Since the introduction of the auction system the maximum price has been done away with.

Mr. B. R. NANAL: When was the auction system introduced?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: I am not quite sure, but I think it was in 1918.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: Has not the auction system proved oppressive?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: No.

KANKARIA LAKE, AHMEDABAD.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that Kankaria Lake of Ahmedabad remains waterless throughout the greater part of the year?

(b) If so, will they be pleased to state what steps they have taken to provide for a supply of sufficient water in that lake throughout the year?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN:

(a) When the rainfall is sufficient, the lake is filled from the Khari Cut Canal, but this year the rainfall was so light that there was no water to spare. The tank is now dry.

(b) The question is under the consideration of the Municipality.

Mr. G. I. PATEL: Is it not a fact that certain rates for the supply of water were demanded by Government?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: I want notice.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN: Will no steps be taken by Government.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: It is a primary duty of the municipality to arrange for the water-supply.

Mr. G. I. PATEL: Is it not a fact that the relations of the municipality with the Government are not cordial?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: The honourable member is a member of that municipality and he ought to know.

TOLL ON TALOD-MODASSA ROAD.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that the people of Modassa Mahal experience great hardships owing to the existence of tolls on Talod-Modassa road?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state when they intend to abolish them according to their declared policy?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: The information has been called for.

REDUCTION OF GOVERNMENT SERVANTS OWING TO THE REJECTION OF GRANTS BY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

The THAKOR OF KERWADA on behalf of the THAKOR OF AMOD (Northern Division): Will Government be pleased to place on the table a statement showing for each department the number of Government servants whose services had to be dispensed with owing to the rejection of grants by the Legislative Council during the period 1921 to 1924?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Information has been called for.

ROADS IN GUJARAT DISTRICT.

The THAKOR OF KERWADA (Gujarat Sardars and Inamdars): Are Government aware of the most deplorable condition of the roads in the Gujarat district? Are Government aware that there is not a single road which connects these five districts of the Northern Division?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: The information has been called for.

IMPROVEMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS IN KHANDESH AND KAIRA DISTRICTS.

The THAKOR OF KERWADA (Gujarat Sardars and Inamdars): Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government had contributed large amounts for improving communications in the districts of Khandesh and Kaira?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: The information has been called for.

SUPERANNUATION EMPLOYEES IN EXCISE DEPARTMENT.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have ruled that no extension of service should be granted to Government servants who have attained the age-limit;

(b) whether it is a fact that the present Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of Excise has been granted such an extension;

(c) if the reply to (a) and (b) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state the reasons for the extension granted in the above mentioned case?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply* given to question No. 15-A put by him at the session of the Council held in July 1924.

ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THANA DISTRICT LOCAL BOARD.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: (a) Will Government be pleased to state when the right of electing its president was given to the Thana district local board?

(b) Will Government be pleased to furnish the names of all the elected presidents of the Thana district local board up to date together with the caste of each?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: (a) A reply has already been given.

(b)

| Name. | Caste. |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mr. Sakharam Ganesh Phadke. | Konkanastha (Chitpawan) Brahmin. |
| Mr. Bapuji Cowasji Divecha. | Parsi. |

CLERICAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THANA DISTRICT LOCAL BOARD.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: Will Government be pleased to give the following information with regard to the clerical and higher establishment of the district local board, Thana:

(a) the number of posts (excepting that of the Chief Officer) carrying a monthly salary of

- (1) Rs. 30 to Rs. 50
- (2) Rs. 51 to Rs. 100
- (3) Rs. 101 to Rs. 300

(b) The number of posts out of (1), (2) and (3) held by Brahmins and non-Brahmins including the backward classe respectively?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: (a) and (b) The information is given below:—

| Grade. | No. of Posts. | Brahmins. | Non-Brahmins. |
|---------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------------|
| Rs. 30 to 50 | 16 | 9 | 7 |
| Over Rs. 51 to 100 | 12 | 10 | 2 |
| Over Rs. 101 to 300 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Over Rs. 300 | 1† | 1 | .... |

†Held by the Executive Engineer of the Board who is a Gaud Saraswat Brahmin.

BOMBAY PORT TRUST.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: Will Government be pleased to state how many out of the 33 Indians holding appointments in the Bombay Port Trust carrying salaries over Rs. 500 per mensem belong to backward Hindu classes?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: None of the officers referred to belong to the backward Hindu classes.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government please introduce the principle of providing higher appointments for the backward classes in this department ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : The Port Trust is not a department of Government. It is under special legislation.

GRIEVANCES OF RAILWAY PASSENGERS.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether they are aware of the inconvenience caused to passengers on account of the non-issuing of tickets on railway stations at least half an hour before the scheduled arrival time of the train ; and

(b) whether they intend to take steps to remove the inconvenience ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) The answer is in the negative. (b) Does not arise.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government be pleased to make enquiries and take steps in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Government will make enquiries.

RULES UNDER THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT IN MARATHI.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will the Government be pleased to state whether they intend to publish in Marathi the rules framed under the Workmen's Compensation Act ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Government are considering the question of translating the Act and the rules framed thereunder in the principal vernaculars.

GRIEVANCES OF TENANTS IN KHOTI VILLAGES.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware of the resolutions in connection with the grievances of tenants in khoti villages passed at a meeting of Kunbis held at Bombay on 20th December 1924 and published in the "Jagruti" newspaper of Baroda of the 27th December 1924 ; and

(b) whether they propose to take any steps in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) No.

(b) The question does not arise.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Does not the Oriental Translator submit a report to Government on important matters ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : He does submit on such matters as he considers important, but does not report on papers in Baroda.

HINDU BACKWARD CLASSES CLERKS AND TEACHERS IN BOMBAY MUNICIPALITY.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government be pleased to state the total number of clerks and teachers in the Bombay Municipality respectively and how many of them belong to the Hindu backward classes ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Information is being obtained.

SCHOLARSHIPS IN COLLEGES AND HIGH SCHOOLS FOR HINDU
BACKWARD CLASS STUDENTS.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government be pleased to state the number of scholarships reserved in colleges and high schools for the Hindu backward class students and how many of them have been awarded ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Information has been called for.

CONFERENCE OF THE EAST KHANDESH BACKWARD CLASS
TEACHERS' UNION.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware of the 22nd resolution passed at the 5th session of the conference of the East Khandesh Backward Class Teachers' Union held at Jalgaon on the 26th October 1924 in connection with the order No. 2356, dated the 8th October 1924, regarding the teacher Mr. Shripatrao Raoji Marathe ; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) Yes.

(b) The resolution was returned for submission through the chief local and controlling authorities.

THE UNEMPLOYMENT OF CLERICAL POPULATION IN THE CITY
OF BOMBAY.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware of the grave situation caused by unemployment among the clerical population in the City of Bombay ; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Government are aware that there has been for some time past considerable discussion in the newspapers on unemployment among the middle classes in Bombay City.

Government are not yet however in possession of reliable statistical data. The Labour Office recently attempted to ascertain the extent of this unemployment and reference is invited to the article on the subject appearing in the February issue of the *Labour Gazette*. It will be seen therefrom that the number of returns (115) obtained is too small to indicate the total number of the unemployed. But the analysis of the returns received shows considerable periods of unemployment and an influx of clerical hands from South India.

Government are informed further that a private gentleman has founded an Employment Bureau but that there were last month only 87 names on his registers representing unemployed persons of the clerical class.

The Labour Office is devoting further attention to this matter and is being asked to report whether any official action in this connection is needed.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : Has Government prepared any definite scheme to solve this problem of unemployment ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : The last sentence of my answer is the reply to the honourable member's question.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : Has the Government prepared any scheme as they have prepared for vagrants ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I presume the honourable member wants to know whether any scheme has been prepared for deporting unemployed hands back to their homes in South India.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : Has the Government any scheme in contemplation similar to the one that is existing for the relief of unemployed Europeans in the City ? They are taken to the work house.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : There is no such scheme. European vagrants are kept in the work house and if they do not get work, they are sent back home to England.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : A vagrant, a man who has got less than Rs. 10 on his person, is taken to the work house and facilities are given to him to secure employment.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : No.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : Under the Vagrancy Act ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : No.

" TRUCK ACT."

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware of the Truck Act in Britain ; and

(b) whether they propose to introduce a measure here on those lines ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : (a) In the affirmative.

(b) In the negative.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Is the Act intended to control the high-handed way in which the fines are inflicted on the workers ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I am not very familiar myself with the Act, but I do not think that that is the purpose of the Act. I believe it is to prevent payment of wages in kind instead of in money.

WHIPPING IN JAILS.

1. Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE (Bombay City) : Will Government be pleased to state whether they have abolished the punishment of whipping in the jails of this presidency ? If not, do they intend to move in that direction.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : The reply is in the negative.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INDIAN JAIL COMMISSION.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE (Bombay City): Will Government be pleased to lay on the Council table a statement regarding the action taken up to now by them in connection with the several recommendations of the Indian Jail Commission?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: The honourable member is referred to the reply given to the honourable member for Nasik District on this subject at the budget session of last year.

ABOLITION OF DIVISIONAL COMMISSIONERSHIPS.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE (Bombay City): Will Government be pleased to state whether they have had any correspondence either with the Government of India or the Secretary of State for India in connection with the proposed abolition of Divisional Commissionerships? If so, will they be pleased to lay it on the table?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Government have had correspondence on the subject with the Government of India. They regret that such correspondence cannot be laid on the table.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE: Are there any rules which lay down the kinds of correspondences which can be made public?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Yes.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE: May we know what those rules are? Are they printed?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: The rules are not printed for the use of honourable members.

RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION FOR GOVERNMENT SERVANTS
IN BOMBAY.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE (Bombay City): Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that there are many vacant plots of Government land in Bombay? Do they intend to build on these plots to provide residential accommodation for Government servants? If not, are they prepared to lease those plots at moderate rent to private landlords with a view to provide buildings at reasonable rents?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: The information has been called for.

INCOME TAX REVENUE: ALLOCATION OF SHARE.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE (Bombay City): Will Government be pleased to lay on the Council table the correspondence that has taken place between the Government of Bombay and the Government of India in connection with the claim of this Presidency to get proper and reasonable share of the income tax revenue?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Attention of the honourable member is invited to No. 9 of the Bombay Legislative Council Rules. Government are not prepared to lay the correspondence in question on the Council table.

(*Discussion on demands for grants resumed.*)

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Demands for grants.
Question again proposed.

That the amount of Rs. 42,39,000 for other expenditure in Civil Department on Famine Relief be reduced to Rs. 42,00,000.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI (Ahmednagar District) : Sir, I am thankful to the honourable member for Bombay for giving me an opportunity of saying what I have to say with regard to the famine policy of this Government. I am also grateful to the Honourable the Revenue Member for having enunciated at length his policy on the famine insurance fund.

Sir, since the financial re-adjustment contemplated by the Government of India Act of 1919, the Devolution Rules have made it necessary that each provincial Government should reserve every year an assignment for the famine insurance fund. The Government of India were aware that the Bombay presidency is a presidency which is most affected by famine. I see, Sir, from Schedule IV that the share of assignment reserved for the Bombay Government is the largest of all the nine provincial Governments, and that provision, I submit, is most salutary and essential for the development of this presidency. The administration of the famine fund and the laying down of a sound famine policy is, in my humble opinion, absolutely vital to the interests of the large agricultural masses of this presidency, and I congratulate the Honourable the Revenue Member for having given his best attention to the consideration of such a policy.

Mr. President, before examining one by one the various suggestions made by the Honourable the Revenue Member, I say that I am surprised to find that this decision of allocating Rs. 10 lakhs every year out of the famine insurance fund for the purpose of the interest charges on the Sukkur Barrage was reached. To my mind, Sir, it was an unfair decision. It appears to have been taken after the Reformed Councils came into existence. The Sukkur Barrage is a big productive work, and as such it has been properly undertaken out of the loans. But it was not fair, I submit, to commit the famine insurance fund for the payment of Rs. 10 lakhs every year for 20 years, on account of the interest on the capital invested in the Sukkur Barrage. It takes away yearly one-sixth of the famine fund.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I hope the honourable member is aware that the Council has sanctioned it.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI : I am not aware of it.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The whole scheme was submitted to the Council, and it was approved of by the Council on the basis of this contribution of Rs. 10 lakhs every year.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI : Whatever it is, I submit the decision of the Council will have to be reconsidered in a future sitting of the House, as I think that decision is rather unfortunate. Whatever it is, coming to the policy enunciated by the Honourable the Revenue Member as to the

[Mr. C. M. Saptarshi]

administration of the famine fund, I shall examine his scheme according as he stated it.

The Honourable the Revenue Member first dealt with the question of the provision of fodder for the cattle in this presidency. I may state here that the question of fodder supply in this presidency is a very difficult one, and it requires to be approached in the most responsible and careful fashion. There was a committee appointed by this House, I suppose in the year 1922, for inquiry into the question of the protection of cattle. That committee has tried to deal with this question, but I submit that its decision as regards fodder supply did not appear to me to be satisfactory, because it was not a committee which was appointed solely for this purpose. It was a committee which was appointed for the purpose of examining the condition of the cattle and their breeding in this presidency. I submit that the problems connected with fodder supply are so vast and intricate that a special committee to deal with this problem ought to have been appointed by Government, because there are many questions with regard to fodder supply which would, I think, defy any sound financier. The question, mainly, is the production of fodder itself, because we know that the grass which is supplied by the Forest Department is not sufficiently nutritive. Then again, prickly-pear which is at times used by the authorities in times of famine is also not sufficiently nutritive, and therefore the question of producing proper Kadbi and of distributing it in the presidency arises. It is a very important question, and in this connection I would like to suggest to the Honourable the Revenue Member that he should take advantage of the introduction of the canals in the Deccan. I have already suggested to him in a private conference which I had with him that if we utilise these canals in the Deccan, namely, the Godavari Canal, the Pravara Canal and the Nira Canal for the production of fodder, it would go a long way towards the solution of the problem. Under the irrigation rules it is compulsory for every cultivator who grows sugarcane to grow one-third *rabi*. If the irrigation rules are amended, and if it is made compulsory that out of this *rabi* half of the crop should be *jowari*, I am sure a large amount of fodder will be available from all these irrigation areas, and that would solve the problem of producing *kadbi* permanently, in the interest of this presidency. There is again the question of railway freight. It is very difficult in various districts to have this fodder at cheap rates. The problem of transport is a very difficult problem; the railway authorities several times do not give concession rates, and on that account it is very difficult to get cheap fodder in those districts where it is required. For all these reasons, Sir, the question of production and transport of fodder requires very careful investigation and I hope that in order to consider this question the Honourable the Revenue Member will appoint, if necessary, a special committee. I am glad, Sir, to find that the Revenue Member has given a special concession to my district this year because my district is one of those districts which are principally affected on account of the scarcity of fodder, and he has been pleased to

[Mr. C. M. Saptarshi]

extend a grant of 8 lakhs during the current year for the supply of fodder. I am very thankful to him, Sir, for that. So far as it goes, this arrangement is quite all right, but this problem of fodder supply will have to be handled more carefully, especially in connection with the distribution of it in times of famine, because, as my honourable friend from Ahmedabad, Mr. Saheba said, it is not desirable in connection with the fodder problem to make any profit out of these transactions. We ought to be able to supply fodder at cost price to the cultivators. The district local boards should not be encouraged to make any profit out of these transactions and fodder should be supplied only to such people as have cattle useful for cultivation. We ought not to go on carrying these operations on the *pinjrapole* principle. Fodder should not be supplied for cattle not useful for cultivation. These *pinjrapole* principles are not intended for Government. Philanthropic people may spend their money on those principles, but we have to be careful in distributing fodder only for such cattle as are absolutely useful for the purpose of agriculture and we must also make sure that we do distribute the fodder properly to *bona fide* agriculturists who will have to maintain cattle useful for agriculture and it should only be supplied on production of satisfactory evidence that it will be used for cattle useful for agriculture and the district local boards also ought to distribute it without making any profit. The district local boards or the local bodies should not at all be encouraged to make profit out of these transactions.

Then, Sir, I come to the question of wells. My honourable friend from Ahmedabad, Mr. Saheba, was very keen about the sinking of wells and he deprecated the introduction of small irrigation works. It appears to me that he is not cognisant of the conditions of the Deccan. He is talking from the point of view of Gujarat alone. I may tell him that in the Deccan, especially in the four districts of Poona, Sholapur, Satara and Ahmednagar, the problem of sinking wells will not be at all a successful problem, because on our side the water level has gone so deep that whatever amount is spent, the sinking of wells will not be successful unless we make efforts to raise the level of sub-soil water. Therefore, the first step to be taken is to raise the sub-soil water level, which can only be done by introducing small irrigation works. This problem of small irrigation works is a vital problem to the Deccan and you have got to introduce these small irrigation works, if you want to preserve the agriculturists, if you want to make the programme of sinking wells a successful programme. It is not a problem to be thrown out as useless as my honourable friend from Ahmedabad, Mr. Saheba, suggested. In the Deccan there are, fortunately, valleys which are absolutely suitable for the maintenance of these tanks. Then again, there are old tanks of pre-British days which can be repaired and maintained and the water-supply can be improved. Then again, Sir, we have got *bands* (बाँद) or bunds of pre-British days which can be repaired and made use of; so that the problem of small irrigation works in order to raise the level of the sub-soil water and also in times of famine for providing water for rabi and kharif crops is very vital, so far as the Deccan districts are

[Mr. C. M. Saptarshi]

concerned. I therefore think that this programme of small irrigation works will have to be given priority, so far as the Deccan is concerned, over the programme of wells or well-sinking. It is only when the small tanks and small bunds are maintained that your wells will be useful in the Deccan. Therefore, I appeal to the Honourable the Revenue Member to give as much attention as he can to the maintaining and constructing of these small irrigation canals and tanks in the Deccan.

Then if he wants to go on with the programme seriously he will have to consider the question of agency. The Honourable the Revenue Member suggested that the work would be entrusted to the Public Works Department and would be got done by him through the Collector. I submit, Sir, that if Government are to be serious in this programme of utilising famine insurance fund for these irrigation works, then we must for each district appoint a special sub-divisional officer whose business it will be to entertain applications from the people for the construction and maintenance of these small tanks and bunds. I will just quote one instance of my own district. After a private conference which I had with the Honourable the Revenue Member, I went to my constituency and suggested to them that they should give applications for small irrigation works. I got applications from them and forwarded them to the district deputy collector (the officer on special duty) Mr. Haliyal and these applications have been returned to me because that officer has not got an expert agency competent to undertake a survey; so that you have got to maintain in every district where you want an experiment made, a sub-divisional officer whose special duty it will be to entertain these applications. Then again, you have got to issue special instructions to the Collector. The Collector's agency is a very efficient agency no doubt. The civilian, Sir, is a very efficient officer, no doubt; but he has no initiative. You have got to get the work done by him. The initiative has to be taken by somebody else and the work got done by the Collector, because I know that all the applications I referred to were sent to the Collector and most of them were returned. Therefore, before you entrust the work to the Collector, you must associate non-official bodies like the district local boards with the Collector. It is no use simply enunciating a principle, enunciating a programme, and then entrusting it to a body which is efficient but lifeless. You have got to entrust it to a non-official agency or associate non-official agency with the official. If you do that, then and then alone the programme of these works will be successful. The Honourable the Revenue Member, Sir, put the question of the small irrigation works before the House in rather a peculiar manner. He says it is doubtful whether the small irrigation works will be successful and experts differ whether small irrigation works or big irrigation works would be more beneficial. I submit it is a wrong way of putting things. We want both big as well as small irrigation works. Big irrigation schemes have got to be financed from loans; small irrigation schemes could be financed from the famine insurance fund. On the big irrigation schemes we should expect a reasonable interest by way of return; on schemes which are financed

[Mr. C. M. Saptarshi]

from the famine insurance fund we should not expect any substantial return. If the agriculturist's lot is improved as a result of such works that alone ought to be considered sufficient remuneration, so far as the programme of small irrigation works is concerned. I hope the Honourable the Revenue Member will keep before himself the ideal that throughout this Presidency every acre of land which is fit for cultivation or which can be made fit for cultivation should be brought under successful cultivation. I mean to say, excepting that area which is necessarily required to be reserved for forests, all the area must be brought under successful cultivation. That should be the ideal, and if that ideal is achieved, Sir, in the course of a few years, our land revenue will be ensured, our agriculturists will enjoy prosperity which itself will repay the Government and the finances of this Presidency.

These are some of the suggestions, Sir, which I wish to make to the Honourable the Revenue Member in connection with the policy which he has enunciated about the administration of the famine fund. The Honourable the Revenue Member will make his name immortal in this presidency if he carries out a successful famine policy. Because this presidency is most affected by famine, and the policy he has undertaken is a policy which favourably affects the interests of the masses. We all know that the Honourable the Revenue Member is not technically responsible to this House as he is an Executive Councillor, but we know that he regards himself responsible to this legislature. I hope he will make for himself a lasting name by enunciating and carrying out a sound policy with regard to the famine insurance fund.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Sir, the Famine Insurance Fund during the last four years has accumulated to 1,48 lakhs and now it is not necessary to pile up this fund still further. This sum of 1,48 lakhs if not touched, may amount to 4 crores within the course of another 20 years. Now, we know that 10 lakhs of this fund is devoted to paying interest on the Sukkur Barrage loan for twenty years. Why should not the balance of the fund also be utilised for the purpose of getting through small irrigation schemes for relieving distress in other parts of the presidency for the same period of time? Instead of piling up this fund as in a miser's hoard—which may be of no use when great difficulty arises—it would be better to utilise it in such a way as to prevent difficulties in bad times. Now, there are three kinds of famine, food famine, water famine and fodder famine. The worst famine is that of water. There are certain unfortunate tracts in this presidency that have not sufficient water to drink. If they sink a well they will get salt water. The only place where they can get water is their village tanks which have been in existence from time immemorial. Unfortunately, some of these tanks also have silted up. In some parts, for example, Bhal tract in Ahmedabad district to which reference was made by the Honourable the Revenue Member and to which he has himself paid a special visit, nature is harsh to the residing population. In those places there is no other way of supplying them with water, which is the first necessity of life, except by repairing these tanks. The

[Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan]

Honourable Member Mr. C. V. Mehta visited those unfortunate places. He has seen young boys of ten years going one mile to fetch water, while their parents had gone to the fields. These young boys, who ought to be in school, have to go for the purpose of fetching water from a river one mile distant, and sometimes even the river may get dried up. Consequently, the repair of village tanks must be included in the works that are to be taken up with the help of the Famine Insurance Fund.

I have also one other suggestion to give to the Honourable the Revenue Member, and that is as regards the fodder reserves. One scheme that was advocated by him was that of having Government stores, and the other was that of Government getting the work done by contractors. I have received various complaints, Sir, from one place where this work is being done by contractors. In Modasa mahal of Ahmedabad zilla the work has been given to a contractor, and the contractor is required to give 15 or 20 lakhs of lbs. of grass in bad times to the cultivators. But unfortunately when the bad times come the cultivators do not get the amount of fodder necessary to feed their cattle. The contract was for five years at first, and though there have been complaints against the system, the contract has been extended to another period of five years. Therefore, in making such contracts the greatest possible care has to be taken. Instead of relieving the distress it may increase it. If the Government meadows are kept in the hands of Government, when famine stares us in the face they can be thrown open to the people for purposes of grazing; but if the meadows are given away to a private individual, that private individual with the help of local Government officials will profiteer out of it and the poor people will be put to greater distress.

Sir, with these few words, I would strongly urge on Government the necessity of utilising these 40 lakhs every year for the purpose of taking preventive measures in different parts of the presidency and thus saving the people from famine, which is one of the vital problems of this presidency.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District): Sir, we have had an opportunity of hearing a very long speech concerning the famine policy of Government, and we are very much thankful to the member in charge of that policy for the very high hopes he has held before us in connection therewith. Before he resumed his seat he invited suggestions from members of this side of the House, and in response to that invitation I wish to make a few. Yesterday, the honourable member drew before us a very beautiful and attractive picture of the policy; it was so attractive that we could not but applaud him when he concluded. But when we test the policy with actual facts we find a great distance between his ambition and his efforts. I wish to substantiate my statement by one or two illustrations. The most prominent of them is in connection with his fodder policy. Now, we learned from the Honourable Member that there is a desire on the part of Government to store fodder in districts where there is no grass or fodder available. It is a very good policy when looked at from the standpoint of the agriculturist and by

[Mr. L. S. Chaudhari]

the adoption of this policy those districts which are oftentimes subjected to the attacks of famine will be benefitted, and the agriculturists in those districts will be enabled to protect themselves from the attacks of famine. But that does not mean that in other districts which are not declared as famine stricken districts, a different policy should be adopted. Now, Sir, I may refer to the specific instance of my own district, East Khandesh. I wish to lay before this House that, although Government cherish a very genuine desire to bring redress to the agriculturists in famine stricken districts, they are acting otherwise in other districts, for instance, in East Khandesh. Sir, yesterday it was stated by the Honourable Member in charge that it was their resolute intention to sell fodder even at the rate of Rs. 15 per 1,000, lbs., in order to keep down the fodder market. That is a very honest desire and if realised it will bring substantial good to the agriculturists classes. But should not the same consideration that is extended to famine districts be extended to those districts which are not so affected by famine? Should not Government pursue the same desire to keep down the fodder market in other districts? With great disappointment we find that in East Khandesh, Government are adopting forest policy which instead of keeping down the fodder market will tend to keep it always very high. Now, Government has adopted recently the auction system of *kurans*. Last time the income realized from these auctions of *kurans* was Rs. 58,000 but on account of the change of policy of Government, Government have realised Rs. 1,49,000 on that account and the result of this system has been that it has kept the grass market always tight. The quantity the agriculturist used to get for the original price two years ago has to be purchased by them for a much higher price.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. METHA: May I ask if the honouable member will enlighten me as to the price the contractor realises? Does he charge market price or anything less?

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI: He does charge market price but when all *kurans* are auctioned then there will be competition among the sellers, because they make a common cause and keep the prices uniform and if all *kurans* are auctioned in this way, there will be no other source left to bring grass from and the price will remain high.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. METHA: Have they not always been auctioned like that?

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI: No, this system has been adopted recently for the last two or three years. Now, the same is the case with all the *kurans*. We find this even in the case of grass depôts in mountain ranges. Only recently four depôts in Chopada taluka have been auctioned and a cart load of grass which was available for 8 annas as permit fee is now available at the cost of 2 rupees. That is because the contractors who purchase these depôts demand 2 rupees as fee. Thus the agriculturists suffer on account of this forest system. These two circumstances have so much discouraged the agriculturists in East Khandesh that they are forced to ask for the discontinuance of this system to avoid calamity.

[Mr. L. S. Chaudhari]

Before this system was adopted, the agriculturists were tempted to store more grass to meet the effects of famine.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : May I know if the honourable member is talking of grass in forest ?

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI : No, Sir, I am referring to the grass which is available in the vicinity of the forest villages, and I am talking of the auctioning of such *kurans* which are quite in the vicinity of the forest villages in the centre of East Khandesh district. Also on account of the raising of the rates of grazing fee we have been forced to keep our cattle at home. When the rates of grazing fees were low we were able to send our cattle to the forest ranges, they used to stop there for three or four months and on account of this facility we used to save large quantities of fodder which we could with advantage utilise in the next year. But now, on account of these enhanced rates of grazing fees we are forced to keep our cattle at home and we are forced to utilize that fodder which we have been utilizing for famine purposes. I do not want to touch any more points regarding the famine policy of Government, except a few.

Now, I will deal with the water supply which has been referred to by the Honourable Member in charge yesterday. He told us and the honourable member for West Khandesh, Mr. Dev, has brought this fact to the notice of the House that there is great scarcity of water in the Satpura mountain range and the Honourable Member in charge has assured us that it will be removed. It is a very old difficulty in the way of agriculturists. Why was it not removed up till now ? What we see is that such things are now done by Government when they are not done by others. I can substantiate this statement by reference to a particular instance. In this year's budget of the district local board of East Khandesh a provision was requested to be made by the range forest officer for Rs. 2,000 for improving water supply in the Satpura Range. I am a member of the district local board and I refused the grant because the whole income goes to Government and not a single pie comes to the district local board. When the district local board refused to comply with the request Government took up the work and the difficulty will now be removed. The same will be the policy adopted in the case of boring machines. Much has been said of irrigation works and much has also been said of Government help. Government is said to be helping the agriculturist by affording sufficient supply of boring machines. Looking to the extent of the Central Division which consists of six big districts, the meagre supply of boring machines is next to nothing. The day before yesterday I asked a question of the Honourable Minister in charge of Forests as to the number of boring machines. He answered that there were three machines. But what is their condition ? One is to lie permanently in the Poona Agricultural College and the other two are not in good order. One of them is a hand machine and now I learn that it has been sent to Poona for being converted into a power machine. So Government are giving high hopes for the improvement of famine

[Mr. L. S. Chaudhari]

policy to be adopted, but as a matter of fact Government is not actually taking on their head the responsibility of making an adequate provision in that direction. As regards these boring machines I would like to say something more. In one of the villages which lie in the vicinity of Jalgaon, the number of wells in that village is 500 and on account of the low level of water it has become very difficult for the agriculturists to carry on their profession of sowing vegetables and these wells have been reduced to a position of empty cylinders. This boring experiment was attempted to be worked in one well by one agriculturist there. He was forced to pay half the charges required for the experiment though the boring operation was a failure. No doubt after that experience Government have come to this conclusion in the case of experimental boring at least that the charges should be borne by Government and not by the man whose well is experimented upon. It is a happy circumstance to learn, and if Government will undertake to bear the whole expenditure of experimental boring, I think there will be a great scope for this propaganda being spread amongst the agricultural classes very rapidly and I take it upon myself as a member of the district local board and of the district agricultural association that not only three but thirty boring machines will be insufficient to meet the demand of well-boring from the East Khandesh district.

Much has been said by my honourable friend from Ahmednagar that canal irrigation should be given preference to well irrigation. But that is a selfish policy. Where nature has provided resources Government have tapped all the sources in those districts, but wherever these facilities are not available as in East Khandesh I think Government should undertake this boring machine campaign very vigorously.

Before concluding, I wish to refer to one instance of the *pats*. The Honourable Member in charge stated yesterday that he is going to tap all sources of *pat* system, but why should he not take into his head to improve the condition of the *pats* already existing in the East Khandesh district? Are not questions asked in this session why these *pats* are not improved? Is it not possible for agriculturists to get water from the *pats* which are already in existence? Before concluding, I wish to suggest to the Honourable Member in charge that if he sincerely desires to bring improvement in the lot of agriculturists he should adopt this policy from the bottom of his heart and not from the tip of his tongue.

Mr. L. J. MOUNTFORD: Sir, after the exhaustive treatment with which the Honourable Member in charge has dealt with this subject I have very little to add on the question of measures that are necessary for meeting the famine or rather the scarcity years with which this presidency has been afflicted. We have several districts in the Central Division which are subject to frequent attacks of scarcity. I allude to the eastern portions of the Deccan, especially Ahmednagar and Sholapur. One honourable member has stated that the greatest scarcity we have to fear is the scarcity of water. I agree with him but we have little to fear from actual famine in the present day as in the days of old, when we had poor communications and when people

[Mr. L. J. Mountford]

had not acquired the travel habit. In these days scarcity is not necessarily due to lack of water but to rainfall coming too early in large volume and then after a long break coming down in over-whelming torrents in such a way as to be too late for *kharif* crop or too early for the *rabi* crop. One who has studied the history of famine in this country will be well aware of the conditions in 1878 after the terrible famine of 1877 when the rain fell copiously but too early to be of any use to the cultivator and, although it was exceptionally copious, another bad year resulted. Therefore, honourable members are quite right in saying that we must do our best to concentrate our attention on small irrigation works so as to impound every drop of this unseasonable rain so as to utilise the water for future crops in the manner in which the Honourable Member in charge has already described. Assuming therefore that there would be a famine due to scarcity of seasonable rain, you can at least get water for your animals by such measures. Then the next question that arises in time of scarcity is that you have to take adequate measures to provide fodder for the animals. The honourable member for Nagar will remember that in 1919 there was severe scarcity in his district, and an intense campaign of fodder relief was started ; many prickly-pear camps were opened where over 14,000 cattle were fed through the energy and enterprise of Mr. Beyts. This brings me on by way of parenthesis for a moment to a remark made by another honourable member that we could store and use prickly-pear as fodder for cattle. Prickly-pear is not really a food, it is mainly useful in providing bulk without which digestion cannot take place : it is a fibrous matter containing over 90 per cent. water and possessing nutritive qualities only to a small degree. In Ahmadnagar prickly-pear was mixed with cotton-seed, lentil husk and oil-cake and fed to the animals. By itself prickly-pear has not got sufficient nourishment to keep cattle alive. This scheme was carried on in Ahmednagar with success but prickly-pear as a source of fodder has to undergo a great deal of preparation and the spines must be absolutely eliminated because this species of prickly-pear is not the same as is found in the United States. There is a spineless variety of prickly-pear in the United States in Mexico and in Spain which has got no thorns. Unfortunately attempts to propagate that variety which exists in small quantities in this country were not successful. As soon as the Collector started his nurseries, the cattle owners got over the fence and stole the young plants. The prickly-pear that is found in this country requires excessive treatment before it can be stored as fodder and an experiment in this direction was only successful through the zeal and enterprise of the Collector. We cannot depend on such sporadic individual effort. Now, the real solution is to come back to *kadbi*. One honourable member asked why we should not cut and preserve grass which is easily available in our forests. It is perfectly true that we have in our forests sufficient grass to feed our cattle. But the cattle of the Deccan are not fond of forest grass. In the year 1912 and 1906, both the Dhond and Jeur depôts in the Poona and Sholapur districts were unable to dispose of the stocks of grass as the Deccan ryots refused to buy them because their

[Mr. L. J. Mountford]

cattle would not eat it. So, there is only one way in which you can deal with the fodder question and that is by providing *kadbi*, and therefore we are now asking you to provide us with sufficient money for storing *kadbi* which is the only way to solve the problem of providing fodder for cattle during scarcity years. The honourable member for Khandesh suggested that grass *kurans* could be thrown open to cattle to provide grass for fodder. I do not know whether he refers to forest *kurans* or not, but in scarcity years we do throw open the forest *kurans*. There is much to be said for the argument that if Government supplies fodder, the agriculturist will have little inducement to grow fodder himself. But the intention of Government is not to take upon itself the responsibility of feeding his cattle except to a small extent, and the necessity of providing fodder for the cattle of the agriculturist will still remain and he must still do his best to provide all the fodder he can from his fields in his own interest.

To go back to Khandesh, in 1912, a committee was appointed to consider how far charitable famine relief should be given to the people of this presidency. In their report they quote a statement from the Commissioner, C. D., which is pertinent to the question of fodder scarcity in Khandesh. It is as follows :

"Although the previous season had been an excellent one and though the stock of fodder ought to have been sufficient for 18 months, the ryots of East Khandesh petitioned the Collector stating that the cattle were dying and the Collector thereupon threw the forest open. . . . It seems to me that the concession of this sort is nothing more than pandering to the avarice of the people. The ryots of East Khandesh are perhaps the wealthiest in India : They have a magnificent soil and a certain rainfall, and they can and ought to grow fodder crops sufficient to ensure their having in reserve a stock to carry them over a possible bad year. Instead of this, in their greed for money they had sown so much cotton that three weeks' delay in the advent of the rain reduced them to absolute distress."

The point I want to labour is that it is impossible for Government to take the sole responsibility for feeding the cattle of agriculturists. What it will do is to provide fodder in those districts where it is essential in order to protect the cattle of the agriculturists. Elsewhere the cultivator should grow his own fodder and reserve his surplus in years of plenty for use in years of scarcity. They can do much. In a good year in Sholapur you will see the agriculturist stores his fodder in small heaps, called Depans. He covers this *kadbi* over with clods of earth and you can see these mounds all over his fields. But it is not possible for the agriculturist to stock all the fodder that is necessary to meet a year of scarcity on account of the danger of theft and especially on account of danger of fire. In the fine soils of the Walwa taluka of the Satara district we get in good years the finest jowari crops and there the ryot is used to store large stacks of *kadbi*. In one season there were countless fires (1912) and rick firing there, as elsewhere, is an obstacle to any storage on a large scale. If he has an enemy he is entirely at his mercy. If one match is thrown, his year's labour is dissipated in smoke in five minutes. There again we come back to *kadbi* which is the only salvation, when it is stored by government agency, so that it can be free from theft and kept under proper protection.

[Mr. L. J. Mountford]

There have been many interesting suggestions made by honourable members as regards water supply. The honourable member for Ahmednagar desires that everything should be done in order to avail ourselves of the water supply that comes down from the various nallas and ponds, rivers and distributaries. The system of *bandharas* and *pats* is a very old one. *Bandharas* are what we call *dharans* in the Konkan and are used even in that locality where there is a fair amount of rainfall. A *bandhara* is merely a dam across a small stream, rivulet, or *nalla* from which a small canal takes off, called a *pat*, and in the Khanapur taluka of the Satara district we have hundreds of such *pats* and *bandharas*. There is no doubt that much might be done to improve the conditions of these nallas. I am not aware of the circumstances alluded to by one honourable member under which the Collector refused to take any further action on an application for *bandharas*. I would be very glad indeed to investigate that, but I would point out that most of these small nallas where single *pats* can be thrown out on small *bandharas* have already been worked. For, this is a practice which has been going on for hundreds of years. But it is when we come to the larger nallas with a larger *bandhara*, which would give us possibly a better *pat* or canal, that we cannot possibly investigate such a scheme, which would serve several people and no doubt benefit them, unless we have some expert who can go into the matter. It is quite possible that, in the case which the honourable member referred to, the Collector was powerless, because it was doubtful whether the money could be sunk in such a project with a fair chance of success. It is hoped that we shall be able, out of this fund, to pay for the services of experts who can be used for such investigation, and I would like to see several such officers engaged in order that we may, to the best of our ability, develop the resources of the country in so far as we can tap these nallas where the waters at present are going to waste. But I would like honourable members to understand that you cannot do very much in a district where there is no water. We have been told by the honourable member from Ahmednagar, perfectly truly, that the subsoil water is extremely low in Ahmednagar. That is indeed so, and it is a grave question whether, by sinking wells in a district where we have no artesian formation, we shall be able to tap water at such a depth that the bullocks could work the *mhot*. You all know that you cannot work a *mhot* much deeper than 50 feet, and that is going to a very great depth indeed; whereas, I think, in many parts of Ahmednagar we shall have to go even deeper. That is exactly where our water finder comes in. He will find those localities where the water is at a convenient depth from the surface. Major Pogson does not merely find out where the water is, but he will calculate what amount of water there is and at what depth it is. Therefore, the use of the human water finder is the only solution in a district like Ahmednagar where our water supply is so low that we can only, with profit, tap those areas for wells where by chance we have the water nearer the surface. But I do not want honourable members to think that this water finding is confined to one individual alone. I talked

[Mr. L. J. Mountford]

the matter over with Mr. Strutton in Sholapur, and he told me of an extremely good water finder. Water finders are common in every country in the world, and we want to get those who are really genuine water finders who can assist us, and who are not the quacks that one so often meets running round the villages. Once we have this water finder to give us water, we shall start boring. Now, one honourable member said that it is no good boring unless you sink a well. He has said that that applies to places where there is an artesian or sub-artesian formation. That is perfectly true, but in most parts of the Deccan we have no artesian formation as in Gujarat. But the well will be sunk, and if it is successful, it has got to be paid for and the lucky owner has got to pay for it; if not successful, Government is going to help him as far as possible. In Africa, I may say, Government bores for the farmer, often to a depth of 1,800 feet—they have an artesian formation—and only charges him if the bore is successful. No doubt Government will be prepared to treat the unfortunate owner as lightly as possible if the well is unsuccessful. Everyone who has gone into the district sees the very large number of disused wells which have been sunk and abandoned, because they have not struck water. We want to save the ryot the enormous expenditure that will fall upon him and disappointment by the sinking of wells which do not come to fruition. As regards the question.....

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT : Is the honourable member likely to take long ?

Mr. L. J. MOUNTFORD : I will end as soon as I possibly can.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT : I have no objection to his continuing, but it is 4 o'clock.

Mr. L. J. MOUNTFORD : The honourable member Mr. Bole told us that the boring machines are very few. That is a matter which can be remedied very easily by accepting this grant, which will enable us to increase the number of boring machines.

As regards drinking water, we have heard here stories of little children going one mile for their water. I am afraid that did not affect me very much, because I come from the Southern Division in which there is the district of Bijapur, where I find that the people in the north of the Ghataprabha have to go six miles to get water. In order to fill a bullock cart with water they have to perform a journey of six miles and back and the bullock cart conveys three copper pots. I ask you to consider what is the condition of those people in the Bilgi peta who have no water at all, or the villages north of the Ghataprabha who have to go six miles to get their water. There again, it shows how necessary it is that we should have funds at our disposal to fight famine and to increase the resisting power of the people by supplying them with good water. Where then so much could be done, I trust this House will vote liberal expenditure on measures to render more secure the position of the ryot. Anything to make the lot of the ryot easier should be welcomed by this House, and I am sure that measures which are intended for this purpose will meet with the strong approval of all members who are present here

[Mr. L. J. Mountford]

to-day. Anything we can do to increase the resisting power of the ryot against years of scarcity must conduce to the benefit of the presidency.

(After recess.)

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Sir, I venture to make a few suggestions to the honourable member in charge about famine grant and shall first start with his policy of fodder storage. I really thank him for what he has done as regards this matter. My suggestion, however, is that he need not overdo what he has done, because the storage of local kadbi in the district itself by the district local board may raise the cost in that district for the year, and, after all, the agency of the district local board is very costly, because if I take only 4 lakhs, provided this year, it means 50 lakhs of bundles to be counted, gathered and stored, and will require to be weighed, and all that will require a very big staff and the staff will have to be paid for. I do not know, in the absence of any other figures, what the district local board of Ahmednager is going to do. But, so far as I can see, it is going to bale this fodder also. If not, it is all right; so this policy of local kadbi fodder should be so handled that it may not raise the price in the area to the level of famine prices. This brings me to the question whether the forest fodder grass is to be continued or not. From what the Honourable the Revenue Member has stated, I am afraid he is going to do away with the forest grass altogether. I do admit that Navapur grass is of inferior quality and rather costly to the cultivators, but we cannot, in the present circumstances, afford to do away with this grass.....

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Not until other grass is available.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : At the same time, he should take precaution to see that the grass at Navapur is improved, as the quality of the grass there can be improved, it should be done. The rainfall there is 15 to 20 inches, which will help him to do this and so he should try to change the kind of that grass. Now, if instead of the boards, he can substitute the agency either of co-operative societies or villages themselves, I think every village should be given this grant without interest and every village should be called upon to store its own grass fodder, and I believe this costly agency of district local board can be avoided and the district local board can be freed from the risk and responsibility. Again the honourable member's trouble about the high cost of grass, of course, is due to one factor and that is the Government of India, and I should request the Government and specially the honourable member in charge of famine operations that he should write to the Government of India that for famine grass at least, if not for other grass, the railway rates should be lowered and it should be allowed to be carried from one district to another or in the same district at a far cheaper rate than at present. At present the cost of transport is so much enhanced that it is more than the cost of the grass itself. So the Government of India should be

[Rao Sahab D. P. Desai]

pressed or rather this Government should sit upon the Government of India to give this concession so far as famine grass is concerned, and unless that is done, I do not think that this mere storage of *hadbi* will meet the entire needs. There must be grass to supply the deficiency. I really regret, Sir, that the honourable member cannot see his way to spending famine fund for water-supply. If the rules are stretched a little, just as they have done in the case of the circuit house at Ahmedabad and for granting that amount of 10 lakhs annually to the Sukkur Barrage, then I think he can bring the water famine within the scope of this famine grant, and I quite agree with the honourable member for Ahmedabad who just spoke that 42 lakhs should not be taken to reserve, but some expenditure should be incurred for the water-supply of villages from that 42 lakhs of rupees. In any case, I do not think this Council would take any objection if some expenditure is incurred from this grant for village water-supply. In my own district local board I had a survey made and I found that unless the district local board was prepared to spend Rs. 1,75,000, the problem of water-supply of the villages could not be solved, and all the members of Government know that the district local boards are quite unable without Government help to spend such a large amount. So the Honourable the Revenue Member should take the earliest opportunity of spending some amount from this 42 lakhs towards meeting the water-supply in villages. Practically a large number of wells require deepening and boring. Boring alone cannot do. That should be accompanied by deepening of the wells. Deepening of the wells is quite essential to get to the water level which has gone lower. So a substantial amount should be reserved from this amount for water-supply of the villages. Unfortunately, I am sorry the honourable member could not see his way to put that resolution into effect—the resolution that this House passed which my honourable friend from Ahmedabad (Mr. Saheba) moved regarding giving free grants to people who sink wells. If that were done, I think much of the expenditure would have been saved, and if he reconsiders that suggestion and if he sets apart from famine grant some amount to meet interest charges or to meet any loss from bringing that resolution into effect, even then there would be in the end a great saving to Government.

Another thing that requires to be still more looked into is that interest charges on tagavi loans are very heavy. Government need not make any profit on tagavi transactions and I do not think that they should charge high rates of interest; they should charge only the rates at which they themselves borrow. If all these things are brought into effect, I think famine conditions would be somewhat alleviated.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: I move a closure, Sir.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I accept it.

Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI (Bombay City, South): Mr President, we must all be grateful to the Honourable the Revenue Member for his lucid exposition of the famine policy of the Government of Bombay. We did not know the inner working of Government as regards the famine

[Dr. K. E. Dadachanji]

policy, but after this exposition of the policy we know that Government are doing all that they can do under the circumstances. He has lucidly explained their policy as regards storage of fodder, grass, *kadbi*, boring of wells and various other things required in connection with relief of famine.

Mr. President, the Honourable the Revenue Member has asked the House to give whatever suggestions they wanted to give in this connection regarding their districts, but most of the suggestions made by several honourable members, I submit, are not constructive ones. As regards perennial canals and small irrigation works such as irrigation wells, my opinion is that perennial canals are suited to certain districts only and wells are suited for certain other districts. This is the opinion of the Irrigation Commission, who were of opinion that in certain famine stricken districts large canals cannot be introduced. In those districts, Sir, we have to follow a different policy. To give you an instance. In the Nasik district we have certain rivers, which if bunded will give water for the use of cattle and for human beings. Last year we made a *kutchha bundhara* in the valley of the river Valdi at a cost of Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 3,000 which was raised from local subscriptions. That *bundhara* raised the level of the sub-soil water in the surrounding places and the wells there were filled with water. Why not Government get such works done at a small cost of Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 3,000? That will give water to the depressed classes and to the cattle. Take for instance the Takli village in Nasik district. There the Godavari water is running to waste. There is that old Mahratta work there. There are high rocks, and we can dam the river up to a considerable height and we can turn it into as big a lake as Vihar lake of Bombay municipality. For this a surveyor was taken by us, and it was estimated that with an expenditure of Rs. 20,000 we could provide water. Then, in certain districts, there are perennial springs especially in Western Ghats. We can turn them into channels and weirs and they will flow throughout the year. These are things which the Honourable the Revenue Member should take into consideration.

As regards the famine stricken areas, we know that Ahmednagar, Sholapur, Satara, certain parts of Poona and Bijapur are always affected by famine. We know these are the areas, and we can devise means and measures to avoid great hardship to the poor people. Mr. President, I know that a report was made by one Government officer who was especially appointed for this purpose some years ago. And recently after that report, another expert, Mr. Ali Akbar, was appointed and he surveyed the famine stricken areas, made huge estimates and plans, but they are all pigeon-holed in the Government Secretariat and still do not see the light of day. Government can look them up if available and they can be brought to serve our purpose. They are all lying idle at present.

Then, Sir, there is another point, and that is as regards our statutory reserve of 63 lakhs for famine insurance. We have to reserve 63 lakhs

[Dr. K. E. Dadachanji]

every year until we build up a reserve of four crores. Now, we have not got such virulent types of famine as we had in the seventies and eighties known as Chhaparia famine. We have not now to face the horrors of such famines. What with our net work of railways and what with our small irrigation works the horrors of those old famines are gone. Now, whenever there is a bad year of famine, we have only to spend from 20 to 25 lakhs of rupees. On the other hand, we have now 63 lakhs in our hands. We can utilise it for various small protective works and in giving liberal loans to the agriculturists. If they want the money for sinking wells we must give them half the grant free if they carry out the works according to our direction, and they should thus be encouraged to dig wells.

With these remarks, Mr President, I beg to withdraw the motion, now that the policy is declared.

Question put and leave granted.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Does the honourable member Dr. Dadachanji wish to move the next item.*

Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI: I do not wish to move it, because it relates to the same subject, viz., the boring of wells. The honourable member has explained his policy about the wells.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Sir, I ask for a grant of Rs. 53,60,000 for Famine Relief—Reserved (Famine Relief and Insurance).

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Sir, I move:

That a grant of Rs. 1,68,53,000 for Civil Works, partly transferred and partly reserved be made,

This grant, as shown on page 5 of the Provincial Civil Works Budget Estimate, is composed of the following items: Rs. 1,00,8,000 for 41, Civil Works proper; Rs. 14,15,000 for establishment under 60, Civil Works; Rs. 98,800 for tools and plant; and the rest for establishment charges and tools and plant for Irrigation, Deccan Irrigation, Sind Irrigation, Sukkur Barrage, etc. Sir, many enquiries have been made from me, and quite rightly, why under 41, Civil Works out of revenue a larger amount has been budgeted than in the current year, and my attention has been drawn to the figures for establishments, Rs. 34,40,000 shown under 41, Civil Works, and Rs. 14,10,000 under 60, Civil Works. I think these are quite legitimate enquiries and it is my duty to satisfy the House that these figures are illusory and that there has really been no increased expenditure on establishments, under 41, Civil Works. As regards the budgetting of establishments, this year an innovation has been introduced, by which certain percentages for establishments are budgeted against 60, Civil Works, Irrigation, and the residue has been debited to 41, Civil Works, and I will presently show this House that there is absolutely no increase of expenditure under 41, Civil

*Reduce to Rs. 98,000—Item 201—Measures for the improvement of water-supply through boring wells—(a) Recurring expenditure Rs. 1,08,380 (Budget p. 222).

[Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain]

Works. There is no manipulation of figures, but this is merely the result of the new system. If honourable members bear with me for a short time, I will show them that there is absolutely no increase in my establishment. I will first refer honourable members to page 5 of my Civil Works budget, 41, Provincial. If honourable members look at the various amounts for establishment for irrigation, they will see that the amounts that have been put down for irrigation only are about 44 lakhs. I will then request the House to refer to page 41 of the same book, that is Provincial Civil Works budget estimate 1925-26. Honourable members of this House are aware that my department deals with roads and buildings, and the specialist officers. Now for simplifying the accounts, I will take the whole of the Secretariat department. The Secretariat does the work not only of the roads and buildings branches of the Public Works Department but of all the irrigation works in the Presidency Proper, in Sind as well as of the Sukkur Barrage. But for simplifying the account, I say, put the amount that is provided for the whole of the Secretariat at Rs. 3,55,000. Then come the specialist officers, electrical engineer, consulting architect, mechanical engineer to Government, establishment for Public Works Department, Central Stores Workshop at Dapuri, Superintending Engineers, Northern, Central and Southern divisions.

Now, if honourable members add them up, the total comes to Rs. 34,81,000. See page 41, that is, the last page. The whole total comes to Rs. 34,81,900. If honourable members compare this with the present year's budget estimates which are shown side by side, they will see that in spite of the time scale increments, the establishment in the roads and buildings branch department of the Civil Works has been reduced. I will not dilate on that point, but I want to explain the amount that has been budgeted for establishment for roads and buildings, that is, Rs. 34,81,900.

Now, I will take honourable members a step further and refer them to the Irrigation head on the same page; if honourable members like I will take each item the details of which.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Will it not be better to go into details when each cut is proposed? The Honourable Minister will have the right of reply on each motion.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Now if they add up the irrigation establishment charges at page 41, the amount that is budgetted for irrigation is much less than the actual expenditure. Therefore it is illusory; the increased expenditure that is shown under 41, Civil Works, is the result of the new system that has been followed. Now, Sir, I will show the honourable House that I had been followed. Now, Sir, I will show the honourable House that I had conferences with my superintending engineers and I asked them to reduce their establishment charges and I must say to their credit that all the three divisions have reduced their establishment charges in spite of the time scale increments. If honourable members take the establishment charges for the Secretariat, the specialist officers

[Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain]

and for the three divisions, and compare them with the estimates of the present year, they will see that expenditure on establishments in the roads and buildings branch of the Public Works Department has been reduced to the extent of Rs. 77,000. Sir, I have also heard complaints that the percentage charges for the execution of the works are very heavy. But honourable members should bear in mind that the Secretariat establishment does not do supervision work only for the roads and buildings branch of the Public Works Department but for other branches as well. There is the Secretary for irrigation, the Under Secretary and the large establishment under them. This establishment also does the additional work of the Sukkur Barrage. In all fairness, therefore, the roads and buildings branch ought to bear only one-third or at most one-half of the total establishment charges. If we deduct half of the establishment charges from the roads and buildings branch and also deduct the establishment charges for the specialist officers who do not help in building or repairing roads.....

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : May I know, Sir, what is the actual amount the Honourable Minister requires for his establishment.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : If we consider that the establishments costing from 23 to 24 lakhs are for works done all over the presidency, for the Military Department and for the local bodies, etc., to the extent of about two crores of rupees it will be seen that the percentage of establishment charges is not more than 13 or 14 per cent. Therefore, the roads and buildings branch of the P. W. D. is the cheapest agency for the construction of works.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Do you charge the Military when you work for them ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Yes ; we do.

Now, Sir, the grant I ask this Council to sanction for Civil Works proper is Rs. 1,68,53,000. Out of this amount, 68 lakhs are for both Irrigation and Civil Works, as I said in the beginning. Out of the balance of one crore, we are spending 50 lakhs on repairs to our communications and buildings. The value of these assets is from 72 to 73 crores. If we do not keep these assets in good repair, it will be a loss to us. What is the percentage of expenditure on the value of our assets ? It is very small considering that there has been an insistent demand from the other side to keep our communications and roads in good order.

Referring to the illusory figure of 34 lakhs, which I have already explained, I should further like to inform the House that we will spend 14 lakhs on works in progress and new works. We will spend 7 lakhs on communications which are in the interests of the people. Then there is an amount of 11 lakhs for discretionary grants. Out of this amount, we will give grants to the heads of the various departments about 24 in number, such as the Police, Irrigation, Medical, Commissioners, etc., to be spent on minor works. We have during the last few years been receiving demands to the extent of 18 to 19 lakhs. But we have not been

[Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain]

able to meet all these demands, and we have budgetted only 11 lakhs. Then, there are certain grants to local bodies. We do work for the local bodies and according to the P. W. D. Code we charge 24 per cent. for establishment and tools. But the local bodies have been complaining that they cannot afford to pay so much, and therefore we pay 12½ per cent. out of this 24 per cent. as refund to the local bodies. This amount is shown as a grant-in-aid to the local bodies.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: I want to know how much the Honourable Minister, wants for his 60 and 41, Civil Works. Does he want 34 plus 14, that is, 48 lakhs for his departments.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: That is included in the total demand of one crore and sixty-eight lakhs I have moved.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: Does the honourable member include in his demand the establishment for the Sukkur Barrage?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I have already explained to the House that the demand is made for the purpose of allowing honourable members to move the motions for omission or reduction and the honourable member in charge will reply on those motions.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: The demand, item No. 26, Civil Works is shown as transferred. The Sukkur Barrage is not transferred.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: That is a misprint. Rs. 1,15,73,000 is transferred and Rs. 52,77,000 is reserved.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind): Sir, I move:

"Omit item No. 195 (page 219 of the Budget)—Increase in the cadre of accountants—Rs. 7,000."

The ultimate annual recurring expenditure on this head is shown as Rs. 32,000. In the remarks it is stated:

"The Accountant General has proposed to establish a self-contained cadre of accountants for this Department by providing for the usual leave and training reserves. The introduction of a self-contained cadre will involve the addition of 10 men on Rs. 80-10-250—²⁰/₅ 270 and the abolition of four posts of Apprentice Accountants."

I move this objection for the purpose of bringing to the notice of the Government the difficulties that exist in the case of the accountants. In the Public Works Department, the establishment of accountants is the only one which is not under the Honourable Minister in charge. According to the information conveyed to me by the Secretary, Public Works Department, last July, the accountants' establishment is entirely under the control of the Government of India. The result of this duality of charge—that is to say the accountants of the Public Works Department directly under the Government of India and the rest of the establishment under the Honourable Minister, a member of this Council—has introduced a confusion which is producing a great discontent in the cadre and in the whole service. I want to know exactly what is intended to be done by this arrangement which involves an expenditure of Rs. 32,000. While the pay of the whole of the clerical establishment has

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

been revised and extra pay has been given to them, while the clerks under the accountants are classed with the rest of the clerks and receive their pay and promotion accordingly, rising up to Rs. 150, the accountant continues as he is. The revision of pay given to the clerks does not affect the accountant and he still continues in his grade of Rs. 80 to Rs. 100. On account of this, an anomaly is created,—the clerk of the accountant getting more pay than the accountant. This anomaly was specially brought to the notice of the Secretary, Public Works Department, on the last occasion by me. He admitted the anomaly, but expressed inability to interfere in this matter, because it was the concern of the Government of India. I want to know specially whether the Government of India has handed over the appointments of the accountants to the Bombay Government, and whether the Bombay Government is providing for a new cadre for them on the same lines as for the rest of the clerical establishment, and whether the anomalies have been removed, and how matters stand so far as the accountants are concerned. If that is not being done, I do not see why this item of Rs. 32,000 should be sanctioned, in the face of the accumulated grievances of that establishment, with all the anomalies created in the very body of the Executive Engineers' establishment. Therefore, I would request the Honourable Minister or whoever is in charge, to give some satisfactory explanation with regard to this item.

Question proposed.

Mr. K. S. FRAMJI: Sir, the present item in the budget has been introduced at the instance of the Auditor-General, who has pointed out to the Accountant General that the Public Works Department Accounts Code requires that the cadre of accountants should be self-contained, and consequently the Accountant General has come to this Government to ask for the provision of 10 extra men that he wants to make the cadre self-contained. The accountants are under the establishment of the Accountant General and as the Deputy President remarked that officer is under the control of the Government of India, but the accountants work directly under the orders of the Executive Engineer, and are attached to their offices; hence provision for their salaries is made in the Provincial Civil Works Budget, which consequently comes under the purview of this Council. The sanctioned cadre of accountants is 55, which includes 50 accountants and 5 senior accountants. Of the 50, 11 are temporary accountants. The Accountant General has pointed out that in order to make his cadre of accountants a self-contained one, we shall have to provide for leave reserves and training at the rate sanctioned for his office with regard to the other parts of his establishment, that is at 17 per cent. of the existing cadre. Seventeen per cent. of 55 is 10. He asks this Government to allow him to employ 10 more hands, and to increase the present establishment of 55 to 65. The result of that will be that when any of the accountants goes on leave, he will not have to employ temporary hands, as he now does. At present he has no leave reserve, and consequently, he has to employ men in place of those who

[Mr. K. S. Framji]

on leave. This will involve an additional expenditure of Rs. 21,000 for 10 men at an average rate of Rs. 175. The scale of pay of accountants given in the Blue Book is Rs. 80 rising to Rs. 270; calculating at an average rate of Rs. 175 the extra cost for 10 men for 11 months would come to Rs. 21,000. But he does not want the whole of this amount. Part of it, Rs. 10,100 has been separately provided for at page 41 of the 41, Civil Works Budget against "leave allowances for accountants"; a further sum of Rs. 4,000 is included for 4 apprentice accountants in the lump sum provision of Rs. 99,100 under "revision of pay of establishment" in the same budget. He therefore only wants the difference which comes to Rs. 7,000, and that is the amount he asks the honourable House to sanction for the next year. The four apprentice accountants will be dispensed with. The Accountant General is under the Government of India. The accountants work directly under the Executive Engineers, and therefore come under this Government, and that is the reason why these items are provided for in the budget. This provision of 10 extra accountants would bring about an ultimate recurring expenditure of Rs. 32,000, which would be for 10 men at the maximum rate of Rs. 270. For the next year, the provision is only for Rs. 7,000.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind): Sir, as no satisfactory answer has been given to my objection, I do not think I would be justified in withdrawing my motion. My whole point is this. There is the Executive Engineer's office, the Divisional and District offices, in which one portion of the establishment is entirely under the Honourable Minister.

The accounts branch of that establishment of the same executive engineer is under the Accountant General, that is to say, under the Government of India. The executive engineer recommends to this Government an improvement of the prospects of the whole establishment. This Government sanctions the improvement of the prospects of the clerical establishment of the executive engineer but point-blank refuses to do anything for the accounts branch, which is a part and parcel of the same office. They referred the matter to the Government of India. Mr. Griffiths told me, that they had written to the Government of India to improve the prospects of the accountants and to bring them on the same level with the clerical establishment. The Government of India refused. The accountants are then left in exactly the same deplorable position as they have been in, with the anomaly added to it, that an accountant gets less than his own clerk in some cases. Representations have been made to the Government of Bombay on that account. The anomalies do exist. The honourable member the Chief Secretary, P. W. D. admitted to me that there is that anomaly in some cases. Now, in spite of these anomalies existing, the Accountant General, instead of improving the prospects of these servants of the engineering department, wishes a cadre of 17 more on the same prospects of discontent to be added and wishes to perpetuate that discontent thereby. My submission to this House is that this House should compel the Government of India, through the Bombay Government, which is managing the whole

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

establishment to employ a grant like this, of Rs. 21,000 in satisfying the legitimate aspirations of the cadre that already exists, instead of spending it upon an additional cadre of 17. I therefore object to the provision of Rs. 21,000 every year for the purpose of providing 17 more men when the cadre itself is, according to the standards laid down by this Government for other clerical establishment, low paid and there is discontent in the service. That is my contention and that contention has not been replied to. I therefore submit to the House that until that is done, this item should be held in abeyance.

The Honourable Khan Bahandar SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Sir, I have not heard from the honourable the Deputy President anything about the merits of the case. All along, he has been arguing about the difficulties under which these people work and saying that we should raise their salaries, and because we have not raised their salaries, he does not want that we should be given this grant. I do not think the honourable the Deputy President can ask this House to raise the salaries of any particular individuals under the Government of India Act. Moreover, Sir, these accountants all over India are under the control of the Government of India as this is a central subject. If the anomaly which the honourable the Deputy President pointed out exists, it does not affect this presidency only; it affects all other presidencies as well. However, the question of keeping the accountants in the Bombay Presidency—and also the accountants of other presidencies similarly—under the control of the local Governments is under the consideration of Government of India; and when we become their sole masters we will do everything in our power for them. But at present what the honourable member asks us to remedy is not in our hands. I hope therefore the honourable House will sanction this grant.

Question put and lost.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I should like to ask honourable members what is their view as regards the manner these items are to be taken up by the House. There are in the total grant of Rs. 1,68 lakhs certain items which are transferred, certain items which are reserved and certain items which contain provision for both transferred and reserved. The way in which the motions for reduction and omission have been printed put them in the order in which the items appear in the budget; whether they are transferred or reserved, no distinction is made. I have got a separate list of motions which shows transferred and reserved items separately, and those which are both transferred and reserved. If honourable members desire that we should take the transferred first, then the reserved, and then the transferred and reserved, we will follow that procedure. If they desire that the motions as printed should be taken in that order it can be done. In the latter case I will be glad, if the House so desires, to intimate to what category each item belongs. I should like to know what are the wishes of the honourable House.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : I think the second course is better, according to the printed list.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : Yes, I think that is better, especially as honourable members prepare their study or criticism of the motions in the order in which they appear on the printed paper.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Very well ; I will then intimate to the House on each occasion whether the item proposed to be omitted or reduced belongs to transferred, or reserved, or jointly to both.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : I rise to a point of order, Sir. The demand here is made under 41, Civil Works : all the establishment is brought under that head, 41, Provincial Civil Works, for 1925-26. Provincial Civil Works, 41, is a transferred subject—the whole of it. If the establishments are brought under that,—as soon as they are brought under that head 41, Civil Works,—they all become transferred. How can there be any difference ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : It is for Government to explain that point. It can hardly be called a point of order. The honourable House is entitled to move reductions or omissions in regard to both transferred and reserved establishments. The only difference is that in the case of reserved the grants can be restored.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : That is exactly my position. If it is brought under 41, we can rule out any item without any fear of restoration. We have absolute right to cut it off if the head is made 41, Civil Works.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : That is so under the Act, and I should like Government to explain what they have got to say about it.

Mr. G. WILES : Sir, I think I might make clear in the first instance the difference between a budget statement and a demand. They do not always coincide. The items which come properly, by the Devolution Rules, under 41, Civil Works, are shown in our Civil Works Budget at page 231. That is the transferred portion of the demand which is now being made. That comes to Rs. 1,17 lakhs. That is the transferred department. The whole of that is entirely distinct from the rest of the demand which is now being made. For purposes of accounting it is necessary that we should ask for all establishments together, and we have added in this demand (which we call partly transferred and partly reserved) certain establishments which belong to reserved. We are not introducing any new procedure. The difficulty has come to light only during this present session, because we came to the conclusion that we ought to follow, as far as we could, I think it is rule 26 of the rules of business of this House that, "as far as possible demands for transferred and reserved should be put separately...." It has never been the practice hitherto to separate these demands, but we have done our best in this session to differentiate them. It is not possible to differentiate Public Works establishments. If the House likes I am quite prepared to give a detailed explanation of the reasons for showing all these establishments under one head. The demand for 1,68 lakhs which

[Mr. G. Wiles]

we are now making for account purposes under the Honourable Minister includes 52 lakhs for reserved establishment. This is done for convenience of account keeping. If the House wishes to know why it is essential, I am prepared to explain it.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The position would be cleared if you explain why these demands are made by a Minister who administers the transferred subjects. The financial position under the Reform scheme is that there are certain items which are non-votable and they are not placed before the House; they are stated in the budget, but being non-votable the House has no control over them. All the superior services are practically non-votable, and though they may be serving under the Ministers their salaries and emoluments are not subject to the vote of this House. Then, there are "reserved" subjects and "transferred" subjects not "reserved" services and "transferred" services. The reserved subjects are given in charge of the Governor in Council and the transferred subjects are in charge of the Governor acting with the Minister. The Public Works Department represents a transferred subject, and with the exception of the salaries and emoluments of officers on the non-votable list, serving in that department every item that is included in the demand as for Excise and Education, is votable. In these circumstances, how is it that Public Works, which is a transferred subject, can contain such a big item as 52 lakhs which is reserved. I can quite understand that there would be many items which are non-votable. If the amount comes under a reserved head, it ought to come under the department of one of the honourable Members of the Executive Council. That is the issue that the Honourable the Deputy President has raised, and for which an explanation is needed.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: On a point of information, Sir. What is this 52 lakhs reserved? Are they all salaries or do they contain anything besides salaries?

Mr. G. WILES: The actual figures are: Total demand, 1,68 lakhs; 1,15 lakhs relates to transferred items, 52 lakhs relates to reserved items; and out of that 52 lakhs reserved, Rs. 43,69,000 are for establishments, and the balance for tools and plant.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: May I make a suggestion, which will give Government and Mr. Wiles time to consider and place before the House the details of the 52 lakhs which is said to be reserved? Will it not be better if the Honourable Minister asks in the first instance a grant for 1,15 lakhs, so that the motions for omissions or reductions can be proceeded with on that basis, and if it is decided that the balance of 52 lakhs is also to be asked for by the Honourable Minister it can be done as a separate demand? The business before the House will be greatly facilitated by this procedure. When asking for the 52 lakhs Government can give all the information that the House requires regarding that item.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: Sir, the demand under transferred is stated to be 1,15 lakhs. But on page 231 of the White Book which the Honourable

[Mr. D. B. Adwani]

the Finance Secretary quoted, we find under 41, Civil Works the total voted demand comes only to Rs. 1,04,67,000.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Mr. President, perhaps honourable members have not noticed the figures that are shown on page 5 of the preliminary issue of the Provincial Civil Works Budget Estimate. I think they will find all the figures that are in dispute shown there in some detail. That shows that under 41, Civil Works there is Rs. 1,00,58,000 (transferred); then under 60, Civil Works, establishment Rs. 14,15,800 and tools and plant Rs. 98,800 (transferred); then you have XIII-Irrigation, etc., establishment Rs. 7,57,700 and tools and plant Rs. 53,000; 15, other Revenue expenditure, establishment Rs. 5,47,020 and tools and plant Rs. 38,180; 55, Construction of Irrigation Works, etc., establishment Rs. 30,64,100 and tools and plant Rs. 8,17,400. That makes up the total of Rs. 1,68,50,000 which is the demand moved by the Honourable Minister.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The Honourable the Finance Member will see that the whole amount of Rs. 1,68,50,000 is shown as "transferred" on page 5. The whole difficulty is how 52 lakhs of this could be "reserved".

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: I think there has been a misprint. I think those figures commencing XIII-Irrigation should be shown as "reserved".

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The whole item is shown as transferred not only in this, but in the printed papers everywhere. I am subsequently told that 52 lakhs are reserved. I think the best plan is to leave the reserved portion out of the present demand, and move for the total demand for the transferred department only. Then the demand for the reserved portion may be moved separately, and when moving that Government can give the House all the information they desire. We will deal with the demand proposed for the reserved departments separately.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Well, this is the system. We were told to ask in this manner by the Auditor General who is the final arbiter of the manner in which the accounts are to be kept. And the immediate purpose is to enable the accounts to be kept together for establishments which are partly used under the Honourable the Minister on transferred subjects and partly under the Honourable Member for Irrigation. Many of these officers are transferable. Sometimes they are in one branch and sometimes in another branch, and the whole matter is so intricate and linked up one branch with another that it is exceedingly difficult to deal with them separately.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: May I draw your attention to rule 26 to which reference has been made which says:

"Demands affecting reserved and transferred subjects shall, so far as may be possible, be kept distinct,"
and that is what I am suggesting. You have got distinct figures for reserved and transferred: why not put the demands separately?

Mr. G. WILES : Sir, in order to understand this it will be necessary to explain the system of accounts. If the House will turn to Public Works Department Budget page 41, Civil Works, they will see the whole establishment of engineers and clerks is put down there in detail; some of them belong partly to transferred and partly to reserved. Sometimes establishment employed in the reserved side does also some work of the transferred side. For instance the Irrigation Establishment is not entirely distinct in some districts, but also deals with roads and buildings. In order to be able to distribute the total cost at the end of the year *pro rata* over all the works, we have to show them under one demand. The detailed cost of all establishments is shown, as I have said, on page 41. But in order to show in the budget the approximate amount which is likely to be debited at the end of the year under heads XIII, 15 and so on, the cost of establishment charges has been shown as 21½ per cent. of the estimated cost of the works. These sums are transferred to the major heads concerned. The estimated cost of Sukkur Barrage is shown in detail and the whole establishment is transferred to head 55. That is an exception to the rule. The reason is that the Sukkur Barrage is self-contained and we can consequently transfer to the major head 55 exactly the estimated cost. We do not know what the cost of establishment will be under 15, and the other major heads. That we shall find only when we get the detail of the works which have been carried out by the establishment. At the end of the year the Accountant General works out the detailed *pro rata* cost of establishments which have been employed on transferred and reserved works respectively; and that distribution is shown in the Public Works Department accounts at the end of the year. We do not know at present what the establishment will cost to each department. But for the purpose of the budget we consider that the establishment cost will be 21½ per cent. of the estimated cost of the works and this detailed distribution is shown at page 41 at the bottom. That sum we have transferred to the detailed heads, the major heads, XIII, 15, 55, and 60.

It is obvious that if we make separate demands now on the basis of the 21½ per cent. for the transferred and reserved establishments, we shall not be in a position at the end of the year to enable the Accountant General to make the *pro rata* distribution. There must be one demand in order that the Accountant General may transfer the *pro rata* cost over the various works. I hope I have made myself clear.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : What has the honourable member the Deputy President to say ?

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind) : Sir, my difficulty has not yet been answered. We want to know whether the Honourable Minister is making the demand both for the Honourable Member in charge of Irrigation and himself—52 lakhs for Irrigation and 1,15 lakhs for Civil Works in the Honourable Minister's charge. That is the question. If he is not doing so, then the whole amount of 1,68 lakhs is under the absolute control of this House. The very heading on page 5 shows : Statement showing the total demand to be voted by the Legislative

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

Council. If according to this, the whole amount is transferred I would only like to be satisfied as to whether the total demand of 168 lakhs which the Honourable Minister is moving is under the absolute vote of this House.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Mr. President, I appreciate what the honourable the Deputy President wishes to do. He wishes to be certain that if the House passes an adverse vote with regard to any item Government may not have the power to restore it. Well, Sir, we know roughly what the proportion between the reserved and the transferred should be and I think we would be able to distribute it among all the departments and fulfil any vote of this House that might be adverse to any particular grant. After the vote is given we will be able to allocate how much of that particular item could be treated as reserved or as transferred. We could do it only roughly, because these are estimates in advance. I undertake that Government would do its best to give effect to any adverse vote that might be passed by this House.

So far as the technical point is concerned under rule 26 of the Bombay Legislative Council Rules:

“ . . . the Finance Member may in his discretion include in one demand grants proposed for two or more departments, or make a demand in respect of expenditure, such as Famine Relief and Insurance and Interest, which cannot readily be classified under particular Departments.”

We are doing our very best to deal with the intricate matter in this particular case. As the Finance Secretary has already pointed out it is not possible to avoid combining these grants under one head. I think it will be possible to give effect to the vote of the House.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: Only the Finance Member can do it.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I suggest, Sir, that the Honourable the Finance Member holds the hand of the Honourable the Minister of the Public Works Department, and that they together make a joint demand. If there are any cuts they will divide the cuts between themselves; and the exact proportion can be ascertained subsequently.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The difficulty will arise only with regard to lump sum cuts. As regards individual cuts, the Government can, when the cut is under consideration, inform the House whether it is transferred or reserved. That information is available. I have got it and I will be glad to mention it to the House if so desired immediately after the motion is proposed. The difficulty is with regard to lump sum cuts which must affect both reserved and transferred. When proposals for such cuts come up, I hope the Honourable the Finance Member in accordance with the assurance he has given will put the House in possession of all the facts. In the meantime let us proceed with the items as they stand in print. I take it that that is the wish of the House. In regard to individual cuts it is perfectly clear from the information

[The President]

supplied by Government, which relate to transferred and which to reserved departments. They are of course entitled to move for omissions or reductions whether the demand asked for is reserved or transferred.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts): Sir, I beg to move :

"That item No. 198 on page 22 of the Blue Book provision of Rs. 1,12,680 for additional establishment for creation of two temporary districts in the Deccan Irrigation Division be omitted."

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: That is reserved.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: This demand is made for the creation of two temporary divisions with regard to the irrigation works that are going on in the Deccan. They propose to split up the Poona Irrigation district into two districts, one comprising the Nira Left Bank Canal and the other Mutha Canal and Matoba tank, etc., and the two irrigation districts of Nasik, Ahmednagar and Khandesh into three irrigation districts, comprising the Nasik, the Khandesh and the Ahmednagar Irrigation districts. We are told that these two new divisions are sought to be created, because there is too much work for the executive engineers of the Poona Irrigation and Pravara Canals districts. Obviously these two districts are going to be created as a permanent measure and that is exactly what I was told in the Finance Committee when I brought it to the notice of the chairman of that committee. Here it is shown under non-recurring expenditure. Recurring column is shown as nil and only non-recurring expenditure is shown. I have found time after time that these so-called temporary establishments become permanently temporary. It is like the thin end of the wedge; we are asked to sanction for a few months, and then the expenditure is never brought before this Council for its sanction. These temporary establishments become thus permanent. If in fact these two executive engineers are overworked and the irrigation works are going to continue, these two districts that are going to be created are not going to be abolished. On page 41 of the preliminary budget estimate of the Public Works Department, honourable members will find that the establishment charges of the Superintending Engineer, Deccan Division, for 1924-25 are shown as Rs. 11,59,500. For the year 1925-26 the expenditure on this establishment is put down as Rs. 13,11,200. This shows that for the next year there is an excess of Rs. 1,57,700. Why is this excess required and where is it required? Government do not even give an idea as to why nearly Rs. 39,000 more is required this year. If there is going to be a revision of pay, then as regards that there is a lump sum provision of Rs. 99,100. The expenditure on Deccan Irrigation works is swelling up like anything every year. My submission to this honourable House is that expenditure which is shown as temporary is never abolished, because a man who is in the habit of finding some relief and assistance for his work gets into that habit and is never willing to abolish the temporary staff. They will never consent to the abolition of these two new districts.

I also want an explanation with regard to Rs. 39,000 for which there is no explanation given either in the Blue Book or White Book.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh) : Sir, there is a similar motion standing in my name which is motion No. 619 and I beg to support the motion that has been moved by my honourable friend from Thana. The note which he has read from the Blue Book is not at all explicit. We do not know how many executive engineers and assistant engineers are being employed on that work. At page 31 of the preliminary issue the provision has been entered into as lump provision and I raise a technical objection that there is a new scheme to be created. I think under the Standing Order all possible material ought to be provided to the honourable House. I refer, Sir, to Standing Order XI, 1-A :—

“When the demands made in accordance with Rule 26 or 31 relate to any new scheme of revision of scale of pay or allowances or creation of a new appointment, all material details of such scheme or revision shall be supplied to all members as early as possible.”

My contention is that we do not know how the officers are going to be employed, and as all the materials have not been supplied, I think the demand is vitiated and I demand your ruling on the point.

The point is that all the material facts relating to this scheme have not been supplied to the House and unless that is done under Standing Order XI, 1-A, they cannot ask for a demand of Rs. 1,10,000 in a lump provision as they have done.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I should like to know what Government have got to say about it. Under Standing Order XI, 1-A, it is clearly provided that when the demands made in accordance with rule 26 or 31 relate to any new scheme or revision of scale of pay or allowances or creation of a new appointment all material details of such scheme or revision shall be supplied to all members as early as possible. Has it been supplied even up to now ? That is the question.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : Sir, if the House will listen to me and then if they consider that because a part of the provision has been sanctioned by the House on a former occasion that they should give me a hearing.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I will give you an opportunity of explaining the point of order.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : I cannot answer that.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Certainly, you can go into details to point out to the House how the House is in possession of all the information.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : Sir, the point is that in the present instance I am not going to ask Rs. 1,12,000. We do not propose to create a new district in Khandesh. We propose to divide the Poona Irrigation district into two and therefore the grant for Rs. 1,12,680 shown as non-recurring may be reduced to Rs. 62,730. I do not want to press for the whole grant.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : That is not the point. The point is whether you have supplied all the information to the House.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : The point is the new district is required for carrying out the Nira Valley Development project.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I understood the Honourable the General Member to say that the House is possessed of the details and that they may make use of them. That would be perfectly relevant in answer to the point of order raised.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : I am just mentioning it.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Yes.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : The House will remember that at the last budget session they were pleased to pass the Nira Valley Development project. It went to the Secretary of State, and it is only lately that we have received the sanction of the Secretary of State to the project. This district is required partly for the work of the Nira Valley Development project. That is in short my explanation. Of course, if the House does not like it, I will not persist, but will bring in a demand for a supplementary grant, if you, Sir, and the House desires it, but it will put this project back for a short time which, I am certain, the House would be reluctant to do. They have already sanctioned the project. I regret that the details are not there, for which I apologise, but I am prepared to give the details just now. If you rule, Sir, I will withdraw it now, and bring it again, but I must say that we may have to delay that important work in the Deccan for a few months.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The Honourable Member had better withdraw the item.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : I am willing to do it, Sir.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The Honourable the General member wishes to withdraw the item, and therefore the best thing is to accept the motion.

Question put and carried.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : Sir, the motion which stands in my name is :

“Reduce to Rs. 15,000—construction of stables, coach houses, motor sheds, store rooms and syces' quarters at Government House, Karachi, Rs. 29,000.”

I understand that my honourable friend Mr. Adwani is moving for the deletion of this item. My motion is only for a reduction, and therefore I do not wish to move it.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The ordinary procedure is that the motion for the total deletion of the item should be taken up first. If the total deletion is carried, then the motion to reduce the item could not be moved.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City) : Mr. President, I beg to move :

“Omit the amount of Rs. 29,000 for construction of stables, coach houses, motor sheds, store rooms and syces' quarters at Government House, Karachi.”

[Mr. D. B. Adwani]

Sir, it is obvious that in a lean year like this, we should do away with all items which are not absolutely necessary. I am quite certain that, with their consummate skill and ability, the members of the Public Works Department can support this building for another year more, if it is actually about to fall down, and thus help the horses, the carriages and the motor cars and what not of the Commissioner in Sind to be safely housed. And the Commissioner in Sind can get the building repaired out of his discretionary grant for a year.

Question proposed.

Mr. L. J. MOUNTFORD : Sir, I am afraid I cannot quite agree with the honourable member who has just spoken, who considers these works unnecessary and can be postponed for one year more, as I myself had the misfortune on my arrival as Commissioner in Sind of having to place my motor car in this shed, the result of which I will describe later. I cannot agree with the honourable member also because a very large sum of this amount is going towards providing quarters for the peons, and we must admit that the peon has a right to have some roof over his head as any one else has, and I have found the peons' quarters there for a long time kept out of their proper share of repairs, possibly because the money was not forthcoming. The roof is in a terrible state and is a mass of patch work, and the sides are protected by tatties owing to the constant efforts of the peons trying to improve the quarters. The honourable member can see that any day if he walks in to the Commissioner's compound. A large portion of the amount is to be spent upon the servants' quarters, some Rs. 8,060 apart from the money required for the motor shed, stables, etc. Again, these buildings must be repaired some time or other, and it is better to have something that will last rather than resort to patch work from time to time. If the buildings are not properly repaired, they must eventually fall down. The roof is sagging, the tiles are coming off, and in the case of high winds the dust blows in and the buildings will not be fit for human habitation. As regards my own motor car, when I arrived in Sind, I naturally asked where I should put my car, and I was told I had to put it in a curious structure half a stable and half a shed. I put it there, and it was not very long before the screen was broken, something probably having fallen on it through the roof or of the roof. Any way, the screen was broken. Sometime afterwards, owing to the fact that we could not prevent anything coming in to attack the car either through the floor, or through the broken windows or through the open roof—we could not possibly stuff up all the openings—my car was attacked by a kind of woolly caterpillar which ate up all the horsehair of my cushions and I had to incur a large expense in replacing the stuffing inside my cushions. All went well for some time, but when I got my car back at Belgaum, I found that these Karachi animals had again consumed the horsehair stuffing of the cushions in the car and that I had not completely destroyed them and I had to restuff my cushions all over again. Another reason for these improvements is that the

[Mr. L. J. Mountford]

buildings have a mud floor, and when the rain came down, it was in an intolerable mess. These are only the private personal troubles of a poor Commissioner. We will leave those out. Let us take the troubles of the unfortunate peons when the rains come down. You do get rains on occasions in Karachi, and the peons are not able to live in their quarters at all, as the rain falls on the floor through the roof, and causes large puddles for them to sit in. Surely, it is time that we put these buildings in a proper state of repair, otherwise the whole buildings will come down which would cost a large sum to rebuild. I can assure honourable members that this expenditure is absolutely necessary, and I doubt very much if we can wait for one year more. It is open to any honourable member to go and inspect those buildings himself, but if I were myself there I would never allow them to go inside and stand under the roof, otherwise the numbers of this honourable House might be diminished. I therefore trust this House will not allow this motion of reduction.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South): Sir, I am really glad to hear that the honourable members on the other side have some solicitude for the unfortunate peons. What I cannot understand is that this is perhaps the sixth or seventh Government building wherein we find that the upper storeys and the roofs are not in order. I really do not know whether it is not high time to consult some eminent expert on this very important point, because it is not endangering unfortunate peons or clerks but it is endangering practically things which are much more valuable even than the lives of the peons. We heard also of the destruction by white ants. I thought that the destruction was confined to the Government press in Bombay.

I find, Sir, that the white ants destruction is spreading all over the presidency and it has penetrated even to Karachi and I do not know to what other place.

Now, Sir, so far as this building is concerned, particularly when we have been sanctioning or have to sanction thousands of rupees for buildings, for higher officers I do not think we ought to grudge a few thousands for the poor peons. I therefore hope, Sir, that the honourable mover of this motion is moved by the appeal of the honourable member (Mr. L. J. Mountford) on the other side, that his is really a solicitude for the peons and not anxiety for the car. I would ask my honourable friend to consider whether he should press his motion for omission, or withdraw it.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): Sir, in view of the pathetic description of the troubles of the poor Commissioner in Sind which we have just listened to, I think I should withdraw my motion.

Question put and leave granted.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khanesdh District): I beg to move, Sir,

That the provision for Discretionary Grants be reduced by Rs. 5,25,700.

I find, Sir, that the provision which has been shown in this small book "Preliminary Issue" is Rs. 11,25,700, but in the White Book the amount

[Mr. P. G. Joshi]

has been shown to be 11 lakhs. I do not know to what this difference is due. I hope that this difference will be explained by the Honourable Member in charge. Another difficulty is that there are no revised estimates given of these discretionary grants for the current year as well as for the year 1923-24. It has, therefore, been very difficult to see whether the demand which has been made is really justifiable or not. Now I do not understand what these discretionary grants are. Whether they are for original works or repairs, I do not know. Whether they are for foreseen or unforeseen works, that also we do not know. If it is a provision for works which are foreseen, provision ought to have been made under repairs; if it is a provision for works which are unforeseen, I think that such a demand cannot be made under the Standing Orders. That is a technical objection which I raise, and I think, Sir, if this provision is made for unforeseen works, then the proper procedure for Government is to come to this House for a supplementary grant or an additional grant.

Now, Sir, there is one thing which ought to be considered in this connection and that is that the House has made a provision of 15 lakhs as a reserve to the Honourable the Finance Member under 47 Miscellaneous. When we have that reserve and if any money is required for purposes which are unforeseen, this reserve with the Finance Member could be well utilised. Then also, Sir, under 41 Civil Works, there is a provision of 1 lakh on page 4 for reserve with Government in the Finance Department. I therefore do not see why a provision of Rs. 11,25,700 is at all necessary. Sir, I am not at all willing to give a blank cheque to the officers who are mentioned in this Preliminary Issue. It has been said by the Honourable Minister for civil works that for small works estimates could not be prepared.....

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : I said they are prepared.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : Well, Sir, if they are prepared, the Honourable Minister ought to know whether the provision demanded is for repairs or for original works. If it is for original works, he could have increased the amount which he has asked for original works; if it is for repairs then he ought to have increased the demand for repairs. If he does not want it for original work or for repairs, I think he cannot legitimately ask for the amount under this head. It has been said that the small items could not be shown in the book, but I find that items to the extent of even Rs. 70 have been shown in this White Book, page 6. Repairs even to the extent of Rs. 70 have been shown; also for amounts of Rs. 200 and Rs. 300 have been shown. So, Sir, if Members of Government or Ministers are able to show details of Rs. 70 in the White Book, I do not think discretionary grants are at all necessary and therefore I propose the reduction that I moved.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Which figures is the Honourable member referring to ?

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: I am referring to Public Works Department Budget Estimate—15.—Other Revenue Expenditure financed from Ordinary Revenues.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: That is for Irrigation.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: It may be for Irrigation; but you have shown details even for small items. If estimates were ready with you, it would have been possible for you to show them. Therefore, I think my demand is quite moderate and the amount of discretionary grants should be reduced by Rs. 5,25,700.

Question proposed.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University): Mr. President, in speaking in support of the motion, I must say that this matter seems very mysterious. On turning to page 14 of the book you find that details of 11 lakhs are given and under the head of "Discretionary Grants" one finds several officers mentioned with very big amounts against their names. To take only one instance, the Commissioner in Sind is mentioned and against his name, under the heading "Works not commenced", one finds Rs. 1,90,000, *i.e.*, nearly 2 lakhs. I should like to know what that amount means. It comes under the heading "Works not commenced." Does it mean he keeps 2 lakhs in his hands in order to start works which are not known at this date, so that he can come to this House at a subsequent date and say that the works are already in progress and the sanction of this House is wanted to further expenditure? What is this money wanted for? A big amount like 2 lakhs to be kept in the hands of the Commissioner in Sind for works not commenced. I think the House is entitled to a very satisfactory explanation as to why these big amounts are placed in the hands of these officers.

Mr. K. S. FRAMJI: Sir, provision for these discretionary grants is not being made for the first time in this year's budget. We find they are made year after year. So I really do not see why honourable members think this is an innovation this year. These grants are placed at the discretion of heads of departments for financing works of the nature of minor original works, that is, works costing under Rs. 10,000 each.

When they find the necessity for works of this nature the heads of departments get the plans and estimates prepared and get the work done by the Public Works Department. Such plans and estimates must be prepared by the Executive Engineer of the district and administrative approval by the head of the department, who has to finance it from his discretionary grant, has to be given before the works are undertaken. After administrative approval has been received these estimates are technically sanctioned by the competent authority, who is usually the Superintending Engineer of the division. In most cases the sanction of the superintending engineer is enough, but there are certain cases for which Government sanction is required. Small works, for instance, small drains, culverts and causeways, small additions or improvements to existing buildings, etc., which are not specifically provided for in our budget are usually financed from the discretionary grants of the officers

[Mr. K. S. Framji]

with whom these amounts are placed. During the period of war many such works had been deferred for want of money, and the officers have been making very heavy demands on us from time to time with regard to these grants. The Commissioner in Sind, for instance, to whom it is proposed to give Rs. 1,90,000 has actually demanded Rs. 5,00,000 for the next year. The Superintending Engineers have been making much heavier demands than we have been able to give them in the next year's budget.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : On a point of information, Sir. May I know why the figures of the revised estimates of 1924-25 are not shown? What is shown is only a total of 10 lakhs under the budget estimate for 1924-25.

Mr. K. S. FRAMJI : It is not usual to do so ; the amounts for 1925-26 are all for new works ; they are not for works in progress.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA : How much of this demand will be left in the hands of these officers at the end of this year ?

Mr. K. S. FRAMJI : If they do not spend the full amount given to them in the budget year, the amount lapses.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA : How much has been spent by each officer ?

Mr. K. S. FRAMJI : We cannot say. When the year is out we can say.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : Last year how much has been spent ?

Mr. K. S. FRAMJI : Possibly the whole.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : Why is it not shown in columns 6 and 7 on page 15 (Provincial Civil Works Budget Estimate) ?

Mr. K. S. FRAMJI : They do not spend it on exactly the same works. These works which are provided for for the next year are entirely different from those they have in hand this year.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : We do not go by the works ; we go by the amounts left in each officer's hand. Whatever he has spent ought to have been shown in columns 6 and 7.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, I should like to explain columns 6 and 7. This is a general form which applies to works generally and not merely to discretionary grants. If you see columns 6 and 7 with regard to special works it does show against each work what was actually spent in 1923-24 and the probable amount in 1924-25. I gather those columns are not really intended to apply to discretionary grants, so that details of the actual works executed have not to be given.

Mr. K. S. FRAMJI : Sir, as I was explaining, there are many useful works on which these grants are expended. I will read out a few of the works actually carried out.

| | |
|---|-------|
| Improvement to Pasarni ghat on Surul-Mahableshwar | Rs. |
| road | 2,500 |

[Mr. K. S. Framji]

| | Rs. |
|---|-------|
| Protecting foundations, raising and widening embankment of nallas 99 and 102 of Mahad-Pandharpur road | 2,000 |
| Constructing a <i>post mortem</i> room in the Civil Hospital, Alibag | 2,147 |
| Making certain additions and alterations to the Mental Hospital, Ahmedabad | 3,871 |
| Renewing the roof of the female barrack at the Karachi prison | 4,125 |
| Constructing quarters for the compounders at Bijapur prison | 2,661 |
| Construction of a temporary laboratory building at the Karwar High School | 6,854 |
| Providing railing to the high bank on the north approach of Panjhra Bridge at Dhulia | 1,000 |

Either the executive engineer himself initiates the improvements and furnishes the necessary estimates, or the officer in whose charge the buildings are asks the executive engineer to furnish the necessary estimates. The estimates are furnished and sanctioned and then the works are undertaken by the department. I think I have sufficiently explained to the House that these grants are necessary, and we cannot foresee what improvements or works may be required. And the amounts provided, as I said, are much below the actual amounts demanded. The total amount demanded by the officers is Rs. 18,85,000, against which we have given only Rs. 11,25,000.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: My point remains unanswered, Sir. My objection is that we have no actuals to go by. We should have been given the actuals for 1923-24. Surely these officers must have spent some amount in that year. If those amounts had been shown this House would have been guided by those figures in the determination of the question whether Rs. 11,25,000 is necessary or not. I do not agree with the view of the Honourable the Home Member that columns 6 and 7 are not intended for such amounts.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: May I suggest to the honourable member that instead of asking for information every time it would be better if he brought out all these points in the course of the speech which he is entitled to make?

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: I raised the point, so that the honourable member might have a chance of answering it.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind): Sir, I support the motion of my honourable friend Mr. Joshi on various grounds. I think, Sir, it is our good fortune that the budget for the Public Works Department which used to be rushed through and guillotined during the previous years has now come under the consideration of the Council in detail. The manner of expending these funds without any consideration by this Council has at least been exposed to the view of the Honourable the

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

Finance Member. We look up to him to take care of the way in which this money has in the past been spent. Now, Sir, I have complete faith in the present Honourable the Finance Member and I give him greater credit for vigilance than honourable members on the other side. Therefore, I am appealing more to the Honourable the Finance Member than to any other. Out of these discretionary grants a sum of Rs. 75,700 is reserved with Government and another sum of Rs. 1,00,000 is reserve with the Finance Department. So that, Government, apart from the Commissioners and other officers, have with themselves a grant of nearly two lakhs in their hands for the purpose of spending in that direction. I hope this sum of Rs. 1,75,700 is not for spending on Government House. I hope the Honourable the Finance Member does not only take these grants for Government House and unforeseen charges. I take it that the Finance Member also takes care of this amount which he takes for unforeseen works, not in his department because he has no necessity to build, but for other departments. My chief objection to allowing this huge grant of Rs. 11,25,000 is this: that this House should not confer upon the lower officers greater responsibility than lies on the Honourable the Finance Member himself. The Honourable the Finance Member has in his possession, outside the double lock of the Government of India a sum of 15 lakhs of rupees—9 lakhs for the transferred departments and 6 lakhs for the reserved departments—out of which to meet unforeseen expenditure. The Honourable the Finance Member cannot, however, spend a pie out of that, and he does not spend a pie out of that, except with the previous consent of the Finance Committee first and of this House next. The Honourable the Finance Member himself is tied down in spending this 15 lakhs. When we put such a restriction on the Honourable the Finance Member in the spending of a sum of 15 lakhs, I object in principle to distributing 11 lakhs of rupees nearly an equal amount, to the officers under Government, and giving them a blank cheque to spend the grants as they like, without taking the sanction either of Government or of the Council. These officers are given unlimited power over these grants: they have not got to get the sanction of the Finance Committee or of Government itself. What is the result of this state of affairs? On page 4, Sir, of the Provincial Civil Works Budget Estimate, you will see the details of expenditure for previous years (the actuals of 1923-24, the budget estimate of 1924-25 and the revised estimate of 1924-25) are given with regard to all the other items, but that with regard to this item of discretionary grants those details are not given. When the honourable member (Mr. Jayakar) asked for these details, the answer given to him by the Honourable the Secretary to the Public Works Department, was that Government had not received the accounts from the several officers, and therefore Government could not show therein the revised estimates for 1924-25. Well, I strongly demur to that statement. Government must have received ten months' details. Revised estimate means ten months' actuals and two months' probable expenditure. Therefore, Sir, Government ought to be in a position to give the amounts that have been actually

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

spent by the Commissioners and other officers in ten months. Then, Sir, so far as the actuals for 1923-24 are concerned, they have not even the semblance of reason for not giving them. They actually spent all the amounts up to April 1924 and the bills are before the Government. If they are not they should give them back. Has Government told us that out of the discretionary grant of 1923-24 how much the several officers have spent, or whether the Honourable the Finance Member proposes to give a blank cheque to any officer without any account? Is the Honourable the Finance Member, is the Government in the Public Works Department, prepared to ask this House to sanction 11 lakhs, to give a blank cheque to these officers without calling for bills or accounts. No accounts are given and the Council has to sanction this amount without incurring any responsibility, without asking for accounts, without even putting limitations upon the several officers, as much limitation as it is open for this Council to put upon our Finance Member. I leave it to the Council whether they will be exercising a fair discretion in allowing this demand. I put it on a broad principle, when this House is possessed of the power of the purse, whether this grant without any discretion should be sanctioned in the way that it has been done. If they want any money for any unforeseen expenses there is the Honourable the Finance Member who has got within his control 9 lakhs of rupees for the Ministers for unforeseen expenditure, for other departments he has got 6 lakhs of rupees. Surely last year and the year before last the Honourable the Finance Member has not spent more than 6 lakhs or more than 10 lakhs, not more than half the amount that remains in his possession. The rest goes to the balance. Is the Honourable the Finance Member, who, with the responsibility of accounting to the Council, is so constrained to see that he does not spend more than necessary and is very careful in scrutinising every scheme that comes before this House, prepared to give unlimited authority to these officers to spend without any account?

I therefore submit that this Council should grant this motion of 5 lakhs or that the honourable member himself should see his way to allow this 5 lakhs, so that greater care may be taken in future in sanctioning these amounts.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: The point of order I raised is that the grant cannot be asked for under the Standing Order which I referred to.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: This is not a new item. It is a renewal of last year's item. It is not an unforeseen item. The motion is quite in order.

Mr. F. G. PRATT: Mr. President, I will talk about the portion of this discretionary grant which I have to administer. I have heard the honourable the Deputy President talk of the unlimited sums which are lavished upon commissioners to be spent at their sweet will. 'Unlimited sums' was the expression used 'to be expended without any control practically as they please'. I would like to say what the facts are

[Mr. F. G. Pratt]

about my discretionary grant. The discretionary grant which was placed at my disposal was Rs. 47,000; this year it goes down to Rs. 40,000.

Now, I will try and explain what are the objects upon which that money is spent. Probably it would not be out of place if I state a word or two about the rationale of this discretionary grant. There are various minor needs which are to be met by minor expenditure of minor amounts, and it is desirable that time and trouble should not be wasted of this House in considering these comparatively trivial detailed administrative needs. It is desirable that time and trouble should not be wasted in correspondence from the district officers and commissioners up to the Secretariat minuting on and noting, and trouble should not be wasted when there are certain administrative needs to be met. What are those urgent administrative needs on a minor scale? What I understand by my discretionary grant is my minor works grant. The commissioner of a division is in control of a very large number of offices, court houses, kacheries, mamlatdars' kacheries, resident magistrates' court houses, all these building and appurtenances to these public buildings where public business is carried on. These buildings require constant attention, renewal, expansion in accordance with the growing needs of the administration. There are all sorts of things that have to be done. There may be a bad cut in the floor of a Mamlatdar's kacheri which is insanitary for the clerks to sit on in rain, very uncomfortable kutchra low ground for which it is desirable that stone floor should be substituted, and old record room which is infested by white ants has to be made white-ant proof by stone floor to be substituted for kutchra floor; then another, there may be ceilings which are bad kutchra ceilings and through which dirt and dust is constantly thrown upon the clerks; all these works have to be attended to in these office buildings, these ceilings have often to be repaired, have to be made pucca and strong wooden ceilings. Then again there is another long waiting list. I have very often heard claims made in this House for provision for waiting rooms for the public who have to transact business in these *kacheries*. These waiting rooms cannot be provided without expenditure of money. I would sanction such expenditure only after going through the plans and estimates carefully out of this minor works grant. Then we find it necessary and desirable that our clerks who are crowded very often in ill-ventilated and dark rooms should be given good ventilated rooms not only in the interest of public business but also in the interest of their own health. Then these are the objects upon which this grant is spent.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : On durbars ?

Mr. F. G. PRATT : Not on champagne, or *altar*, or *pan*.

One Honourable MEMBER : On Commissioner's bungalows ?

Mr. F. G. PRATT : Not on Commissioner's bungalows.

No money is spent without administrative approval coupled with detailed plans and estimates. If there are no plans and estimates submitted before, I would not even care to look into any demand for minor

[Mr. F. G. Pratt]

works. Then, though a small but still a very necessary item is the provision of latrines for the benefit of the public, over the discussion of which the Council would not like to waste its time. This demand is too valuable to be brushed aside ; and this will have to be paid out of the minor works grant. The estimates for these minor works are audited by the Accountant General. Because it is called discretionary grant, it does not mean that the money is spent without discretion. It is carefully considered whether a particular thing is needed or not.

Mr. S. S. DEV : How much has the honourable member spent during this year ?

Mr. F. G. PRATT : Out of my discretionary grant, I would not allow more than Rs. 200 or Rs. 300 to lapse.

I have been reminded by my honourable friend to my left about one of the most crying and urgent demands which are being pressed upon me and my honourable friend by the officers under our control—some decent modern standard of efficiency in such matters as furniture in the mamlatdars' and even Collectors' offices. These officers have to go on tours and carry records with them and it is necessary that they should also have despatch boxes. Even a Collector bitterly complained to me that he had not enough despatch boxes to carry about his records. In the mamlatdars' offices.....

An Honourable MEMBER : Three legged chairs and broken tables.

Mr. F. G. PRATT : Yes ; as the honourable member says the mamlatdars' offices are miserably equipped. We must have this money for giving material equipment in order to give this presidency a decent administration.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : On a point of information, Sir. Before the honourable member resumes his seat, I wish to know how much he has spent out of this grant approximately for 1924-25.

Mr. F. G. PRATT : I think about Rs. 46,541.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : That figure might have been entered in columns 6 and 7.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, the actuals for 1923-24 can be had and estimates can of course be made for 1924-25 up to the coming 31st of March. I never intended to suggest that they could not. All I said was that these columns have probably not been filled in because they were intended primarily for the entries dealing with specific works. There is no reason why these figures which are probably available in the Secretariat should not have been entered. I believe my honourable friend to my right (The Finance Member) will see that they are entered in future. This discussion shows, Sir, the wisdom this year of turning the budget upside down and beginning from the bottom and going up to the top. The object was to enable honourable members to look into the details which in previous years were not looked into for want of time. This has been effected.

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

I would like to add a word or two to what has fallen from the Commissioner as to the nature of these grants. There are a great many small items required in the districts for all the departments not only for the Revenue Department but for the Judicial Department, for the Police Department, for the Jails Department. They are petty minor items many of them costing a few hundred rupees, some of them going up to Rs. 5,000 and some to Rs. 10,000. Now, with regard to petty items costing Rs. 300 or Rs. 400, nobody here, certainly no businessman, would think that they should be placed in detail before this honourable House. The question is where the line is to be drawn. Some discretion must be given—such discretion is given to agents by business firms and to the subordinate officials to spend money on minor items. The system here is to give discretion up to Rs. 10,000. I understand that there is a distinction between sums up to Rs. 5,000 and sums up to Rs. 10,000. With regard to sums up to Rs. 5,000, the procedure, I understand, is that plans and estimates have to be prepared by the local engineer and if they are approved by the Superintending Engineer, the scheme has finally to be approved by the Commissioner or particular officer entrusted with this discretionary grant. Then the work is carried out and the details of the actual expenditure are entered in the accounts and submitted in due course to regular audit. It is not necessary for these items to be reported in detail to the Secretariat and placed either before the Honourable Minister or Member for the formal approval of Government. The reason is that it is desirable to get these small works done as quick as possible, and save the time of hard-worked officers. I do not suppose that honourable members of this House would require the Honourable Ministers and Members of Government to go into all the details of every petty work required to be done in the districts.

With regard to works above Rs. 5,000, the procedure is rather stricter and these works have to be reported to Government and approved administratively by Government. No work over Rs. 5,000 up to Rs. 10,000 can be begun without the administrative approval of Government. Such works are sent up and administratively approved, and all the discretion left to the Commissioners, the Inspector General of Prisons and the Inspector General of Police is to decide which of those approved works shall be given the money required for their execution. So that, even in small works there is the check of the audit of accounts, and in the larger works there is the preliminary check even of the administrative approval of Government. I do not think, Sir, I need add to the detailed list given by my honourable friend the Commissioner of the Northern Division. The discretionary grant provides for all sorts of useful things. It provides amongst other things chairs for pleaders to sit on when they have sat out the old ones.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : We do not get any.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : My honourable friend says that he does not get any ; I think he is perhaps right. It provides for tables, and so on, record shelves, and other miscellaneous items,

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

repairs to roofs and so forth. Those are all small items, and I do not think that we ought to lay down a rule that such items require to be considered in detail by this honourable House.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI : Are chairs and tables considered to be part of Civil Works ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I am told there is a technical distinction between a contingency and civil work. I understand anything which you can move is a contingency, but if it is fixed on the floor it is a work.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : I have nothing to say in reply.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Sir, I will say only one word. The honourable member the Deputy-President complained that it is a blank cheque. But the official benches have clearly shown that it is not so, and I hope the Council will vote against the motion.

Question put. House divided. Ayes, 26 ; Noes, 51. Motion lost.
Division No. 10.

Ayes.

ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
BHOPEKAR, Mr. L. B.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
GUNJAL, Mr. N. B.
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JOG, Mr. V. N.
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
LALI NARANJI, Mr.
LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSAINBOY A.
MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.

NANAL, Mr. B. R.
PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
PATEL, Mr. D. N.
PATIL, Mr. D. R.
POWAR, Mr. M. B.
PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
SAPTARSHI, Mr. C. M.
SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
SURVE, Mr. V. A.
SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
THAKRESI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
VELKAR, Dr. M. B.

Tellers for the Ayes: Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN and Mr. P. G. JOSHI.

Noes.

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
ATHAVLE, Mr. S. N.
BHURGI, Mr. J. M.
BRUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
BJARANI, Khan Saheb SHEER MAHOMED
KHAN
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
CLAYTON, Mr. F.
COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
GROSAL, Mr. J.
GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan
Bahadur SHAIKH
GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.

HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
JATOI, Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH
JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
KALBHOR, Mr. G. M.
KAMBELI, Mr. S. T.
KAY, Mr. J. A.
LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHHRO,
Mr.
MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED
KHAN

Noes—*contd.*

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E. | SURVE, Mr. A. N. |
| PIR RASULBAKSH SHAH | THAKOR OF KEBWADA, the |
| PRATT, Mr. F. G. | THOMAS, Mr. G. A. |
| SARDESAI, Mr. S. A. | TURNER, Mr. C. W. A. |
| SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH | WILES, Mr. G. |
| SAYED MUHAMMAD KAMIL SHAH | WOODS, Mr. E. E. |
| SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB | |

Tellers for the Noes : DR. COSMAS FERNANDEZ and Mr. J. ADDYMAN.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The House will now adjourn till 2 p.m. on Monday, the 9th March 1925.

Monday, the 9th March 1925.

The Council re-assembled at the Town Hall, Bombay, at 2 p.m. on Monday, the 9th March 1925, the Honourable the President, Sir IBRAHIM RAHIMTOOLA, K.O.S.I., C.I.E., presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
ABDULPURKAR, Mr. N. A.
ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
AHMAD, MOULVI RAFI UDDIN
ATHAVALE, Mr. S. N.
BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
BHURGRI, Mr. J. M.
BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
BIJARANI, Khan Saheb SHER MAHOMED KHAN
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
CLAYTON, Mr. F.
COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
DELVES, Mr. R. H. A.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
GHOSAL, Mr. J.
GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH
GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
HUDSON, Mr. L. S.
JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
JATOI, Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
JOG, Mr. V. N.
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
KALBHOR, Mr. G. M.
KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.

KARKI, Mr. M. D.
 KAY, Mr. J. A.
 KAZI INAITULLAKHAN
 KOKANI, Mr. G. J.
 KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
 LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
 LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.
 LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 LINFORD, Mr. J. W.
 MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MOHOMED KHUHRO, Mr.
 MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
 MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 MUJAMDAR, Sardar G. N.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
 NANAL, Mr. B. R.
 NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
 NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
 NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
 OWEN, Mr. A. C.
 PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
 PATEL, Mr. A. E.
 PATEL, Mr. D. N.
 PATEL, Mr. G. I.
 PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED KHAN
 PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
 PATIL, Mr. D. R.
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 PIR RASULBAKSH SHAH
 PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 PRATT, Mr. F. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSENALLY M.
 SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
 SAPTARSHI, Mr. C. M.
 SARDESAL, Mr. S. A.
 SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH
 SAYED MUHAMMAD KAMIL SHAH
 SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
 SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO, Mr.
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 SHIVDASANI, Mr. H. B.
 SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
 SURVE, Mr. A. N.

SURVE, Mr. V. A.
 SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
 THAKOR OF KERWADA, the
 THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
 TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
 VELKAR, Dr. M. B.
 WADIA, Mr. C. N.
 WILES, Mr. G.
 WOODS, Mr. E. E.

(Discussion on demands for grants resumed.)

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind): Sir, I move:

"That the provision of Rs. 50,00,000 provided for repairs in the present budget be reduced by Rs. 2,00,000."

On page 4 of the Provincial Civil Works, Public Works Department budget, we find that the actuals of 1923-24 are 48,83; the budget estimate for 1924-25 is 48 lacs; the revised estimate for 1924-25, that is to say, the probable expenditure, is 47,79; and this time the budget estimate for 1925-26 is taken to be Rs. 2,21 more than the actual expenditure of the previous year. Now, Sir, if the honourable members turn to page 3 of the same book, which is the detailed estimate arrived at of the civil works of the province of Bombay, we find that the budget estimate of receipts for the rents of buildings of the P.W.D. is about Rs. 3,56,000. That is to say, the income arising out of the rents of buildings in the possession of the P.W.D. is about Rs. 3,56,000 only. The budget estimate for 1925-26 is Rs. 4,09,000. The total revenue that is expected out of all buildings in the possession of different departments and in the possession of different people is only Rs. 4,75,000. The actuals of the last year were—revised estimate—Rs. 48,372 and Rs. 3,72,000, that is to say, about Rs. 4,15,000 arising out of all the buildings in the possession of the Government. This certainly.....

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Do you mean that in this the residential courts and so forth are all included? We do not charge interest for courts.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: I was just going to say, before I was interrupted, that these are the incomes that arise out of the public buildings that are in the possession—the actual income that arises from all the buildings in the possession—of the P. W. D. Herein, Sir, is mentioned: the rents of electric installations, rents of water supply and sanitary installations, ferry receipts, tolls on roads, recoveries of expenditure, miscellaneous. Then, in the Civil Department: rents of buildings, rents of electric installations, rents of water supply and sanitary installations, ferry receipts, tolls on roads, recoveries of expenditure, miscellaneous, all these items are shown.

Now, Sir, it will be said by the Honourable Minister in charge—and it has been said a number of times before—that the Government possesses buildings worth about 10 or 12 crores of rupees and therefore it is necessary to spend about half a crore of rupees on repairs on buildings and

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

roads. I strongly object to this kind of argument always being advanced that because the Government possesses buildings worth some crores of rupees—the income arising out of which is only Rs. 4,75,000—not even 5 lakhs—the extraordinary expenditure of half a crore of rupees should be kept apart for the purpose of repairs to those buildings. It will be said that they include roads also. But at the same time I may bring to the notice of the Honourable Minister sitting here as he does—in this distant city of Bombay—that this job work of roads is done by the P.W.D. and he is well aware that a road which would ordinarily, if in private possession, cost about Rs. 1,000 would certainly cost far more than Rs. 15,000 as is done under the present system when it is done by the P.W.D. I mean this unlimited expenditure on roads and the repairs of buildings, of which there is no regular account kept, and in which money is diverted in so many directions, is a matter in which considerable care and serious circumspection is necessary by the Honourable Minister and by the heads of the department. The P. W. D. sets apart $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the value for repairs of public buildings every year whether they require repairs or not. Now, is $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. actually required to be spent? That is the question. If on that calculation that $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. ought to be reserved on repairs and roads of buildings, this large amount is kept apart, then the engineers always have the tendency to spend this amount, whether the repairs are required or not, and money is diverted in many other directions. This is one of those items where considerable care is necessary, and yet, Sir, last year we find that out of the 48 lakhs that were provided for, 47,79 thousand is expected to be spent. Two months remain, perhaps less would be spent. But even according to the revised estimate, Rs. 47,79 thousand is required to be spent.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN :
What is the difference ?

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : The difference is 2 lakhs. Rs. 50,00,000 minus Rs. 47,79,000. What I propose is that 50 lakhs reduced to 48 lakhs, that is a reduction of 2 lakhs, a very reasonable demand in view of the figures that are there.

Question proposed.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Mr. President, I support the motion. The Honourable Minister, in spite of the vote of this House to reduce the tolls, appears to be actually increasing the number of tolls. From a total revenue of Rs. 7,84,000 it has now increased to Rs. 8,06,000. At the same time he has been gradually reducing the rents on buildings, and that will be made clear from the fact that the revenue from rents was Rs. 4,65,000 in the year 1923-24.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : What have tolls to do with the present motion ?

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : I will come to that, Sir. The revenue from rents has been practically decreasing. Now that we are increasing the

[Rao Saheb D. P. Desai]

number of buildings every year, I do not see why we should not get an increased revenue from rents and meet the increased expenditure. On the other hand, we find that the amount on repairs has increased from Rs. 47,79,000 to Rs. 50,00,000, that is an increase of 2 lakhs. I do not see why within one year we should increase the repair charges on roads and buildings to that extent. Even if we take $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. the increase does not come to such a high figure. So, on that ground also the provision for repairs should be reduced by 2 lakhs of rupees.

Mr. K. S. FRAMJI : Sir, the honourable member the Deputy President remarked that he does not think that the provision of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. made for repairs to buildings is actually being spent. I cannot say what authority he has for this statement, but I can assure him that all expenditure according to estimates is being watched by the Accountant General, and if the expenditure in any case is in excess on any residential buildings, he draws attention to it, and consequently we have got to raise the rents of such residential buildings by revising the percentage provision for current and special repairs in the rent statements.

As for the remark that a large amount is being spent on buildings, I may state that out of these 50 lakhs about 3 lakhs goes to residential buildings, 8 lakhs to non-residential buildings for which we get no return of rent, and the rest towards the repairs of roads (both current and special repairs).

Another honourable member made a remark that instead of reducing the number of tolls Government have increased it, and in support of that statement he directed attention to the increase in the revenue from tolls. I may point out, Sir, that the increase in revenue is not due to the increase in the number of tolls but it is due to the higher realisations.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I ruled the honourable member out of order on that reference. No reply can, therefore, be allowed on that point.

Mr. K. S. FRAMJI : The budget provision on account of repairs is nearly the same amount every year, and where the budget shows small variations that is due to the extra demands made by the officers. For the next year the officers had asked for 59 lakhs, and we have budgetted only for 50 lakhs. The roads had been stinted owing to financial stringency both during the war and sometime thereafter. As honourable members know, the roads are now subject to heavy motor traffic, and we cannot keep them up to the required standard without spending more money. I feel, Sir, the amount we have asked, namely 50 lakhs, is very moderate, and I do not think it should be reduced. Complaints have been made.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind) : Sir, I have only one word to say. After 1919 there has been no financial stringency, and I may remind the honourable the Secretary to the Public Works Department that ever since 1921, when this new Council came into existence, not only have the Public Works Department amounts not been reduced, but this 41, Civil Works has escaped our examination. I do not think the amount provided for this department has ever been reduced by this

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

Council. I think, therefore, this amount of 50 lakhs of rupees for repairs to roads is extremely large and can easily bear a reduction of two lakhs.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : In the first place, Sir, I must correct certain mis statements that have been made by the Honourable the Deputy President. He made the Council believe that we are wasting 50 lakhs of rupees on roads and buildings which are giving us an income of only 14 lakhs [Mr. B. G. Pahalajani : I said Rs. 4,75,000.] Yes, only an income of Rs. 4,75,000. But, Sir, we have to remember that this income of Rs. 4,75,000 is from residential quarters only. Now, we do not charge any rent for police buildings, court houses, kutcheris, etc., property worth crores of rupees, not only 10 to 12 crores, as the honourable member the Deputy President stated but over 70 crores of rupees. We do not spend all these 50 lakhs on repairs to buildings. The honourable member from Karachi should understand that we have to carry out repairs to roads and communications throughout the whole presidency. Therefore, Sir, the statement of the honourable the Deputy President that we are spending 50 lakhs over property which gives an income of only 4½ lakhs is not correct, because we do not charge any rent for several offices and other buildings over which we have spent crores of rupees. Whatever income we get is derived from residential quarters. Therefore, we cannot confine ourselves to the fact that we are getting only an income of 4½ lakhs. We must take into consideration the large number of other properties, including communications, from which we do not get any return.

Now, Sir, the honourable member the Deputy President asked why we should spend 2 lakhs more this year. If honourable members look at the actuals of 1923-24, they will find that we spent 49 lakhs of rupees that year. We did not give them the same amount for the current year, as we thought we might pull on with the smaller amount of 48 lakhs. There still remain two months more, and I believe every pie of that provision will be spent. We have now demands from all parts of the presidency for more money for repairs to roads. I will cite one instance, that of the Southern Division. Owing to heavy demands from that division, we have increased the provision for the coming year by Rs. 1,20,000. Sind is not really getting very much. We have given to that province only Rs. 2,00,000 more next year. The honourable the Deputy President complains that we are spending 40 or 50 lakhs. But we are spending this sum in compliance with demands from various parts of the presidency. Though we received a demand for nearly 59 lakhs we have provided only 50 lakhs, that is, only two lakhs more than the current year. If we do not spend this sum next year, as the honourable member the Secretary pointed out, we will have to spend much more the following year. If we want to maintain our property in good order, this is the least we must spend. I trust, therefore, the House will reject this motion.

Question put and lost.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): Sir, I move:

"That the item provincial expenditure, III Establishment (P. W. D. E. page 4) be reduced by Rs. 10,00,000."

The figures have been presented to us in such a fashion that we find it very difficult to understand what is the real provision which is necessary for the establishment under the control of the Honourable Minister. He tried to explain that the demands which he made are not really demands for the works under his control. But he has not made it clear what his establishment charges are and what the establishment charges are under the control of the Irrigation Member. The provision made for 1924-25 is Rs. 30,87,400. Then the provision for works was Rs. 76,22,000. I get this figure by adding the figures for repairs which are 50 lakhs. The original works were 14 lakhs and the discretionary grants were 11 lakhs. All this comes to Rs. 76,22,000. In order to complete the works costing Rs. 76,22,000, the establishment charge to the extent of Rs. 30,87,000 has been demanded from this House. If we look into the figures for the year 1922-23, it will be seen that in that year the establishment charges were Rs. 20,14,000 and the work done in that year cost Rs. 81,87,000. In 1923-24, the establishment charges were Rs. 15,09,000 while works done in that year amounted to Rs. 72,01,000. In the year 1924-25, the establishment charges came up to Rs. 24,59,000, while the works done amounted to Rs. 70,49,000. In the coming year the works amount to Rs. 76,22,000 and for this work they want establishment for Rs. 30,87,000. That is to say for every Rs. 2 of work done they want Re. 1 for establishment. This is exorbitant demand and should not be granted by this House.

In this connexion I wish to point out to the House the administration of the Civil Works department is so lucrative that no such costly pay is necessary for the establishment. I mean to suggest that, if advertised, many people will be forthcoming to accept the posts in this department such as sub-divisional officers, executive engineers, etc., on an honorary basis. The works are so lucrative that no pay is necessary. This fact is known at any rate to many of the honourable members coming from mofussil. If this fact is taken into consideration, I beg to suggest that establishment charges amounting to Rs. 30,87,000 on works costing Rs. 76,22,000 should not be allowed.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I notice that the honourable member the Deputy President has a similar motion, and the honourable members Messrs. Shivdasani and Shinde propose to reduce the amount by Rs. 5,00,000. It is desirable to have the whole discussion on this motion. If those honourable members wish to press for smaller reductions. Their motions will be put to the vote after full discussion has taken place on this motion.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind): The difficulty arising out of the present method of presentation of figures will remain the same until by the end of next year this way of book-keeping is changed. The figures as they stand require considerable explanation from the Honourable Member in charge of the Public Works Department, the Honourable Minister and the honourable member the Secretary to that department. Last year the establishment charges are shown as Rs. 25,25,000 and the

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

budget estimate for 1924-25 under the same head is shown as Rs. 15,84,000. In explaining to the House, the day before yesterday, the Honourable Minister said that for the 7 branches under his control, that is, the two Secretariat establishments, the Electrical Engineer to Government, the Consulting Architect to Government, the Mechanical Engineer to Government, Dapuri Workshop, the three Superintending Engineers for the Northern, Southern and Central Divisions (Roads and Buildings Branch) the establishment charges are Rs. 34,81,000 against the last year's figure of Rs. 35,59,000. If this statement is correct, it would require considerable explanation to satisfy this House how 21 and 25 lakhs shown in the actuals and last year's budget came to be shown in place of 34 lakhs. Therefore, I should like to know whether the amount of Rs. 25 lakhs shown on page 4 on account of revised budget estimate for 1924-25 for establishment represents the expenditure of the 7 departments under the Honourable Minister or whether it does not. If it does not, where did the other Rs. 10 lakhs out of the 35 lakhs he said his department cost last year, go? He spent on these seven departments last year Rs. 35,06,000, and in the revised budget estimate it is shown as 21 and 25, that is to say, 14 and 10 lakhs less than the actual expenditure on the seven departments that are under him. This House must insist upon understanding whether this 25, 25 which appears on page 4, and 21 lakhs the budget provision for 1924, is the actual expenditure or whether 14 and 10 have disappeared elsewhere in some other part of the budget. That has to be accounted for. It does not occur here, and we are anxious to know whether 25 is the actual expenditure or 25 is only a partial expenditure of his department. The objection, therefore, has been mainly raised on the assumption that 34,40 exceeds the last year's budget estimate figure by 14 lakhs. Again, in connection with this figure it will be necessary to draw the attention of the House and the Honourable Minister to another figure on page 5, and that is provincial civil works from loan, that is, works under the same department but financed from loan. The expenditure on the loan works is shown as 85 and establishment is shown as 14,15 lakhs, separate. The total establishment, therefore, that is shown under Civil Works subordinate to the Honourable Minister is 48 lakhs and odd. He makes a demand of Rs. 49 lakhs, after which he says that 34,8 represents the expenditure on the 7 departments less than during the last year. Then certainly those very departments, the Secretariat, the Engineers and all those departments who do loan works or carry on buildings out of loan are exactly the same officers, and it is the same establishment that does the other work. Then, why should 14,15 be again further debited when an additional sum of Rs. 15 lakhs is already debited to the establishment? I also therefore support, unless a satisfactory explanation is forthcoming, the motion moved by the honourable member Mr. Joshi.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN :
Sir, I should like to explain first the present year's budget referred to by the honourable member the Deputy President. He said that for this year we had budgetted 21 lakhs out of revenue for establishment.

[Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain]

If he will refer to the loan works, he will find that there are 14 lakhs provided. In all it comes to Rs. 35 lakhs odd. Actually, my establishment, according to the accounts that are kept by the Accountant General has cost Rs. 35,02,000 this year. For the satisfaction of the Deputy President and this House, I would refer them to the budget of 1924-25 where 14 lakhs 23 thousand was charged to loan works and 21 out of revenue. We are not spending more than 35 lakhs. Now, for the ensuing year, he says we are spending 34 lakhs out of revenue and 14 lakhs out of loan, or 48 lakhs in all. This is the result of the new system that we have adopted, I understand, from Madras. According to this system, the irrigation establishment is also shown under 41, Civil Works, and the principle is that a certain percentage should be charged to Irrigation and the rest to Civil Works. Hence, this inflated figure of 34 lakhs. Now, if honourable members look at page 5, they will see that for Irrigation only, deducting Tools and Plant, 44 lakhs have been budgetted. Taking away tools and plant, if honourable members add up the rest of the figures, the total will come to Rs. 44 lakhs. As regards the actual establishment which is employed under Irrigation, if honourable members refer to page 41 of the same budget, they will see that 13 lakhs are for Deccan Irrigation and 1 lakh 64 thousand for the Chief Engineer in Sind, and there are also amounts of 8 lakhs 77 thousand and 7 lakhs 26 thousand and 26 lakhs for Sukkur Barrage. The total will come approximately to 56 lakhs. That means a difference of 12 lakhs. That appears under this 48 lakhs. I cannot give the exact figures till the Accountant General has settled the full details.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: You have taken 14 instead of 12.

Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Now, Sir, I have accounted for the inflated figure of 12 lakhs in my budget. Now, I must make it very clear to the House that the total establishment next year will cost me about 34 lakhs 81 thousand, 12 lakhs will go to Irrigation, and the balance will come approximately to 35 lakhs. To this 35 lakhs, we have to add the Lee Commission's portion, which will come to over 1 lakh. These 12 lakhs are for Irrigation Department, but, according to the new system, are debited to 41, Civil Works. I have shown the honourable House that 44 lakhs are budgetted for irrigation though the actual establishment is nearly 56 lakhs, that means a difference of 12 lakhs. The Honourable the Finance Member has actually given me these 12 lakhs. The current year's demand was Rs. 1,02,00,000, and my ensuing year's demand is 1,17,00,000. This includes 12 lakhs for Irrigation establishment, 2 lakhs more for repairs and 1 lakh more for the reserve department. The total comes to 117.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: What is the approximate.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order. The honourable member will have the right of reply.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: This is according to the new system. Approximately, it comes to 36

[Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain]

lakhs—34 lakhs 81 thousand for establishment. If honourable members look at the current year's budget, when the residue was not entered under 41, Civil Works, they will see that the actual demand for irrigation was much greater. So this is due to the system only, and the Honourable the Finance Member has compensated me for this by giving me 12 lakhs more as explained above.

Mr. K. S. FRAMJI: Sir, I should like to point out that at page 41 of the Public Works Budget the total establishment charges for the whole Public Works Department are shown to be 1 crore, 1 lakh and 47 thousand, which includes about 28 lakhs 57 thousand for the Lloyd Barrage. The corresponding figure for the current year is 1 crore, 7 lakhs 8 thousand. So that actually there is a reduction of 5 lakhs and 60 thousand. According to the distribution shown at the bottom of that page there would appear to be an increase in one major head and a reduction in another, but that is mainly on account of the new system. There is a reduction of 5 lakhs and 6,000 rupees on the whole. The Lloyd Barrage shows a reduction of about 9 lakhs. So the remaining 3 lakhs are to be accounted for, part of that is due to the provision of nearly Rs. 2 lakhs on account of the Lee Commission's recommendation and the remaining about a lakh of rupees is due to an increase in the establishment charges of the Deccan Irrigation Division which has however now disappeared owing to the item for two new districts having been withdrawn by the Honourable the General Member for the present. There is no increase, therefore, on the whole of the Public Works Department Establishment while as regards the Roads and Buildings branch items (6, 7 and 8 on page 41 of the 41, Civil Works Budget) the establishment budgetted for 1925-26 is less than that of current year by Rs. 47,400. Further I understood the honourable member Mr. Joshi to say that the establishment charge compared to the expenditure of works is in the ratio of one rupee to two rupees. That is not so, Sir. If the honourable member comes and discusses with me I could show him detailed figures to satisfy him that for every five rupees spent on works the establishment charges are one rupee; in other words the expenditure on establishment is about 20 per cent. that on works, and in the Roads and Buildings branch it is about 15 or 16 per cent.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: I have not been able to follow the honourable member.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I cannot help it.

Mr. K. S. FRAMJI: The honourable member has stated that, the expenditure on works is only 76 lakhs of rupees but that, Sir, is for only the works budgetted for in the 41, Civil Works. There are several other heads under which works are carried out by the Roads and Buildings branch such as works of contributions and grants-in-aid, central Government works, military works, and all works provided for in the 60, Civil Works budgetted. All these go up to a very high figure, approximately 1 crore 66 lakhs against which the establishment was accounted for

[Mr. K. S. Framji]

in the next year's budget is only 32 lakhs even if we include half the Secretariat establishment and other charges common to both the Roads and Buildings and Irrigation establishments. I shall be quite willing to give details to convince the honourable member of these figures.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): Sir, I have not been able to follow quite closely the remarks of the honourable member the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department. But I understood the Honourable Minister to say that the provision for establishment is really 34 lakhs 40 thousand, *plus* 2 lakhs for the Lee Commission's recommendations. So he does not deny that the establishment which is really necessary for this department is 34 lakhs 40 thousand. It is clear also that the works to be carried on this year come to 76 lakhs and odd. Therefore so much establishment is not necessary.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Sir, I have made it very clear to the House that this 34 lakhs is shown in my budget because of the new system, and for the new system the Honourable the Finance Member has compensated me by giving me 12 lakhs more on the ensuing year. The honourable member's statement that the establishment under 41, Civil Works, does work to the extent of 76 lakhs is not correct. But this establishment does the work of 76 lakhs out of the revenue and 69 lakhs out of the capital, that is over a crore of rupees. If we deduct the charges for establishment, specialist officers and the secretariat, because the Secretariat does not go into the mofussil and prepare roads and bungalows, the charge will come to hardly 13 to 14 per cent.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: Is it permissible, Sir, to tack on to these transferred departments the expenditure which is made for the reserved departments? This confusion has arisen because both transferred and reserved figures are tacked together.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: I have shown that to the honourable member yesterday and to-day.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: I want the exact figure for the Honourable Minister's department.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: It will be found at page 41. For simplifying the accounts, the whole of the Secretariat is under me. Then there are the electrical engineer to Government, the consulting architect to Government, mechanical engineer to Government, the Dapuri Workshops, and superintending engineers of the three divisions of the Presidency Proper.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: It comes to 35 lakhs 50 thousand rupees.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: It comes to 34,81,000. I have reduced the present year's establishment charges by 77,000. I am in fact spending on the establishments less, instead of more. If honourable members will refer to the figures of the current year, they will find that in the ensuing year I am spending less

[Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain]

on the establishments, and I therefore hope this House will throw out this motion.

Question put and lost.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South): I beg to move, Sir

That the Public Works Establishment—Mechanical Engineer to Government—Pay of one Temporary Engineer—Rs. 2,400—be omitted.

Of course, in this matter in the last debate when a cut out of a total amount of 10 lakhs was suggested, it was made clear that one of the posts which were not needed by the Government was that of the Mechanical Engineer to Government. In the general discussion on the budget I had pointed out, Sir, how the amount of establishments in the budget is swollen. This Mechanical Engineers's post, I find, for nearly three or four years was done away with. There was no Mechanical Engineer in the year 1923-24.....

Mr. G. WILES: I rise to a point of order, Sir. Are we discussing the Mechanical Engineer's pay?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The motion as it stands on the agenda is "Omit Part III—Public Works Establishment—Mechanical Engineer to Government—Pay of one Temporary Engineer, Rs. 2,400."

Mr. G. WILES: He is discussing the Mechanical Engineer's post.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: I would like to say a word, Sir, before you decide the point of order. I may mention that all these motions are moved as regards the votable items of the whole of the establishment of the Mechanical Engineer. That is the indirect way of showing our objection to or attacking the post of the Mechanical Engineer to Government, and therefore these motions are being moved. There is only one non-votable item in this, namely, the pay of the Mechanical Engineer, which is omitted from the scope of our motions for reduction or omission, just as in the case of the Industries Department.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member wishes to cut the pay of one temporary engineer which is votable, Rs. 2,400.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: All the votable items in the demand; because I understand the pay of the Mechanical Engineer is non-votable and I cannot touch it directly. The only item that is votable is the temporary engineer and other establishment, and if I want to remove the Mechanical Engineer to Government.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member has no right of removing any non-votable appointment. He can certainly disallow the establishment if he likes.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: That is why I have given notice of motions in item 608 which refers to the pay of temporary establishment, and items 609 and so forth, which are all votable items, and I did not quite follow the honourable members on the other side who raised the point of order. But so far as this appointment of Mechanical Engineer is concerned, if I could go directly for that appointment, I could have given notice asking for the omission of his salary altogether. But

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

I find that I cannot touch it, and that I must go in a circuitous way of cutting his travelling allowance, his establishment, and so on. Sir, the Bombay Government could do without this officer for several years, and I find that the Retrenchment Committee's report also says that this officer and this establishment are not necessary. This is what the Retrenchment Committee's report says :

"A fourth specialist post, viz., that of Mechanical Engineer to Government was formerly in existence and has not been formally abolished. In case the revival of this post is contemplated we would here record our opinion that it is unnecessary. We are aware of very little work performed by such an officer during the last 10 years while he existed and the abolition of this post was recommended by the Public Works Department Reorganization Committee."

So here is, Sir, the considered report not only of the Retrenchment Committee, but also of the Public Works Department Reorganization Committee, which says that this post is not necessary and we have actual experience for the last three or four years, when that post was not in existence, that the Public Works Department went on as well or as badly as before. Now, this year, Sir, when there is a deficit shown by the Honourable the Finance Member, it is very strange that this post should have been revived....

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : May I correct that statement, Sir ? That is not correct. He has been there for the last three years since 1923.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : To be more accurate, I should have said that the post is sought to be revived, because I find from the records, Sir, that there was no provision made for the Mechanical Engineer, but he was transferred and given charge of Dapuri Workshops. He was not the Mechanical Engineer. Now that Dapuri Workshops is sought to be transferred and the post is sought to be recreated for him, and it is again being revived, and the work to be done by him is only to the extent of Rs. 1,000 ! The provision made for him in the Public Works Department book shows that the work to be done by him is to the extent of Rs. 1,000.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : May I correct a misstatement, Sir, again ? Sir, it is not a fact that we are creating this new post or that we have revived it. He has been with us with the sanction of this House since 1923-24 as our Mechanical Engineer. Last year also this House sanctioned his appointment at the budget time. This year also he is shown in our estimates.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : That is, surely, the Honourable Minister's explanation which he can give in the course of his reply ? He has got the right of two speeches.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : The Honourable Minister seems to show, Sir, his usual impatience. As I say, I find in the Retrenchment Committee's report it is very distinctly stated the post is unnecessary, and that a revival was contemplated. They say that they are "aware of very little work performed by such an officer during the last 10 years while he existed and the abolition of this post was recommended by

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

the Public Works Department Reorganization Committee". So there is no disputing the point that there are two committees who have asked for the abolition of this post, and there is also no disputing the point that the Government of Bombay could do without a Mechanical Engineer. Why is he sought to be thrust upon us again this year, when there is a deficit shown by the Honourable the Finance Member? I also find on page 17 amongst the works allotted the total works to be done by this Mechanical Engineer come to about Rs 1,000. The establishment is to cost about Rs. 38,000 and the work to be done is to the extent of Rs. 1,000! Looking at all these circumstances and considering the financial stress through which we are passing, I think we could very well do without this post.

Question Proposed.

Mr. A. MONTGOMERIE: Sir, I would oppose this indirect attack on the Mechanical Engineer. We are told that he does nothing and is entirely useless. I do not know what grounds the honourable member has for that statement. All I can say is that there is one single contract in one department alone, namely, the Nasik Jail, which is a large contract, costing this Government about Rs. 25 lakhs, I think, on which the Mechanical Engineer was consulted by the Home Department on the subject of the iron work required for gates, etc., and I am assured by the honourable the Secretary, Public Works Department, the Mechanical Engineer by the economies effected by his improved designs and by doing the work at Dapuri is saving Government rather more than the whole of his pay for a year. He has also been devoting himself for a certain amount of time to working up mechanical improvements in our jail factories, and with his knowledge of these technical matters, machinery for manufacture, etc., he has proved of very great help to us in reorganising industries in jails and also in enabling us to provide useful work for our prisoners. Last year when the same indirect attack was made on this post, I invited honourable members to see the workshops at Dapuri and see young Indians being trained to a standard of accuracy which has never before been achieved in mechanical work in this country. I know some honourable members took advantage of that offer before offering criticisms, but I do not know if the honourable mover of this motion also went and saw what the work was before he made any remarks about it.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South): Mr President, I said I did not wish to bring in the merits or the demerits of the particular gentleman concerned: I said I attacked the post in the abstract. But unfortunately the honourable the Home Secretary has introduced the question of merit, and I am compelled now to state so far as this side of the House is concerned, from our point of view, what his demerits are. Those honourable members of the House who come from Gujarat especially from Ahmedabad, are aware of a serious bungling of this officer. I do not know what he was called then, but the gentleman was the same. We are all aware how without the sanction of the municipality of Ahmedabad a particular pumping machine was ordered out

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

by this officer from England from a particular firm of manufacturers for over three lakhs of rupees. I am told the Ahmedabad municipality refused to accept it and said that it was not wanted and that they had never ordered it out. That machine was lying in the Bombay docks for several years, neither the Government nor the municipality taking possession of it. Ultimately the bungling was got through. The municipality was suspended, and a managing committee was appointed, and the managing committee were persuaded somehow or other to accept the machine. There are certain other instances also, as for example in the case of Dhulia and Khandesh, where machinery which were not required by the municipality have been tacked on to the municipality by this very officer, and the municipality have protested. And he has been responsible for several unpleasant relations between the local bodies and Government purely on this point of his trying to force a particular kind of machinery on a particular local body. I am sorry, Sir, I have been forced to bring on this matter. I did not want to do it in the beginning. The fact that this post has been in abeyance has not been disputed. Between 1919 and 1923 the post of Mechanical Engineer to Government was in abeyance, and Mr. Thiselton-Dyer was attached to the Industries Department.....

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : On a point of order Sir. Will you permit a reply to this matter which is now being raised for the first time ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The Honourable Minister has the right of reply.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, it would be convenient for the honourable the Secretary to reply to all this.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The Honourable Minister ought to be aware of the facts of the case. Government should be fully equipped with the facts: they ought not to rely on Secretaries.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : The point, Sir, is the new matter. I think there was a ruling that in a reply, an honourable member should not bring in an entirely new matter.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The position is this. The merits of the officer were not gone into in the original speech. They were brought forward by the honourable member the Home Secretary in his speech. In his reply the honourable member is pointing out what he regards as his demerits. That is in accordance with the procedure that is being followed.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : I do not know, Sir, if the provisions of the Civil Procedure Code ought to be introduced. This is a new matter.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Will the honourable member continue his speech ?

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : Between 1920 and 1923 the post of Mechanical Engineer to Government was in abeyance and Mr. Thiselton-Dyer

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

was attached to the Industries Department. That statement made by me is correct. Between 1919 and 1923 this post was in abeyance and it is sought to be revived now. I hope Sir, considering our financial circumstances, the House will consider it apart from any other question as a question of economy and refuse to revive this post.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Sir, before I come to the Mechanical Engineer, I will dispose of the statement of my honourable friend from Bombay that the Mechanical Engineer ordered the Ahmedabad municipal pumping machine without the orders of the municipality. That is not a correct statement. As a matter of fact, the plans and estimates were sent in by the municipality, and then the orders were issued. Further, Sir, that question was discussed in this House sometime back, and this House did not find fault with the Mechanical Engineer.

Then my honourable friend made another point. He said that this post was kept in abeyance. That is quite correct. We did so because we thought that if we could do without him we might not revive his office. But we have pumping machines belonging to Government and to the local bodies worth over a crore of rupees. During the three years this post was in abeyance, all that machinery went without inspection and overhauling, and we had to communicate with some private firms to carry out that work. We get many demands from municipalities for the inspection of their machinery which inspection we give them gratis. The terms that the private firms gave us for this work came to much more than the Mechanical Engineer's salary. Therefore, this post was revived with the sanction of this honourable House. For three years, it was in abeyance, but since two years it has been revived.

I would like to give the House some idea of the nature of the work of the Mechanical Engineer. He inspects and overhauls machinery of Government and local bodies of the value of a crore of rupees. Honourable members of this House know that we have big drainage and water pumping machines. If he finds they require repair, he sends them to the Dapuri workshops. He also makes the new parts required, which if ordered from outside will cost a good deal. The honourable member the Home Secretary has told the honourable House that he even designs certain appliances, and those appliances in one department alone have resulted in an actual saving of Rs. 50,000. He also designs sluices for the Irrigation Department. In addition to this inspection of the machinery of Government and of the local bodies, he trains our Indian graduates on the mechanical side.....

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Is there any class ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : There are apprentices under him, and we give them Rs. 70 a month and Re. 1 a day. One of these men has actually been appointed a temporary engineer. The whole country is crying for the Indianisation of the services. How are we going to give effect to it? How are we to Indianise the mechanical branch of the services, if we do not train our

[Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain]

men? A graduate has now been trained and the time is not far off when the present incumbent will go away and this man will be appointed in his place. The workshop at Dapuri has now become a self-supporting concern. We are training in the workshop about 40 young men on the mechanical side. Besides, we give them primary education as well. We give them also certain wages.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: On a point of information, Sir. The honourable member for Bombay told us that this mechanical engineer ordered some engine for the Ahmedabad municipality which did not work properly and that it had to be replaced by another engine.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: We say we want technical education for our children, and here is a department which gives that form of education. After their training here, these men will go out into the world and earn their living. This department therefore not only helps towards Indianisation in the mechanical branch of the service, but also giving technical education to our boys. In this workshop, we make parts of machinery and plant. This House has been insisting that we should not purchase foreign stores. Here is a department which obviates the purchase of foreign stores.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: Is it not a fact.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Does the Honourable Minister allow him to interrupt?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: I do not.

To sum up, the Mechanical Engineer inspects our machinery worth a crore of rupees. He makes designs for us. He helps towards the Indianisation of service in the mechanical branch. He gives technical education to our boys and makes certain portions of the presidency at least self-supporting without seeking for certain articles from outside. We are now making a saving on our Dapuri workshop as we have taken the Agricultural Department workshop to Dapuri and thereby are saving Rs. 30,000. If all these cries for Indianisation, for making India self-contained, and giving our boys technical education are genuine, this item must be passed by the House. If not, I would say that all these are mere lip professions.

Question put and lost.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South): Sir, I formally move:

"That the provision of Rs. 3,048, pay of temporary establishment to the mechanical engineer to Government be omitted."

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: Is it not a fact that the loss sustained by the municipality of Ahmedabad was made good by Government? Because of the inefficiency of the man, the provincial Government had to pay to the municipality a sum of at least Rs. 5,000 or so?

Mr. G. I. PATEL: I would request the Honourable Minister to explain whether it is not a fact that on account of the inefficiency of the mechanical engineer a type of machine was selected for the Ahmedabad muni-

[Mr. G. I. Patel]

cipality which consumed coal of Rs. 30,000 more annually than another type of machine which would have saved this Rs. 30,000 in extra running cost and whether it is not a fact that the Ahmedabad municipality will be permanently now sustaining a loss from Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 30,000 every year on account of the consumption of coal on this engine, because the quantity of water that has to be pumped up is not in proportion to the capacity of the heavy engine? Whether all this is not due to the inefficiency of the mechanical engineer whose salary is not under discussion before the House?

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind): Sir, this matter with regard to the loss sustained by the Ahmedabad municipality came up for discussion when a supplementary grant was asked by Government to compensate the municipality. As that was a supplementary grant the principle could not be discussed. The objection to the grant proceeded from me.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order. I have been considering this question during the time the debate has been going on. I think I cannot allow the repetition of the same point under a different head. This point was first debated on the first motion. The House has decided that issue. A subsequent motion cannot re-open the same attack on the same officer and all that can be urged on it is the economy proposed. If the procedure that is being followed is allowed honourable members can give half a dozen motions in regard to one single appointment and discuss it under each motion. I do not think it is right. I therefore hold that in regard to subsequent motions, the fact of the proposed economy should alone be discussed. If honourable members have got to say anything with regard to any particular officer that ought to be said on the first motion.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: In view of your ruling, Sir, I have nothing more to add to what I have already stated which gives the whole information.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: I have nothing more to say.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The Honourable Minister in charge for reply.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: I have nothing more to say.

Question put and lost.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South): Sir, the motion which I wish to move is:

"Omit Part II—Public Works Establishment—Special Officers; pay of workshop manager Rs. 12,600."

Sir, this is in regard to the Dapuri Workshop. We have heard enough about it in the previous year. The Honourable Minister has made a statement that the workshop was not worked at a loss. I find from the auditor's report.....

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : I said this year.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The Honourable Minister can explain that in his reply. He himself objects to interruptions of this kind.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : Sir, I have read the report of the auditor for 1922-23, which is the latest report that has been placed in our hands. There is no later report and if there is one, I do not know why it has not been placed in the hands of honourable members on this side of the House. That report illustrates very clearly the persistency of the Government in running this workshop year after year, even though it results in a loss. In the year 1916-17 the loss was Rs. 16,447 ; in 1917-18 it was Rs. 24,209 ; in 1918-19 Rs. 4,465 ; in 1919-20 Rs. 47,177 ; in 1920-21 Rs. 35,000 and in 1921-22 Rs. 48,000. Commencing with a loss of Rs. 16,000 in 1916-17, the workshop has continued losing further and further until it cost Government a loss of Rs. 48,000 in 1921-22. I cannot understand the pertinacity of Government in running this workshop year after year without any prospects of making any gain, but with every prospect of increasing the loss, looking at the results of the last five years. Now, the Honourable Minister comes forward and says that the current year's accounts show that there will be no loss. That is not enough. I do not think it is quite satisfactory, on the strength of that, to come and ask this House for a large recurring grant for establishment to continue the workshop, and say that although the workshop has worked during the last five years at a loss, the last one being an amount of Rs. 48,000, this year we hope to manage it in such a way that there will be no loss.

Sir, the point is whether this institution is necessary. I say it is not. It is not only not necessary, but I think honourable members on this side will bear me out that this institution has caused great inconvenience to the department itself. This workshop was started at Dapuri, and instructions were issued to the department that they should send to this workshop for repairs all the machinery that they may have to get repaired from all parts of the province, and I am informed perhaps it is an exaggeration that if a steam roller goes wrong in Karachi, it has to be sent down all the way from Karachi to Dapuri, because the instructions are to that effect. But I think it is absurd to ask that a repair which could be done locally at a small expense should be entrusted to the Dapuri workshop, so that the machinery would have to be sent all the way to Dapuri and back. Leaving aside the instance of Karachi, let us take a place like Ahmednagar. Now, it would surely cause damage and loss to the machinery to send it all the way from that place to Dapuri and back.

But, looking to all the circumstances, since the Honourable Minister has now stated that he has managed it in such a way that for the last year there is not going to be a loss, and if he gives the assurance to this House that since the management has come personally into his hands this loss will not recur, I think this side of the House may be a little generous and allow him a trial for one year more, so that we can see

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

whether he can give us any results this year or not. Particularly, as the authority is in his hands, I do not wish it to be said that sufficient trial was not given to him to work the institution. I would like a definite statement from him that he would personally see to this affair and see that no further losses occur, and if there are any losses, he will come forward with a proposal to abolish this workshop.

Question proposed.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD (Central Division) : Sir, I have heard so much about this institution from the Honourable Minister that I am surprised that the public is not kept aware of its usefulness. Most of the honourable members seem to be entirely ignorant.....

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : I invited them to inspect it.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Let the honourable member continue with his remarks without interruptions.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : I am supporting the Honourable Minister, because if this institution is a kind of school for preparing Indians for higher posts in the Engineering Department, I think it is of very great use, but we know so little about it, and I do not know whose fault it is. I would therefore request the Honourable Minister to let us have all the information about it, whether it is a workshop, a technical school, or whether it is something like an Engineering College. On all these points, I should like to know more from him.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA (Ahmedabad District) : Sir, if the Dapuri workshop is to have a manager on Rs. 1,000, it cannot be run economically. There are many bigger workshops in other parts of the presidency, but they do not pay their managers Rs. 1,000. Government have appointed a Mechanical Engineer on Rs. 2,150 per mensem and there is also a temporary assistant engineer. Why is it necessary to have a workshop manager in addition ? No commercial institution of such a kind would have all these three officers. I think the Mechanical Engineer and the assistant engineer are more than sufficient.

Mr. G. WILES : Sir, I want to say a few words on this subject from the Finance Department point of view. I have taken an interest in this institution since I have been in the Finance Department, and have visited it at various times and investigated its activities from the financial point of view, and in the debate this time last year I gave my impressions of the institution from the financial point of view, and I foreshadowed that the Honourable Minister might, in the course of the year, be able to tell the House that the institution was no longer working at a loss. At my instance among others, a suggestion was made during the last meeting in Poona that we should invite members of the House to undertake an investigation into this establishment and a personally conducted party of honourable members of this House was taken to Dapuri. I do not know how many honourable members took advantage of the invitation, but I think about 25 members actually visited the place. They were

[Mr. G. Wiles]

shown the accounts and the young men working there, and I understood they were satisfied with all that they saw. If they are not, it is up to them to tell us in what respect they are not. I believe businessmen were included in the guests who were invited, and some have told me personally that they were thoroughly satisfied with what they saw. Personally, and I think I can speak on behalf of the Accountant General who made a personal investigation and suggested a different method of keeping the accounts, I may say that we were thoroughly satisfied with the work being done at this shop. It is now a very useful institution to Government. It is more than paying its way. Even if it could not show that it was making both sides of the account meet, I would still say that this institution at Dapuri was worth maintaining. But as a matter of fact it is not actually costing money to Government at the present day, and I think it is only fair that as representative of the Finance Department I should say that we are satisfied with the Honourable Minister's statement of the case.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): This workshop, Sir, is a small one consisting of four or five lathes and to keep such highly paid officers in that workshop is I think extravagance. The charge that the workshop makes to the local bodies for the repairs of their machines, etc., is very heavy. At one time we sent our road roller worth five or six thousand for repairs to this workshop. Only one wheel of that roller was to be repaired and the charge made by the workshop was 47 hundred rupees. If the district local boards have to pay such heavy charge then such highly paid officers are not required in this workshop. And I submit that these officers should be informed at least that they should not charge such high charges for the repairs of local boards' machines.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Mr. President, I should like to say a few words because I intervened last year in a similar debate and stated what I knew from personal observation of this most useful workshop at Dapuri. It is not a fact that it does only small repairs, unless my honourable friend who has just spoken considered it a small repair to make a wheel of a steam-roller. That is I think a very heavy repair. It is not a repair that can be effected in an ordinary workshop. I am surprised at my honourable friend's remarks, and I think if he had visited the Dapuri workshop himself—I do not really feel he can have done that—he would not have said that it is one of those small workshops. [Rao Saheb D. P. Desai intimated he had not visited it, but Mr. H. D. Saheba intimated he had.] Then I hope he will corroborate my statement that it is by no means a small workshop, but that it includes many valuable lathes for turning metals and that it has its own foundry. It makes its own castings among other things castings as big as broken parts of steam-rollers which cannot be made in an ordinary workshop. I inspected this workshop myself before the last debate on this question, and I wish to add that the results of this inspection were so satisfactory that it seemed to me possible that this workshop might undertake some of the large contracts which we had in view in relation to the new central

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

jail at Nasik road. I put the matter under enquiry not by myself but by experts who were able to give me expert advice on the matter, and they reported that this workshop would save a great deal of money in the purchase of iron barred doors and windows required for the new jail. I made these inquiries because previous experience of locally made iron doors in other jail work has been far from satisfactory. They cost a great deal of money and produced very poor results. These inquiries however proved eminently satisfactory and it was found possible to place at the Dapuri workshop a very large order for these new iron barred doors required for the new central jail at Nasik road. That contract is now being undertaken. It is going to be very profitable to us in the jail department as it will save us a very large sum upon the new jail and at the same time it will provide continuous work for the men employed in the Dapuri workshop including a great number of those young Indians who are in training as mechanical engineers.

I would also like to mention one other matter in which this workshop is doing exceedingly useful work for the Home Department and that is in the reorganizing of the jail manufactures. If honourable members will refer to the previous debates upon this question of jail manufactures, they will see that the question of our making more money on our jail manufactures was one which was pressed upon us by this honourable House.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA : What has all that to do with the question of the manager of the workshop ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The importance of the workshop is shown to justify the pay of the manager.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Quite so, Sir, it is impossible to give large contracts to a workshop which has not got a workshop manager. How can you give a large contract of iron barred doors which have to be carefully made unless there is a very good workshop manager ? Unless you have a workshop manager who is well-trained, how can you get his help to reorganise your jail manufactures ? How can you get expert advice as to what is the best means and best machinery to be substituted for the labour of the prisoners in the jail, best machinery which is not merely effective economically but best suited in its reformatory nature to teach prisoners an honest trade so that they may be able to earn their livelihood upon release in their after life. In these matters the advice tendered to us by the officer of this workshop is extremely valuable and we hope to proceed on that advice so as to be able to improve very much the system of labour in our jails both economically and educationally with a view to reform the many prisoners who have to be confined in our jails.

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON : Sir, it may interest honourable members of the House to know that in the years between 1914 and 1919 it was necessary to purchase a very large number of penstock gates for the Godavari and Pravara canals. Years previous to that I have had to order a very large number of penstock gates from the Director General of Stores

[Mr. C. S. C. Harrison]

and most of these were of standard pattern and should have been obtainable in India. I therefore asked firms in India to tender.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I do not know whether that has anything to do with the pay of the manager of this workshop.

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON : I submit it has, Sir, as I will show. I bought Indian made gates for those canals and I leave it for honourable members to go and see those gates on these canals. They were useful but most discreditably finished off. The workshop at Dapuri is specially meant to teach young Indians to finish articles properly and this is a very important point from the engineering point of view. I took the opportunity of showing some patterns of the casts we require to the mechanical engineer to Government and I asked him whether it would not be possible for the Dapuri workshop to do something better than that and he explained to me that they were able to make very excellent patterns, of course through the interest taken by the manager who is drawing twelve thousand rupees, and this Dapuri workshop is now able to turn out excellent irrigation channel gates and it should be possible for us when we place our large orders for the Sukkur Barrage to go to Dapuri for the smaller types of channel gates.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Sir, I will say a few words only. I have already told the House that the Mechanical Engineer does the inspection of machinery all over. As regards advertising, I have invited honourable members of this House to visit this workshop, and after that I brought out a leaflet about the Dapuri workshop as well as about the work of these officers, and it was placed on the table of the House, I think on the first day of the session. Now, Sir, honourable members have heard that this institution is very useful. The honourable member the Finance Secretary has assured the House that by this workshop we are making a saving of thirty thousand rupees which we used to spend on agricultural workshop, and in future the electrical engineer's workshop will also be attached to this workshop. I assure the House that I will go carefully into this matter myself and I trust that the honourable House will not hear any more complaints about the Dapuri workshops.

Question put and lost.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City) : I move, Sir :

"The omission of Part III—Public Works Establishment—Pay of Engineers: Sind allowance—Rs. 1,200 (P. W. D. Estimates, page 39)."

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : I rise to a point of order. I am afraid this is not in order as the Sind allowance is non-voted.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Has it been shown as non-votable ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : By mistake it is shown as voted. But it is for an officer whose pay is non-voted, and under the rules it is, therefore, non-voted.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : Sir, for one superintending engineer that is shown there there is Sind allowance of Rs. 100. That is the rate. You will find that on page 39. But it relates to the entry of the superintending engineers which appears on page 38. If you begin there, you find "4 Superintending Engineers Rs. 88,800" italics, that is to say, they are non-voted. Then 1 Superintending Engineer, Rs. 22,200, votable. This Sind allowance is Rs. 1,200 at the rate of Rs. 100 a month, and therefore, this Sind allowance relates only to one votable superintending engineer and therefore it cannot relate to a non-votable item.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Mr. President, the facts as related by the honourable the Deputy President, up to a certain point are correct. There is no Sind allowance for the superintending engineer whose pay is votable. This Sind allowance of Rs. 1,200 is for the superintending engineer for the Barrage Circle, and that superintending engineer is an Imperial officer. There is a superintending engineer whose salary is votable, but this Sind allowance does not apply to him. He has no Sind allowance.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI : I wish to say, Sir, that allowance is not salary.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : That is according to the decision already arrived at. The power vests in the authority which has exercised it and has declared these allowances as non-voted. There is only one remark I should like to make, and it is that during the course of the debate so many mistakes have been found in the budget that Government will have to take note of the fact. It would save much time of the House if adequate care is taken in putting the budget in such a form before the House that it would obviate the raising of the points which we have had to deal with.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : It is a printers' mistake, I am told, Sir.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : It may be ; but the printers' proofs are submitted for approval.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : I understand, Sir, for an allowance to be non-votable, it should be decided by His Excellency the Governor.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : I may tell the honourable House that His Excellency has decided that all allowances attached to posts which are held by Imperial Officers are non-votable.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City) : Sir, I move :

"Omit in Part III—Public Works Establishment—Pay of Engineers: Duty Allowance—Rs. 2,400."

I propose this for the reason that I cannot at all understand why these officers should get any duty allowance. We know very well, Sir, that we are spending lakhs of rupees on building bungalows for these officers, we are housing them, and after these officers are housed, I cannot understand why there should be any duty allowance. They are working under the same conditions as the other members of the Public Works Department. You will find on page 38 duty allowance for the Chief Engineer Rs 600, but I have not moved the deletion of that; I

[Mr. D. B. Adwani]

have only moved the deletion of this present item, because I think that if it is carried, Government will take it that this House does not approve of any duty allowance. I have taken only one item and suggested that it should be deleted.

Question proposed.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Sir, I do not know how duty allowance is to be given to officers for performing their duty. They are given the pay for doing their duty. Therefore, the duty allowance is indefensible on any ground. So the duty allowance must be stopped.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA (Ahmedabad District): My honourable friends do not seem to understand it, Sir. The pay is drawn for pleasure and the duty allowance is drawn for doing duty.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Mr. President, this duty allowance is not given only to officers of the barrage. It is given to all assistant engineers who are attached to administrative offices in Karachi. The same duty allowance is given to the assistant engineer who happens to be attached to the Chief Engineer's office and to the offices of Superintending Engineers of the right and left bank canals. In the same way this duty allowance is given to assistant engineers attached to the Chief Engineer and the Superintending Engineers on the Lloyd Barrage.

Well, Sir, I can give you the reasons why this duty allowance is given to these officers. The Chief Engineers and the Superintending Engineers have a personal assistant who is an assistant engineer from the provincial service, and very responsible duties fall upon this officer. It is not often that these assistant engineers are anxious to come into the office of the Superintending or Chief Engineer, as the work they have to perform is harder, more responsible and for longer hours, and I presume in the past it was found difficult to recruit officers as personal assistants and therefore some extra remuneration had to be given and this duty allowance was therefore instituted.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA: By whom?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I deprecate these interruptions. The honourable member will have his chance of speaking on the motion.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: As I said they have to work longer hours and have harder work, more responsibility. This duty allowance is for the five assistant engineers shown on page 38.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): I am not convinced, Sir, after giving very careful consideration to the information given. These assistant engineers and others will all get their bungalows, they will be properly housed and they will work on exactly the same conditions as the other members of the Public Works Department, and there is absolutely no reason whatever for giving them any extra allowance. Now, Sir, if you see what allowances they are getting—Sind allowance, barrage allowance, compensatory allowance, travelling allowance—I think this duty allowance would appear to be absolutely indefensible.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Mr. President, they do not get Sind allowance when they are in Karachi. They are not the only officers who get this duty allowance: it is given to all assistant engineers in the Public Works Department and not only to those on the barrage, as my honourable friend Mr. Adwani seems to imagine, or as he just now stated. It is nothing new; it has been going on for years for this class of officers. They are of the Bombay provincial service.

Question put and lost.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): Sir, I beg to move:

Omit sum of Rs 8,339 provision for barrage allowance made under Part III, Public Works Establishment—Superintending Engineers.

I hope, Sir, the Honourable the General Member will not be able to say that this allowance also refers only to assistant engineers. I think the giving of this allowance is preposterous. These officers get their bungalows; they get the other allowances, Sind allowance, compensatory allowance and travelling allowance; and I think no more allowance in the shape of barrage allowance should be given to them.

Question proposed.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Mr. President, the principles of this barrage allowance were discussed, I believe, at the last budget session of this honourable House. I have an impression they were discussed and they were passed by the honourable House. (Mr. B. G. Pahalajani: They were never discussed.) I will give the honourable members the principles of this allowance and how it came to be sanctioned. It is for the special nature of the work, the arduous conditions in which it has to be performed and for the contented and loyal service which will be rendered to Government on the Lloyd Barrage. I will just point out my own experience and explain how it was that Government came to sanction it. It was very difficult to get our officers to leave this presidency—and I specially refer to our Indian officers—and go to Sind to serve on the Lloyd Barrage project. If they did go—and they had to go if they were ordered—they were naturally discontented. When they joined the service they never thought that they would have to serve 10 or 12 years in Sind at a stretch. They were quite prepared to go to Sind for two or three years, as all officers have to go who join the Public Works Department, but they clearly stated, and I think rightly, that Government should not expect them to serve on one construction project for ten to twelve years, and in the case of many of them at the end of their service in the Public Works Department. They also placed before Government their own difficulties. They had their wives and children in the presidency proper, and on account of the very hot climate of Sind it was necessary to leave them in the presidency proper, but most of all they considered it was essential to leave their children here on account of the education that they were receiving in the presidency proper which would be interrupted if they were taken to Sind. They also pointed out that on a project of the importance of the Lloyd Barrage, the responsibilities of officers were greater than if they were serving in ordinary administrative posts.

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

They would have to work longer hours and they would have to bear responsibilities which Government had placed upon their shoulders for more than two years' time at a stretch. If an officer is put on construction work he is generally relieved in two or three years and put on to ordinary administrative duty. But here it was essential that once our officers went to the barrage project, they should be prepared to stay there either as long as they remained in service or as long as the work continued on the barrage. We cannot afford to have officers on this huge project only for two or three years; to let them gain all the experience of work on a big project and then let them go to administrative posts, and let others come in to begin all over again to learn their work. Continuity of service was essential to the success of that great project, and in order to get continuity of service, and in order to keep our officers satisfied, Government ultimately came to the conclusion after very serious consideration that this barrage allowance should be granted. Mr. President, for myself, I can tell the honourable House that I considered this question for two months before I consented to it. It is only after I went to Sind and heard the officers themselves from their own lips—officers, both European and Indian—that I decided that a case had been made out. I do not desire to go into individual cases, but I would like to inform the honourable House of the difficulties that had to be overcome. Some of our officers when they were ordered to go to the Sukkur Barrage were not at all pleased, but I firmly told them that no excuse would be received or accepted and orders had to be carried out. I must say to their credit that they immediately obeyed. I had to speak rather firmly in one or two cases, and to the credit of our Indian officers, but let me say that they did obey those orders. But they asked me to consider their case, and I promised that I would. Now, I heard their case from their own lips when I went to Sind. I think this allowance is justified, and it is entirely in the interests of this huge work that we are undertaking. We desire that our Indian officers as well as our European officers should remain on this work from the day it is begun to the day it is ended. And if we expect them to remain in Sind and remain on construction work for ten whole years, I think they are justified in asking Government to give them an extra allowance. I will again repeat that our officers are not kept on construction work for more than three years. They are transferred for administrative work after three years or so. In this case they were given to understand that they would not be allowed to leave the construction and return to the presidency proper, and considering the responsibility they have undertaken Government have decided to give this allowance.

MOULVI RAFI UDDIN AHMAD (Central Division): Sir, the Honourable the General Member is one of the ablest debaters in this House. His arguments are generally satisfactory. But I am sorry to say that on this occasion his speech was so unconvincing that it entirely failed to satisfy me. I dare say many of the honourable members on this

[Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad]

side of the House entertain the same view. I was very much surprised to hear him state that in order to keep these officers contented and loyal the Government have to give them this allowance. It struck me as a curious way of looking at things and I was surprised at his curious mentality. He further said that he gave them orders to go and they without hesitating loyally obeyed and he therefore recommended to provide them with this allowance. This is not the way things should be managed. It is not the way to maintain discipline. My honourable friend Mr. Baptista said the other day that the members of the Civil Service were good administrators but bad statesmen. Here I may say that our Indian members are neither good statesmen nor good administrators. The honourable member should have laid it down as a matter of duty that they should go there. They are not obliging him. It was their duty. I am getting a little bit confused in the matter of allowances. The other day fifty-two allowances were enumerated. The honourable member said that he considered for two months and that after two months he yielded. My own view of the matter is that he had to yield to the demands of the European portion of the staff and when once he yielded to the European staff he had to give allowance to the Indian staff also. This is a very bad example and all the Indian members of this Council should put a stop to it. I do not say that when allowances are given to Europeans they should not be given to Indian portion of the staff. What I say is that in the interest of economy such allowances should not be given to any. We were told that Lord Clive gave these allowances in the interest of economy ; but Lord Clive gave these allowances, because the civilians then engaged were carrying on private trade of their own and he stopped that by allowances. The officers are now getting fat salaries and if we are to pay any allowances in addition, it would be an intolerable situation. I do not say that poor paid men should not get some allowance ; but officers of Government getting high salaries which are given nowhere else in the world should not get these allowances. If the Honourable Members of Government yield to such demands, it would encourage them to ask for more. It would be a sop to Cerberus. With these remarks I support the motion.

The THAKOR OF KERWADA (Gujarat Sardars and Inamdars) :
Sir, I am not acquainted with the conditions prevailing in Sind ; but I share the view of the honourable member Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad that the reasons given by the Honourable the General Member are not convincing. If this extra allowance is justified on the ground of hard work for officers in Sind, then on the same analogy I should consider that the Honourable Members and Ministers and Secretaries of departments who undergo very great strain during Council sessions must also claim such allowances. It seems to me that as a matter of duty they must go to Sind. They must have nothing else to say but to obey the orders of Government, once they accept the service, and no extra allowance is necessary for these officers. With these remarks I support the motion.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): Sir, the amount is a small one, but the question is one of principle. I must also say that I am not in the least convinced with the arguments of the Honourable the General Member. He says some of the engineers were transferred from the presidency. How many have been so transferred has not been stated.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Is it not the honourable member Mr. Adwani that moved the motion?

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: Yes; Sir.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I was looking about as to whether there were any more honourable members desirous of speaking on this motion. I will call upon the honourable member to reply, in due course.

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON: Sir, one very important point has been overlooked by honourable members who criticised this allowance. The Honourable Member in charge has pointed out that the main object was to get these officers to consent to remain during the whole period of construction. Sind was attached to the Bombay Presidency after many of the services were formed. Rightly or wrongly Sind has been looked upon by many, especially Indians living in the presidency proper, as a sort of penal settlement. Well, Sir, we have got to appoint officers to Sind. There is no question that it is a great hardship to those who have to serve in Sind. It has been the habit, and most of the officers think it rightly so, that after three years of service in Sind they should be allowed to go back to the presidency proper and that principle may be all right in a running district. But I for one have to face the problem of trying to get officers to stay on to see the work completed. I think the House will realise this most important point. Apart from this, it is not a very large item. There may be a principle involved. That is the principle I am defending, that is, we should try and keep officers on this work in Sind. If we give them some allowances, they are justified in accepting them to stay on for long periods. We hope that these officers will remain more contented and will not try to get back to the presidency proper; but I will point out to the honourable members of this House an example of the transfers that have taken place in the past. Take the instance of the Ghar Canals district. That district has been in existence for something over 30 years, and during that period there have been 32 transfers of Executive Engineers, a large majority of which were not necessary in the interest of Government, but due to sickness or on account of senior officers who had been for a long time in Sind being able to get a transfer to the presidency proper. It is fairly easy to carry on the policy of a running district, but it is impossible to carry out large works if we are having continuous changes of officers. I can assure this House that with my experience of over 18 years of construction works in this presidency that it is most harmful to the works if frequent transfers are allowed to take place, and I submit, Sir, that we cannot prevent them from taking place if we find that officers are

[Mr. C. S. C. Harrison.]

more or less forced to remain away from their homes for very long periods as we expect them to be in the present case. I trust the House will look at it from that point of view. If we can get this continuous service, I feel sure that every anna of these allowances will be more than made good by the efficiency that will obtain on this great work.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Mr. President, I should just like to add one word. A thing like the barrage allowance, for which the Honourable Mr. Cowasji Jehangir is taking the responsibility, is not sanctioned except with the consent of the whole Government, and this matter was very thoroughly considered before the Finance Department gave their consent. We came to the conclusion that in the interests of this Government and in the interests of the people it was absolutely necessary that we should keep the same staff of officers continuously on this duty in Sind. Now, Sir, if officers are not satisfied with the particular duty which they are performing, it is not at all an easy matter to keep them on that work. It is all very well to talk about officers being compelled to obey orders. Of course, they do obey orders. At the same time, those orders have frequently to be obeyed in circumstances of very considerable difficulty and strain, and if an officer thinks that he is being very badly treated, it is very easy for him to put up a very good case for his transfer. Take an officer in the north of Sind and the extremely arduous climate that he has to deal with there. When he gets a continuous and long bout of fever, he can very easily get a medical certificate that it is necessary for his health that he should be transferred to the Deccan, or to the sea breezes of Bombay, or some other similar spot. But if he is receiving this allowance, and if he has consented willingly to undertake this work without taking leave or without obtaining a transfer, he will stick to his duty in spite of fever or in spite of family separations or other difficulties, for which he might very reasonably plead a transfer. Then, again, there are the leave rules which are necessary for the staff. A man who feels that he is being badly treated will make the utmost use of these leave rules to get away. If he feels that he is being well treated, well paid and given a definite job to do in return for that pay, he will frequently abandon his right to leave and stay on at his particular job until he finishes it. That is the purpose of those words which the honourable member Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad treated so lightly and humourously. The words are not 'loyal service'. I think the Moulvi's memory misled him. It is 'contented service'. There is no question of disloyalty in the staff whatsoever. It is a question of inducing the men, in the face of severe hardship and strain to continue on the job, because the conditions in the north of Sind and the desert areas in which this canal is to be constructed are conditions so arduous to the human constitution that very few members of this House have ever had experience of. I therefore say to this House that this barrage allowance is a good investment of the moneys of this presidency.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): Mr. President, whenever we oppose the granting of these allowances, we are told that they are in the interest of the people of this presidency. When the Honourable the Finance Member described the conditions of life in Sind, I thought he was describing the desert of Sahara. As a matter of fact, Sind is not such a desert country. Most of these canals of the Lloyd Barrage canals will pass through cultivated parts of the country, tracts which are partly cultivated and partly uncultivated; and, especially after these officers have been housed, as they will shortly be housed, I submit they will be working under the same conditions as other members of the Public Works Department in Sind, and no worse at all. I must also say, Sir, that this is the first time that I have heard it said before this House that Sind is considered to be a penal settlement. I have always been under the impression that officers like to serve in Sind. There is another very important point that has not been made out by any honourable member, and that is that many of these officers who have been transferred to the Sukkur Barrage works, have gone there on promotion, and that, I think, is sufficient compensation to them.

I must say that it is rather unfortunate that I am able to oppose the grant of this allowance to only the Indian officers in whose case it is made votable, while the portion that is intended for the Imperial Service officers is made non-votable. But, as I said at the outset of my speech, it is only on principle that I have opposed the inclusion of this grant in the budget.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): Sir, I rise to a point of order. I find on page 39 that last year's allowance was Rs. 21,690 and the whole of it was votable. This year, out of that amount Rs. 9,000 have been made non-votable. My point is whether it is permissible for Government to change this allowance into a non-votable allowance this year, and if it is permissible for Government to do it, whether it is not necessary that the House should be informed on what date, by what order, a part of this allowance has been made non-votable.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: There has been no change in the orders since the last year.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member Mr. Joshi says that in the budget estimate for 1924-25 the amount was shown as votable, because it was not printed in italics, but a distinction has been made this year, and a part of it is in italics and the other part in ordinary type. There is no point of order in it.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: The whole amount ought to have been shown as voted.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: It cannot be a point of order. The honourable member merely wants to know when the orders making these allowances payable to Imperial service officers non-votable by the requisite legal authority were issued. That is really asking for information.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Mr. President, I will give that information just now.

[Mr. Cawasji Jehangir]

Sir, my friend, Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad talked about discipline. I wish he had also drawn the attention of the House, in the eloquent way in which he always addresses us, to the question of justice to our officers. Discipline and justice go together. If public servants make out a good case whether it be to Government or to this honourable House, surely this House or the Government ought to judge the question on its merits. I have given my honourable friend the reasons that led Government to grant this Lloyd Barrage allowance. He turned round and said that perhaps I would not have consented even after two months' consideration, had it not been for the English officers in the service. Now, Sir, that was an insinuation that it was sanctioned by Government because English officers were concerned and that if there had been only Indian officers, sanction would not have been given. I do not think that it is a very just imputation because it is absolutely incorrect. The largest portion of this allowance goes to Indian officers and only the smaller portion of the total goes to English officers. But let me assure this House that it was more in the interest of Indian officers that Government did it than in the interest of the English officers; it is because Government desire that Indian officers should work on the barrage from start to finish, that they should get experience in construction work. It is these arguments that weighed with Government in sanctioning this barrage allowance. It is very easy to talk of the officers of Government being made to serve wherever they are ordered. But let my honourable friend put himself in the position of a Mahomedan officer of Government and let him be transferred to Sind and told that for ten whole years he will not be relieved from his post but that he must remain there because he is a servant of Government and that he must spend part of his income to keep two establishments, one for himself in Sind and the other for his wife and children in the presidency proper and then let us see what he could say in justification of a little extra pay for remaining in Sind for ten years of his service. We have got to judge these circumstances by placing ourselves in the position of our officers and think what we would do and feel. It is justice that we ask for, and because we feel that it was just and fair that these men who are appointed and ordered to work in Sind for ten years, which no Government servant is at present bound to do under the rules,—should get an extra allowance.

Mr. President, I would like to make a distinction between construction work and administration work. There is a great difference. I have nothing further to say and I hope and trust that honourable members will feel that this barrage allowance is justified in the interests of all concerned, both this House and Government and our officials, both Indian and European.

As to the question of voted and non-voted items, I can assure my honourable friend that no new rules have come in force since this barrage allowance was granted. All rules that govern allowances govern this allowance. Whatever is voted in allowances, all over the presidency

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

remains the same. As to the italics it may be a mistake but I won't blame the press until I am quite sure. Last year it may have referred to another body of servants, and this year to another; that may be the explanation but unless I am certain I do not think I can say that it is a mistake of the press.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): Sir, I have got the final issue of the budget of last year, and it is shown there that it is voted.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Government has a right to do that and I cannot allow this kind of discussion. It may be a misprint. We have had plenty of them.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: Is it not fair to this House that we ought to know when these orders as to votable and non-votable were passed. If the orders have not been passed, Government is not entitled to....

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: The order regarding allowances was passed in 1921.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: In that case I beg to bring to your attention....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The Honourable the General Member has replied and I cannot allow any further discussion. It is not a point of order.

Question put and lost.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind): Sir, I beg to move:

'Reduce by Rs. 1,08,000—provision for Chief Engineer in Sind and Indus River Gauging District Rs. 1,64,000 (P. W. D. C. E., page 41).'

Sir, this is a matter on which questions have been put and unsatisfactory answers given, and therefore this is a matter on which we want a definite statement of the intention of Government from the Honourable the General Member. This is, Sir, the elimination of the office establishment of the Chief Engineer in Sind which includes the Indus River Gauging District. It is a part of his establishment. This occurs at page 32 of 41 Civil Estimates which begins as Indus River Gauging District and which is totalled up at page 33.

When the retrenchment committee was appointed in 1921, it took evidence of the superintending engineers for the presidency and of Sind. It took the evidence of our then colleague, Mr. Proes, who was Secretary to the Government of Bombay, P. W. D.; before him were placed all the facts and figures that were necessary to come to a definite decision. Apart from that, Sir, apart from the facts that were placed before the retrenchment committee by the Government itself, apart from the facts that were placed by the witnesses who were all government servants, all superintending engineers, no private man, Sir, was called, all government servants of that rank, we then got by interpellation from the Government to tell this Council the duties of the Chief Engineer in Sind. Before 1917 there was no chief engineer in Sind. Before 1917 there were only 2 superintending engineers for the Right bank and for the Left, exactly in the same way as we have had superintending engineers in the rest of the presidency.

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

The superintending engineers are the co-ordinating authorities in the three parts of this presidency. The superintending engineers were the co-ordinating authorities in Sind on either side of the bank, a direct indication that the Government, so far as the work of the public works department is concerned, upto 1917 saw no justification for producing or planting another co-ordinating authority, the chief engineer, over the superintending engineers who were directly responsible to the Government, as the superintending engineers of the three divisions in the presidency proper are. In 1917 Dr. Summers who had just begun to take interest in the starting of the barrage, was the superintending engineer; his services were required to be retained further, and this appointment was specially created in 1917 in order to fit in Dr. Summers as Chief Engineer. Mr. Wright and others succeeded him afterwards. Mr. Griffith succeeded him afterwards. But, so far as the origin of this was concerned, Dr. Summers' services had to be retained and unlike the other parts of the presidency, the post of Chief Engineer had to be created for Sind. Then, Sir, when the Chief Engineer had been created, it became necessary to decide what his duties were and the interpellation asked in this connection brought in the information that the amount of the establishment—the cost of the establishment—was now Rs. 91,000. Now it is one lakh. The duties of the Chief Engineer that were placed before us were: to receive correspondences from both the Superintending Engineers,—of the right and the left bank canals—and one of the biggest duties that he had to perform was to transfer overseers and sub-overseers—not assistant engineers, as that had to be done by the Government—but overseers and sub-overseers from one bank to another! The Superintending Engineers were not given the extraordinary power of transferring men from one bank to another, and that power was added to the Chief Engineer. I am saying this from the answer that was placed before the Council by interpellation. Then the amount of correspondence that passed in his office was also commented upon. The correspondence was not even half—not even one-third—that passed through the Superintending Engineers. Another function that was given to him was to sanction contracts a little more than the Superintending Engineers had power to sanction. In other divisions that power was retained by the Government.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : What was the amount ?

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : Five lakhs.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : You are wrong.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : I am not wrong. Now, Sir, after the Chief Engineer was created, these were the functions that were given to him and then a new district had to be created and an executive engineer was placed in charge of river gauging district, a function which was at one time done by an assistant engineer. A separate executive engineer means a separate establishment, it means an accountant, and so forth, and all the establishment had to be created, the duty of that executive engineer being the duty of the recording of the gauge readings of the river from

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

time to time. The Superintending Engineer, Mr. Vartak, of Sind was called here as a witness. Reports were received from the Superintending Engineer of the other side and the whole matter was placed before Mr. Proes as a witness, and Mr. Proes, with all the evidence which he had in his own record which he was prepared to produce before this committee, gave a definite statement as to the desirability of its retention. This having been done, another interpellation was asked from the Honourable the General Member whether the opinion of the honourable the Chief Secretary, P. W. D. (Mr. Proes) had been considered in passing orders on the Retrenchment Committee's report. The answer that was given to this Council was "Yes; that was the personal opinion of Mr. Proes". I am afraid this could not be taken as a personal opinion. But we were told that the opinions which Mr. Proes had given, especially about the reduction in divisions in Sind, was his personal opinion. A supplementary question was asked, and the answer was exactly the same; again, as in the Chief Secretary, Mr. Proes, was not a part and parcel of the Government. You have got the definite recommendation based on the evidence of Government's own engineers, based on the evidence of its own secretary, and the orders that have been passed.....

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: What was the opinion given by the Secretary on this question?

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: That it was not wanted.

Now, the recommendations were placed by the Retrenchment Committee before Government and they were for taking away four districts or divisions, and taking away the river gauging district, that is to say, five in all—a saving, therefore, of 2 lakhs in Sind by the P.W.D. alone. None of these divisions has been done away with, and I place it before the Council that this House should insist upon the exact carrying out, so far as the retrenchment in this department is concerned, of the recommendation which was based not merely on the Retrenchment Committee's own opinion, but upon the opinion of Government's own officers, which included the Superintending Engineer's official reports and their own Secretary, P.W.D.'s opinion; the only reason given, against its acceptance was administrative inconvenience, because the two Superintending Engineers have no time to look after the work of the Chief Engineer and they are already overworked. The time of the Superintending Engineer is wholly taken up by the management of the inundation canals and their maintenance and silt clearance, and, above all, the disposal of applications in connection with water! They have little time to devote to the higher study of their canals and the Chief Engineer has been able to do all this and to prevent any falling off in revenue! This is the reason which is given, which perhaps up to 1917 did not exist! After 1917 Government rose to realise all this, which never had been done before, and it is on these scanty and unsatisfactory grounds that the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee has been thrown out.

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON: Sir, the honourable member the Deputy President has, I think, brought this criticism before the House on purely what he considers commercial grounds. I think he is looking for a *quid pro quo* and wants to strike a sort of balance sheet that on say one lakh and odd thousand rupees we might propose to spend, if it is to be considered good business, we might expect two lakhs on the revenue side. But, Sir, I would like the honourable member and other honourable members of this House to consider the question of scientific progress. Sir, it was only recently that the head of the United States Reclamation Service, which corresponds with our Public Works Irrigation Service in India, visited me at Karachi. He was doing a world's tour, and I can assure the House that he was thunderstruck at the small amount of establishment in Sind on the conservation of the river Indus and the general or higher technical administration of a province of the size of Egypt. That officer gave me figures—and I roughly noted them down at the time—that for every one rupee we spent in Sind on that higher administration something like Rs. 14 was spent in America. That officer would not believe me that the staff which I enumerated to him was the only staff we have for looking after some 600 miles of the river; for higher technical administration of a province, as I say, very much greater than the whole of the irrigated area of America and greater than Egypt.

Sir, I have been able to see the inner side of the work of the Chief Engineer in Sind. It is not my work, but I have been able to see some of it. Eighteen months or two years ago that officer submitted a report to Government on the conditions of the river Indus and the effects of the Punjab withdrawals on Sind as a whole and our withdrawals combined with the Punjab withdrawals on Lower Sind. As a technical officer, I can state that that report was worth to this province, many, many lakhs of rupees.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: How long ago was that report made?

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON: About eighteen months ago. That report, Sir, was a masterly review of the conditions that we have got to study to protect our interests in the large province of Sind. And, Sir, I trust the House will not take a parochial view of this great question. We have got a province there, Sir, that is—I have to repeat it almost *ad nauseam*—as great as the well-known country which we read of almost everyday in the newspapers, that is, Egypt. We think greatly of Egypt when we read about that country in the papers, but the word 'Sind' we do not often come across when we read the newspapers. This is an office which is costing us less than £7,000; in America it would have cost £100,000. I submit this is a pretty cheap agency to safeguard our interests, to safeguard the province of Sind, by making surveys and studying the river Indus, and to co-ordinate the work of two other administrative officers, which despite what the honourable the Deputy President said, cannot sufficiently be co-ordinated without this officer. I think, Sir, that I can show to the members of this honourable House that they would be making a very great mistake if they were to remove an officer in this position and his staff. The Chief Engineer in Sind has

[Mr. C. S. C. Harrison]

not only to co-ordinate the work of the two superintending engineers serving under him and of his executive engineers, but he has also to study the river Indus. As I have just informed the House, that officer, as read out by the honourable member the Deputy President, has also got to deal with the higher technical consideration of matters in Sind so far as pertains to irrigation. Sir, I would like to stress the point that what was considered good enough in the past *cannot* be considered good enough in these days of progress. By keeping a very large staff of officers in America the river Mississippi is conserved to such a high degree that our conservation in Sind must be considered almost farcical. We do our best with the money at our disposal and with the establishment at our disposal. But there is much work to be done, and if we abolish the Chief Engineer in Sind—the officer who has to pay attention to these matters—we will simply go back instead of progress. This American—I may inform the House I had a long conversation with him—is one of the world's well-known experts in irrigation, and he thought that it was absolutely extraordinary that we were tackling a problem of 500 to 600 miles of one of the biggest rivers with an establishment that is costing one-fourteenth of what it costs them in America.

The THAKOR of KERWADA (Gujarat Sardars and Inamdars) : Sir, will the honourable member the Secretary kindly inform the House whether the irrigation projects in Sind can be favourably compared with those of Egypt and the Mississippi in regard to their productive capacity.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City) : Sir, the honourable member the Chief Engineer just now told us that they spend on the conservation of the Mississippi and other rivers in America 14 times what we are spending in Sind. Well, if it costs us one-fourteenth of what it costs them in America, it is at the same time likely that we are getting only one-hundredth part of the work that they turn out in America. However, that seems to be absolutely beside the point. The question is not about the such of the whole establishment but whether we require a Chief Engineer in Sind, and on this point, I must say that the Retrenchment Committee after going into the question very thoroughly, after taking the evidence of Public Works Department officers, came to the conclusion that the Chief Engineer in Sind is not required. The present Chief Engineer in Sind, Mr. Vartak, I am told, himself gave evidence when he was superintending engineer, that the post of Chief Engineer was not required. What further evidence than that is required ? The chief point we have to remember is that the two Superintending Engineers are very highly paid officials, and one of them can very easily take up the work of observing the Indus and submit reports regarding it. In former years there used to be one superintending engineer for the right bank and one superintending engineer for the left bank. But when the question of the Lloyd Barrage came up, some investigations had to take place in connection with that project, and therefore, for the first time, a separate chief engineer for Sind was appointed, in order that he might become the post office for the two superintending engineers and also do the investigation work for the Lloyd Barrage. Now that this investigation work

[Mr. D. B. Adwani]

is over and we have a separate Chief Engineer for the Lloyd Barrage, no ground at all can be advanced for the retention of the Chief Engineer in Sind. The Lloyd Barrage Chief Engineer can very well do the investigation which is trotted out so forcibly as necessary for the future of Sind and for the welfare of its people. He can very well do it, or, if he cannot, one of the superintending engineers can do it. As a matter of fact that used to be the case before. For the matter of that one of the superintending engineers can be made the Chief Engineer, and we can thus do away with one of these two posts. That is to say, instead of having three we should have only two officers, and both these administrative officers can correspond direct with the Secretariat, as other superintending engineers are doing, and their work can thus be co-ordinated.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : Mr. President, this is a far more important subject than would appear to be understood from the two speeches we have heard. Sir, the future of Sind depends entirely upon the river Indus. The future and the present interests of Sind are all linked up with the river Indus. Now, Sir, this river Indus derives its waters from the Himalayas and from the rainfall that falls in the Punjab. We have not got the sole claim upon the waters of that river. The people of the Punjab are very willing to take up the surplus waters of the river Indus. They put forward claims to have the first call upon that water, and it is of the utmost importance that their claims which are supported by scientific enquiries of a very elaborate and intricate character should be examined and watched not once or twice in the period of a year, but almost from day to day, in order that we may have a case ready at any time to meet the designs of the Punjab upon our water. This is a matter that affects the very life of the people of Sind. There is at present in the Punjab a great agitation for a new scheme which they call the Thal Project. The Government of Bombay have, on behalf of the people of Sind, protested against any advance whatever being made with that project for the reason that if that project goes through it will take out from the river Indus water to irrigate two millions acres of land in the upper reaches of the river. Now, Sir, if that water is taken from the Indus in the critical months of April and May, when the water first begins to rise, it will postpone the agricultural season in Sind by something between 7 and 21 days. If that water is taken out again at the end of the season in September, it will mean that sufficient water will not flow down the Indus at the critical period for 21 days. The agricultural season in Sind will be shortened at either end with disastrous results to all lands which are not protected by the Sukkur Barrage.

Now, Sir, there is a great deal of agitation in favour of this project which means very great wealth to a considerable number of zamindars and speculators in the Punjab. These interested gentlemen have employed or are employing men of good scientific attainments to put forward arguments which are very difficult to meet. I have no

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

special scientific knowledge to understand these arguments, but to the lay mind they are entirely unsound and it is certain that they are directed against the welfare of Sind. We require some officer with a competent staff in Sind to watch and meet the claims and arguments of these people in the Punjab. We do not require an officer to perform the duties which the honourable member, the Deputy President, no doubt humorously, mentioned such as transferring an official from one bank of the river to the other.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: It was given by Government and not by me.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: If so, I regret that such an answer should have been given by Government.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: I am very sorry for the Government.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Even if this officer had no administrative duty at all, I still consider that his employment is required to give advice on the vast problems that concern the province of Sind.

Now Sir, this province of Sind has got the river Indus running through it 400 miles in a straight line and with various curves covering a course of 600 miles. The river is continually changing its course eating away a bank now on one side, now on another, bringing disaster to the people residing near the river channel. It requires constant watching to foresee the direction the river is likely to take at any given time. This question cannot be mixed with the detail routine work of the superintending engineer who has got hundreds of miles of canal in his charge. The Indus River Gauging District is a district which contains a staff of men whose duty it is to make accurate, intricate mathematical calculations regarding the force of the current and the direction that it is likely to take at any moment, to give advice that a particular angle of the river is being threatened and that it is necessary to throw up new embankments or to strengthen the existing embankments. Without much advice the State may be compelled to spend lakhs of rupees on embankments unnecessarily, or may be induced to throw up embankments at a point which is likely to be eaten away and washed into the river in the next season or two. It is very difficult for honourable members who have not seen the violence of the river Indus to realise what the river is capable of. I have known it shift its course from 2 to 4 miles in two days; once it was threatening the main line of railway running from Karachi to Lahore. We spent an anxious time for weeks bringing massive stones from the neighbouring hills and flinging them into the current with the result that suddenly it changed its course. That was 15 years ago, when I was collector there. At one moment when the river was within 5 feet of the railway line, we thought it was absolutely hopeless. The river flung across to the opposite bank and left a sandbank three miles in width where there had been a deep and raging torrent, and attacked the opposite side of the river 10 miles away. That is the vast force of this river that we seek to control through the skill of our engineers. I can assure this House that it is a most economic investment of money if we can engage men of scientific training and good intellect to help us

[Mr. H. S. Lawrence]

to protect the people of Sind against the ravages and disasters that this river can bring and to protect the people of Sind against the deep designs of persons who try to steal the waters from them for the benefit of the Punjab.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind): Sir, I carefully listened to the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member. I think he described the Chief Engineer and his staff that were on the spot of erosion at Sukkur when he was Collector there 15 years ago. I myself belong to the same district and to the same place where the Honourable the Finance Member was the Collector. I can assure the honourable member as well as the honourable House that the Chief Engineer did nothing to stop the erosion at Sukkur and that, even if the Chief Engineer had not been there, the Executive Engineer would have done his duty and saved the country. Even the Superintending Engineer was not there. So far as the Chief Engineer was concerned, the Honourable the Finance Member was telling us that the whole 600 miles of the Indus river had to be kept in perfect order and without the Chief Engineer the river would run amock and damage the whole of Sind. Another very serious argument advanced was that some people in the Punjab were designing to steal the water of the Indus which flows into the heart of Sind and that in order to prevent them from doing so the Chief Engineer was necessary. I am rather amused by this argument. These are mere emotional pleas towards making the members of the Council to sanction the grant, but I do not think they are arguments appealing to reason. Now, in 1917 the river Indus existed there; it existed there long before 1917, and it existed there even before the advent of the British Government. Formerly, there were two Superintending Engineers there; one of them was designated the Chief Engineer and the other the Superintending Engineer; they existed there long before the Chief Engineer came into existence in 1917. Then, the Punjab irrigation works are much older than the irrigation works of Sind, and they have been in existence as long as, if not much longer than, the irrigation works of Sind, and yet there was no necessity of a Chief Engineer felt. The Honourable the Finance Member has not given us any of the functions of the Chief Engineer, neither did the Chief Engineer for the Barrage, who has no personal interest in this matter but who was advocating the cause of a brother officer of his in Sind, give us any statement of the exact duties which the Chief Engineer does. The only answer that was given to us by the Chief Engineer was the instance of the American expert who, without going through the length and breadth of Sind, by simply looking at the map of the barrage advised on this matter, without knowing the density of the population, without knowing the irrigation, or without knowing anything about the plantations on the river, and that advice this House is required to accept as genuine advice.

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON: May I rise to inform the Deputy President that that officer had taken the opportunity of going on a cruise along

[Mr. C. S. C. Harrison]

the river before he came to see me and he stayed for five days in Sukkur, and he did get information about the density of population and cultivation, etc. ?

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : During the American invasion of Bombay, the Americans are able to write books on India by a two days' tour, and if the Chief Engineer informs me that a five days' cruise along the river Indus and a stay of five days at Sukkur—a rocky district where the river flows but there is no cultivation—was what the advice was based on, I may advise the Chief Engineer that he might as well not have quoted that instance at all. I would place the American expert in the same category as the American travellers that from day to day write books upon India. Now, so far as the work is concerned, I take my stand not upon the evidence of the Chief Engineer for the Barrage who has not served as Chief Engineer, not on his support in the cause of a brother Chief Engineer, not on the evidence of the Revenue Commissioner, but I take my stand on the evidence that has been tendered before the Retrenchment Committee by the officers of the Irrigation Department in Sind. I would bring to the notice of the House that Mr. Vartak, who is now Chief Engineer and who has been Chief Engineer twice before, gave evidence before the Retrenchment Committee, and his evidence is to the effect that if arrangements can be made for the work of river gauging, the Chief Engineer's appointment is not necessary. Nor, Sir, river gauging is part and parcel of the barrage work. It ought to be, if it is not already so, part and parcel of the barrage because the barrage cannot be a possibility until an eye is kept on the river gauges. Therefore, it should be part and parcel of the duties of the barrage authorities, and it could be easily transferred to them. If that is done, I do not think there is any necessity for a Chief Engineer in Sind.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Mr. President, I cannot speak on this question with the experience of either the Chief Engineer or the Finance Member, and therefore, any opinion I give on a question of this sort, honourable members will take for what it is worth. I do not profess to be an authority of any sort on this question. I rely on the information and guidance of members who have been connected with irrigation all their lives, and who have known Sind for more years than most honourable members of this House. At any rate, Sir, there is one aspect of the case which has struck me within the last year or two, which I would like to place before this honourable House. I have had to read many reports from the Chief Engineer in Sind, and most of these reports dealt with suggestions as to how to improve one or another of the irrigational systems of Sind. Very few of those reports dealt with administrative matters either of the Right or of the Left Bank. We have got irrigational systems in Sind of which we can well be proud and which, as my honourable friend the Finance Member said, mean life or death to Sind. Surely it is worth while having a man who has the time to look further than the two administrative officers who have, after all, got to confine their attention to administrative matters, and who can look

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

about him and can see where the weak points are in the huge irrigational systems in Sind. It is for him to tour and see which system is not working as it should, and draw the attention of the Superintending Engineer to it. It is for him to see that the Superintending Engineer reports, and then report to Government his own opinion on the weak points in any of these big systems. As far as I can see, most of the reports that have been sent to Government by the Chief Engineer have been confined to such questions. Now, take the question of the big floods that we had last year. I shall have to move for a supplementary grant of many lakhs of rupees in that connection. The proposals came from the two Superintending Engineers, and suppose that they had been sent to Government direct by the Superintending Engineers. Would I have been able to come with the confidence that I now can to this House and ask them to grant these lakhs of rupees, if I had not the advice of the man on the spot, who could judge independently? He is not concerned with the one or the other administrative district. He is independent of both, and he can judge for himself whether these demands are justified or not. They run to lakhs of rupees. It was the Chief Engineer in Sind with whom I went through all these demands. I asked him and relied upon his judgment and advice which is after all for this honourable House. After all, it is this House which will grant the money. I asked him for his advice and judgment whether the demands made upon us were justified. After all, the Superintending Engineers are to administer the huge divisions that they have got under their charge. They have got a number of executive engineers under them. They confine their attention to their divisions and cannot look at the question from the broad point of view which a man can, who has the whole of Sind irrigation under him. After all, on this huge undertaking we require an independent man resident in Sind to advise us. When we are spending lakhs of rupees, when we are going in for works costing crores of money, surely, would it not be a penny wise and pound foolish policy to retrench this one officer, after what has fallen from the Honourable the Finance Member? We have got to remember that in the Punjab we have got a powerful rival and the Punjab has chief engineers as well as ourselves. We have constantly to communicate on scientific and technical questions with the Government of India, and it is absolutely necessary that this Government should have at their disposal the services of a man whose work is not entirely of an administrative character and who can spare time to think and use his brains in the interests of the province of Sind. If you over-burden the superintending engineer, you go back to the old system of making him also a chief engineer. He cannot administer his whole division and also put his services at the disposal of Government as he ought to do.

Mr. President, I have come to the conclusion that this money is well spent. As to the report of the Retrenchment Committee my honourable friend the Deputy President in his opening remarks tried to convey the idea that the Secretary to Government had given evidence that the chief engineer was not necessary. He did give evidence that an executive engineer could be retrenched in another part. I do not remember having

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

read in the evidence of the then secretary to Government that the chief engineer was not necessary, and it would now be very interesting to know the views of the present chief engineer in Sind. I know that he has got quite enough work to do.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : Is Government going to call for it.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : It makes a difference when the man is chief engineer in Sind. All I say is that I trust Mr. Vartak and I feel confident that if he felt that money was being wasted he would be the first man to inform Government that his post should be retrenched. I feel that Mr. Vartak has quite enough work to do at present and that if the chief engineer's post is retrenched an amount of this important work would remain undone to the detriment of the province of Sind.

Question put and lost.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind) : Sir, I beg to move :

Reduce by Rs. 75,000—Provision for superintending engineer, Indus Right Bank Division—Rs. 8,77,600 (P. W. D. C. E. page 41).

I won't take much time over this item. It is of the same kind as the last. There are about eight or nine executive engineers on one side and eight or nine on the other, and the Retrenchment Committee went into this question fully, not only taking the opinions of the officers but even the mileage of the jurisdictions over which the canals run. They went minutely into the establishment of each of these executive engineers, and besides that they had the chief engineer Mr. Vartak's report on one side, they had before them also the report of the superintending engineer, Left Bank, both of them submitted through the chief engineer Mr. Shoubridge. After having considered this report and evidence on both sides, they came to the conclusion that the elimination of two of the districts on either side could be fairly done away with, on the strength of mileage shown and their duties. That was the opinion of the superintending engineers on both sides and that was placed before Government in the report of the Retrenchment Committee. I put it to the Council and to the Honourable the General Member himself that so far as this Council is concerned Government paid no attention to this portion of the Retrenchment Committee's report, and though they may succeed in defeating this motion, I think that should be no satisfaction at all to the Honourable the General Member himself, and if it is no satisfaction he need not rely upon the vote of the Council, because we know Sind better and also the officers whose distinct opinion is recorded, opinion of heads of departments in Sind is before Government in the proceedings of the Retrenchment Committee, that is the opinion of their own chief secretary before whom the mileages of different canals were kept; if all that information is given on the records of the Government, what is the use of Government giving us flimsy excuses in the orders on the Retrenchment Committee's report that due consideration has been given to the situation. I know on a division the matter might be lost, but I cannot desist from stating that the reasons given in their order on the report of the Retrenchment Committee are flimsy and are not worthy of any consideration by this House. The Government has not applied their mind seriously to that question raised in the

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

statement and to the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee. Government has not taken into consideration the opinion of their own chief engineer. They have not even sufficient courtesy to go into the records of the Retrenchment Committee and I say that the orders on this report are so flimsy that I can challenge the Honourable the General Member now to tell me if he has read those papers. Therefore whatever the result may be when the question of reducing expenditure and retrenchment arises either at the discussion of the budget or at other times, we are told long stories of the necessities of certain engineers. Here is an instance in which there is nobody neither the member of Government who represents the services of Sind, nor even the superintending engineers, nor even the Chief Secretary to Government, who was prepared to defend this Sind establishment and I therefore place it again before the Council and the Honourable the General Member that even though to-day he may have the vote of the Council against me these are matters which require careful scrutiny and one day these matters must come before the Council to be adjudicated upon.

Question proposed.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Sir, I desire to enter a strong protest against the speech of my honourable friend. He has not placed the facts before this Council correctly. He led this Council to believe that the report of the retrenchment committee was not studied by Government, that Government acted against the advice of their officers, and that they desired to throw away money notwithstanding the advice given by their expert officers that the money would be saved. The impression that my honourable friend the Deputy President tried to create, is far from the truth. The truth is that the Secretary to Government who was a roads and buildings officer when asked whether these divisions could not be amalgamated said "yes". The chief engineer strongly protested when his opinion was asked on the point. The Secretary to Government, Irrigation Branch, strongly protested when his opinion was asked and they said that it would ruin the administration of the Jamrao Canal, and indeed Mr. President, there are some honourable members of this House who have their lands on the Jamrao Canal and perhaps it would be of interest to know whether they think that the whole of the Jamrao Canal, northern and southern districts could be administered by one executive engineer. I have been told that that cannot be done efficiently, that we should suffer not only in efficiency, but in revenue and the interests of the zamindars would suffer considerably if we tried to retrench in this direction. It was on the strong advice of the chief engineer in Sind that Government, with great regret, could not carry out the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee. Now, Sir, to come to the honourable House and give the impression that Government refused in spite of the advice of the chief engineer in Sind is not a correct statement of the facts. The chief engineer in Sind strongly protested against the suggestion and we were told that it was impracticable. We were told,—and I will repeat it—that we were jeopardising the efficiency of the Jamrao Canal if we tried any such experiment. These are the arguments on which

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

my honourable friend asks honourable members to cut out Rs. 75,000 from the establishment of the Right Bank Division. As a matter of fact, the Jamrao canal is not on the right bank but on the left bank.

Well, Sir, I have nothing further to add. All that I have to say is that Government have studied the Retrenchment Committee's report very carefully and, wherever they could accept it, have done so, but only where they felt that a recommendation would affect the interests of the people themselves—the zamindars—and of Government, they with regret declined to carry out any recommendation.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind): I believe, Sir, that the Honourable the General Member is grieved at my statement, but I am not prepared to withdraw one single word that I have uttered, because from the statement he has now made I am still more convinced that the Government has not given due weight and consideration to the evidence, apart from the Retrenchment Committee's report to the evidence that was before the Government and the evidence that was before the Retrenchment Committee. I did not mention Jamrao canal in my speech before—I should have perhaps referred to it then—but if he wishes to know something about it, I will only give him one little clue. The Executive Engineer of the Begari canal has a mileage of 715 miles and an area of 2,269 square miles under his control. The North Jamrao Canal Engineer has a mileage of only 354 miles and an area of 743 square miles. Southern Jamrao Canal Engineer has a mileage of 345 miles with a square area of 831 miles to manage. The Executive Engineer, Shikarpur Canal, commands an area of 45,128 square miles and a length of 618 miles. Now, Sir, it is not that the Southern Jamrao and the Northern Jamrao were not one before. They were under one Engineer. For some years they were placed under two engineers. Subsequently, it is curious to observe how, on an order which contains no reasons whatsoever, because I have read that Government Resolution, it was broken into two with a length of 349 miles and 354 miles against the length of 700 and 800 miles in the case of others. Now, were not the facts before the Honourable the General Member, when he passed these orders, which are contained in the fourth column of the Retrenchment Committee Report? Am I not justified in saying that Government passed orders without reading or referring to the facts and figures which were before the committee? And am I still to understand that the Retrenchment Committee made a definite statement that two of the districts in each city can be done away with, without full consideration and investigating all the evidence before them? Am I to understand that the Engineer attached to the Bombay Government, whom they consulted was a greater authority than the immediate authority of the Superintending Engineer who was in charge? Am I to understand that Mr. Vartak, who only three months before that had acted as Chief Engineer in Sind, and who knew both places, was a man whose opinion was not worthy of consideration of the Government and that it could be set aside, that the whole of the report of the Retrenchment Committee on this point should be set aside, because there was a single reason against it, namely, "administrative reason"? These are matters

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

Sir, which require serious consideration and I charge Government, make a deliberate charge against Government, of not having gone into the facts of the case, of not having gone into the evidence which was placed before the Retrenchment Committee and which was placed before Government themselves by their own officers, and not having gone into the figures that were placed before the Retrenchment Committee by Mr. Maxwell, who acted in a most fair manner as the Secretary of the Retrenchment Committee. I therefore, whatever the result of this matter or motion may be, still lay before the Honourable the General Member the feeling of dissatisfaction with the way in which this matter of the Retrenchment Committee's recommendation has been treated. If the House does not support me to-day, I would little mind, but I must state and must state emphatically that if not this Council there must come a Council that will see that due respect is given to the Retrenchment Committee. When a Secretary of Mr. Maxwell's impartiality and Mr. Maxwell's fairness was attached to the Retrenchment Committee, when he had collected all these figures, the distances, the mileage, the number of distributaries (of the rivers), all possible details, when he placed all these figures before the Retrenchment Committee, and when the Retrenchment Committee unanimously came to the conclusion that four divisions in Sind and one division in the Presidency should be done away with, am I to understand, Sir, that the Government continue to treat with contempt such a recommendation? If the opinion of their own servants, responsible servants, given in writing, and the evidence or statements made by them before the Retrenchment Committee, if all this is to be treated with contempt by Government, let it be. But I think the time is coming when that opinion of its own officers and the opinion of the Retrenchment Committee will be listened to.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Mr. President, my honourable friend has compared two canals, but he forgot to tell this honourable House that the two canals were totally different. One is an old inundation canal and the other is a modern perennial canal, and let me tell this honourable House that in the Punjab there would have been four executive engineers instead of the two we have got.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: How do you know?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: From acreage; from areas. And, Sir, there can be no comparison between the Jamrao canal and the Ghar canal. What is the use, therefore, of quoting figures before the honourable House when there is no comparison between the two?

Now, Sir, my honourable friend returned to the charge that we acted against the advice of our own officers. I can tell this honourable House that it is absolutely incorrect. The Chief Engineer in Sind told us most distinctly that we ran considerable risk if we carried out the suggestion, and that is borne out by what I have heard from perfectly impartial people on the Jamrao itself. I went over the Jamrao myself and perfectly impartial people told me that it was not possible to retrench

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

this officer, that their interests would suffer, and suffer most seriously, if Government tried anything of this sort. I cannot say more than this. Sir, it is no use....(An Honourable Member: What about Mr. Maxwell?) Mr. Maxwell was secretary of the committee. He was ordered to collect figures and he put them up before the committee. Who was Mr. Maxwell? He was secretary; he was probably ordered to collect the figures for certain canals; and most probably he took the figures for Ghar canal and Jamrao canal. I do not know whether he selected them himself, or it came from the brain of my honourable friend (Mr. B. G. Pahalajani). At any rate he compared two canals which are totally different. That alone shatters the case, and I have nothing further to say.

Question put: House divided: Ayes 28, Noes 47; Motion lost.

Division No. 11.

Ayes.

ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JOG, Mr. V. N.
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
KARKI, Mr. M. D.
KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
NANAL, Mr. B. R.
NARIBELVALA, Mr. H. H.

NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
PATEL, Mr. A. E.
PATEL, Mr. D. N.
PATEL, Mr. G. I.
PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
SAPTARSHI, Mr. C. M.
SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
SURVE, Mr. V. A.
SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
VELKAR, Dr. M. B.

Tellers for the Ayes: Mr. D. B. ADWANI and Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI.

Noes.

ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
ARMAD, MOULVI RAHIUDDIN
ATHAVLE, Mr. S. N.
BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
BHURGRI, Mr. J. M.
BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
BLJARANI, Khan Saheb SHEER MAHOMED
KHAN
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
CLAYTON, Mr. F.
DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
GHOSAL, Mr. J.
GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan
Bahadur SHAIKH
GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
JATOL, Khan Saheb KABIMBAKSH
JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI

KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.
LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
LINFORD, Mr. J. W.
MOHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED
KHUHHRO, Mr.
MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
OWEN, Mr. A. C.
PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED
KHAN
PEROIVAL, Mr. P. E.
PIE RASULBAKSH SHAH
PRATT, Mr. F. G.
SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH
SAYED MUHAMMAD KAMIL SHAH
SAYED SHAHEJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
THAKOR OF KERWADA, the
THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
WILES, Mr. G.
WOODS, Mr. E. E.

Tellers for the Noes: Mr. L. J. MOUNTFORD and Mr. R. E. GIBSON.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind) : Sir, I beg to move :

Reduce by Rs. 60,000 provision for Superintending Engineer, Indus Left Bank Division, Rs. 7,18,800 (P. W. D., Civil Estimates, page 41).

The Honourable the General Member claimed a division in connection with the last motion : the Honourable the President has announced it. But I move this reduction although it is exactly on all fours with the one that has been rejected. I do not want this House to discuss this, and I request them not to have a discussion. But I must have from the Honourable the General Member a further statement whether he still considers that there is no possibility of reduction in the Left Bank Division also, or whether this question of retrenchment is a closed book for ever.

Question proposed.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Sir, in this House nothing is a closed book for ever. Wherever retrenchment can be effected, it will be effected. If next year, notwithstanding the decision we have come to, we feel that we were wrong, we will not hesitate to tell the House that we committed a mistake and that we correct ourselves now. When we feel we are wrong, I shall be the first person to come forward and tell the House that I made a mistake.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind) : Sir, I have nothing to add to what I have already stated. I am not prepared to withdraw this motion. I still say that this is a matter which requires the consideration of the Honourable General Member. If he does not pay sufficient consideration to this matter, I will repeat this motion year after year until I succeed.

Question put and lost.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : Sir, I move :

“That the total demand, C. E., page 231, be reduced by 10 lakhs.”

This is a deficit year.....

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Which works the honourable member wants to omit ?

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : Say for instance the work in connection with re-construction of the Account Office in the Surat Castle, the construction of a new Mahalkari's kacheri in Satara, construction of stables, coach houses, motor sheds, store-rooms and syces' quarters at Government House, Karachi, conversion of two blocks of buildings in the rear of the new palace, Satara, into record rooms for the district court and so on where works have not been commenced. All these new items can be dropped in this year which is a deficit year. At least a saving of 10 lakhs can be effected. I want further to bring to the notice of the Government that the prices of building materials have gone down and this expenditure need not be incurred now. At least 10 per cent. of the demand, that is, 10 lakhs, can be saved.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI (Ahmednagar District) : Sir, I rise to support the motion which has been moved by my honourable friend Mr. Swaminarayan. While supporting the motion I should like to refer to the expenditure on the establishment on the Deccan Irrigation.....

The Honourable Khan Bahadur **SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN** : That was included in the demand for 168 lakhs and is not included in this demand now before the House.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI : It is very strange. Out of that 168 lakhs, 52 lakhs was for irrigation. That was what the honourable member **Mr. Wiles** explained.

The Honourable the **PRESIDENT** : Will the honourable member **Mr. Wiles** please explain the point again ?

Mr. G. WILES : Sir, we are not dealing with the motion for 168 lakhs. The motion of the honourable member **Mr. Swaminarayan** relates to the total demand Civil Estimate page 231. There the honourable member will find a total votable demand for 100 lakhs. That does not include any establishment for irrigation.

The Honourable the **PRESIDENT** : Page 231 of the Civil Estimates clearly shows the amount to be Rs. 1,00,58,000. Surely, the honourable member can proceed. The facts are quite obvious.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI : Does the Finance Secretary (**Mr. Wiles**) mean to say that this demand does not include anything.....

The Honourable the **PRESIDENT** : I have already drawn the attention of the honourable member to the fact that on page 231 the total transferred provision is Rs. 1,00,58,000, and out of this a cut is proposed.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI : Therefore, I submit that I am entitled to address the House on the question of Deccan Irrigation.

The Honourable the **PRESIDENT** : The honourable member is entitled to address the House on all details which represent the sum of Rs. 1,00,58,000.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI : I find, Sir, from page 58, XIII Irrigation, Navigation, Embankments and Drainage.....(Interruption). The Honourable the President has ruled.....

The Honourable the **PRESIDENT** : The list of works is on page 231, and the honourable member can speak on any one or more of those works. I notice that the honourable member has also given notice of a similar reduction of 10 lakhs, and he must have considered this before he gave notice of that motion.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI : The Honourable Minister for Civil Works has made the whole demand for Irrigation as well as for Roads and Buildings, and it is on that question....

The Honourable the **PRESIDENT** : I have drawn the honourable member's attention to the whole list of works which are comprised in this demand.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI : I want a ruling from the Chair whether I am entitled to address the House on the question of Deccan Irrigation. If the Chair rules that I am not entitled to do so, I shall not proceed.

The Honourable the **PRESIDENT** : Will the honourable member point out to me where Deccan Irrigation occurs on page 231 ?

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI : There is an amount of Rs. 33,52,000 which includes establishment ; that is on page 231. If this establishment includes the establishment for irrigation works, I would be entitled to address the House, not otherwise.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : On the question of the establishment ?

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI : Yes, Sir. Because I wish to raise that question, I wish to know from the Honourable Minister or the Honourable the General Member whether the irrigation establishment is included within this Rs. 36 lakhs.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Mr. Wiles says " no."

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI : I do not know when we are to address on the question of Deccan Irrigation.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : All the details are given in the book. He cannot now ask other people to enlighten him on the point.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI : I bow to your ruling, Sir.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : It is not a ruling; it is a fact.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI : They are misleading, because.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I cannot tell him all that. I have tried to be patient with the honourable member. I have repeatedly told him that he can speak on any item on page 231. That is before the honourable member, and he can address the House on any one of those items.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI : I will submit to the ruling of the Chair.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : It is not a question of ruling, it is a question of fact.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City) : Sir, when we were discussing 60, Civil Works and 55, Navigation, Embankments and Drainage, we wanted to criticise the establishment under these items, but we were told very definitely that the establishment for these works can be criticised under 41, Civil Works, because, for the first time, on account of some mysterious accounts change, these establishments had been brought under 41, Civil Works. There can be no doubt that the honourable member Mr. Swaminarayan wanted to reduce from the whole total demand under 41, Civil Works, whatever that may be, and for the moment, when he put down the proposal, he did not know that the Finance Department had mysteriously brought about this change. Therefore, I think it is only fair and reasonable, when we were prevented from discussing establishments at the time that 60 and 55, were being considered, that we should now be permitted to discuss the establishments under those items. The Sukkur Barrage is entirely a different matter, but I think we ought to be allowed to speak about the establishment under the heads 60 and 55, especially when we were prevented from doing so when we wanted, because we were told that we could discuss them when the establishment under 41 Civil Works was being discussed.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : May I just point out to honourable members that on page 23 they have been informed that the total demand of Rs. 1,68,53,000 will be asked for. If any honourable member had given notice of a total lump sum reduction out of that amount he would be perfectly entitled to deal with the whole subject under the rulings which have been repeatedly given. But no honourable member seems to have given notice of a lump sum reduction out of the total demand. Each member seems to have taken part of the whole sum of Rs. 1,68,00,000, and suggested a lump sum reduction in that part ; all the motions are for lump sum reductions out of the Rs. 1,04,00,000 or Rs. 1,17,00,000. There is not a single motion as far as I can see, which calls for a reduction of the total demand. If there was such a motion, they would be perfectly entitled to discuss it in full. On the motions of which they have given notice they can discuss all the items comprised in the total amount which they wish to reduce. I cannot help it if honourable members have not given notice.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : May I just say a few words? We have been discussing for some time now establishments under irrigation. My honourable friend the Deputy President moved a motion regarding the Right Bank, the Left Bank, and the Chief Engineer, which appears on the same page. If the honourable member Mr. Saptarshi will look at page 30—the demand that has been moved under 41—he will find Deccan Irrigation coming in there. If he had moved any one of those reductions or the total demand which he will find on page 41, and just as my honourable friend the Deputy President moved his motion, then he could have touched the subject of Deccan Irrigation. If he will look at page 41, just as my honourable friend the Deputy President picked out three of those heads, had he given notice of a similar motion, he could have discussed Deccan Irrigation staff and establishments. Unfortunately the figure which he picked out was for the department under my honourable friend the Minister.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI : The mistake has arisen because the statements have been put in such a misleading manner.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I quite appreciate it, and sympathise with the honourable member, but I have got to regulate the procedure according to the rules, and I can only allow honourable members to address the House on the motions that are before them.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI : I am going to make a general remark, and that is that the establishment on the Public Works Department in this presidency is excessive. The honourable member the P. W. D. Secretary told us some time ago that the cost of this establishment works out at 20 per cent., that is to say, for Rs. 5 spent over works, Re. 1 is spent on the establishment. That statement was made in this House.

Now, Sir, I have totalled up the estimated cost of all the works budgetted for under 60, 55, 41, 15 and XIII, and I find that it comes to 2 crores and 40 lakhs of rupees nearly. This includes all the works that are to be carried out by the Public Works Department with the exception of the barrage because it is a special work. I have taken all the works

[Mr. D. B. Adwani]

under 60, 55, 41, 15 and XIII. They amount to 2 crores 40 lakhs. But if you see the establishment on page 41, Civil Works, it is 101 lakhs 47 thousand, out of which only 27 lakhs and odd is for the barrage. The balance comes to 74 lakhs odd. This works out to 30 per cent. cost of the establishment. This seems to me, to be a very high percentage on the cost of the works that are to be carried out in this presidency. Therefore there is reason to suppose that a reduction of 10 lakhs on the works as well as the establishment is very reasonable indeed.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Sir, if the Honourable Minister would refer to page 231 of the White Book he will find that in 1923-24 the expenditure on establishment was 15 lakhs and now it has risen to 33 lakhs while the total expenditure has arisen from 97 lakhs to 1 crore 17 lakhs. So while the total expenditure has not even doubled, the expenditure on establishment has more than doubled, and he will find it quite easy to curtail from the establishment and bring it in the same proportion as before and it is not a difficult job at all. Referring generally to the manner in which the specialist officers do their duty it is necessary that he may start by doing away with the consulting architect; as he is non-voted we cannot do that but he can. This consulting architect according to my view is putting up simply eye-sores, if one looks at the buildings that he has constructed. Look at the Royal Institute of Science, the Gateway of India, the General Post Office: they are not in keeping with the surrounding buildings and so do not look well. A layman like myself can form an opinion that they are bad designs. While we are spending lakhs of rupees on such huge buildings we must have some sense of proportion and when we are spending on scientific experts such huge amounts for their salaries we must subject them to a high test, and if you cannot find good people you can go to the mofussil for that matter and engage mistries from the mofussil. They do these things better. [Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad: Mistries?] Yes, I have seen the works designed and constructed by mistries and they are better than those done by these highly paid architects. Many times preference was given to the plans prepared by our ordinary mistries drawing Rs. 50 and over to those prepared by engineers.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind): Sir, once in support of this I may bring to the Honourable Minister's notice the standard of establishment laid by the public works department officers themselves before the retrenchment committee. I have got it here. They are the recommendations of the committee again based on the evidence of some superintending and executive engineers, none except the superintending engineer and chief secretary to Government, and the recommendation is that reduction by 30 per cent. of sub-divisions in the presidency, reduction by 35 per cent. of sub-divisions in Sind, producing a saving of 2 lakhs 99 thousand 9, in the Presidency and 90 thousand in Sind. Now as to the officers of the public works department, almost every one of them was of opinion that legitimate expenditure for establishment should be between 17 and 20 per cent. The expenditure calculated in 1922, came to much:

[Mr. B. G. Pab. Tuesd

higher figure and the rate of the statement made by the secretary, public works department, I still contend that the expenditure exceeds 25 per cent. of the establishment. The recommendations of the retrenchment committee were made on actual figures and actual amounts spent, and the recommendation is, Sir, that thirty per cent. in the presidency and twenty-five in Sind can be done away with. The orders of Government on these recommendations are :

"As the existing sub-divisions are large in area no further reduction is possible without seriously impairing management of works. The chief engineer in Sind is absolutely necessary for proper supervision work."

Then there is a further sweeping declaration which I need not quote. In the presidency out of 2 lakhs 44 one-third has been removed. Then in Sind out of 90 thousand, 4 thousand 9 hundred has been removed and I may as well inform the Honourable Minister that so far as the presidency is concerned, in his own department after the retrenchment committee's report he has reinstated three big appointments in the Sanitary Department and the consulting surveyor's department. He can easily find that these appointments are included in the 35 lakhs for special departments, 117 of which you are seeking a reduction includes the expert department, the electrical engineer, the consulting engineer, according to the figure shown by the honourable member at page 44 and these relate to all departments. And then I may remind the Honourable Minister that though this reduction was made in 1922, yet three of the appointments have been put back in the budget after 1922, they are higher appointments and therefore I will request the Honourable Minister in exactly the same way as I requested the Honourable the General Member to have retrenchment wherever it is possible in the public waste department and that if they put their shoulder to the wheel and if they listen to the reports which are on paper, recording a very good case, and not look to the grandiloquent reports of their subordinates, there is considerable possibility of saving over the establishments in the public works department.

MOULVI RAFI UDDIN AHMAD (Central Division) : Sir, I was considerably confused and it is very difficult for a layman like myself to make up my mind. But when the honourable member Rao Saheb D.P. Desai thinks that mistries are better than the best engineers I cannot accept such a proposition. The honourable member, the Deputy President, is always harping upon his subject of retrenchment and he has nothing but the report of that committee in his brains and he has not convinced me with his arguments.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Money, Sir, is thrown away. Last year in the revised estimate Government made a *pro rata* reduction in the expenditure of the department of their own accord. This year they have not done so. Therefore, it is desirable that they of their own accord should work out the expenditure and make suitable reduction of their own accord. What I propose would be much less than what they should reduce out of 41, Civil Works, and if revenue is going to be wasted like this, nobody knows where we will be able to make any

[Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan]

recovery to meet the deficit in the budget. Obviously it is desirable that the Honourable Minister should himself make a reasonable reduction in his demand. Ten lakhs is very reasonable.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Sir, I thought there was an end to the misstatements of my honourable friend the Deputy President. But I find that his misstatements are endless. Just now he complained that after once reducing the establishment for the Consulting Surveyor and the Sanitary Engineer, I have again restored them. But I would refer the honourable House to the whole book of 41, Civil Works, and they will find that the Consulting Surveyor and the Sanitary Engineer do not appear there at all. It deals with different specialist officers. I remember that the Retrenchment Committee made a recommendation for the reduction of the establishment to the extent of a lakh of rupees or so in regard to the Consulting Architect, and I faithfully carried out that recommendation. If the honourable members refer to the budget they will see that the budget estimate for 1924-25 was Rs. 2,09,000 and for the ensuing year it has been reduced to Rs. 1,38,600.

Then, Sir, coming to my honourable friend who talked about the mistries, I do not think he could have been serious or that the House will take him seriously. So I do not think any word is necessary in reply to his argument.

My honourable friend from Karachi complained about the percentage charges. If we take the percentage on roads and buildings it is as clear as anything, and I can convince the House by facts and figures, that they do not cost us more than 14 or 15 per cent.

As regards the total reduction, the honourable mover asks the House to stultify itself. Now, this demand is composed of 50 lakhs for repairs, which was fully discussed, and the motion for reduction was thrown out by this House. Then there were a number of motions for reduction of provision for new works. There was also a motion for reduction of 25 lakhs by the Deputy President.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : I did not move it.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : That means that the honourable member, the Deputy President, did not feel that he had a good case in regard to it. Then several items have been passed, and I know that this House is always jealous of its own decisions, and I am sure they will not stultify themselves and will refuse to vote for the motion for reduction.

Question put to and lost.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The Council will now adjourn to 2 p.m. to-morrow, Tuesday, the 10th March 1925.

Tuesday, the 10th March 1925.

The Council re-assembled at the Town Hall, Bombay, at 2 p.m., on Tuesday, the 10th March 1925, the Honourable the President, Sir IBRAHIM RAHIMTOOLA, K.C.S.I., O.I.E., presiding.

Present :

ABDULPURKAR, Mr. N. A.
ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
ATHAVLE, Mr. S. N.
BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
BHURGRI, Mr. J. M.
BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
BIJARANI, Khan Saheb SHER MAHOMED KHAN
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
CLAYTON, Mr. F.
DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
GHOSAL, Mr. J.
GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH
GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
HEPPER, Sir LAWLLESS
HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
HUDSON, Mr. L. S.
JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
JATOL, Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
JOG, Mr. V. N.
KALBHOR, Mr. G. M.
KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.
KARKI, Mr. M. D.
KAY, Mr. J. A.
KAZI INAITULLAKHAN

KOKANI, Mr. G. J.
 KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
 LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
 LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.
 LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 LINFORD, Mr. J. W.
 MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO, Mr.
 MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
 NANAL, Mr. B. R.
 NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
 NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
 OWEN, Mr. A. C.
 PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
 PATEL, Mr. A. E.
 PATEL, Mr. D. N.
 PATEL, Mr. G. I.
 PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED KHAN
 PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
 PATIL, Mr. D. R.
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 PIR RASULBAKSH SHAH
 PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 PRATT, Mr. F. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY M.
 SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
 SAPTARSHI, Mr. C. M.
 SARDESAI, Mr. S. A.
 SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH
 SAYED MUHAMMAD KAMIL SHAH
 SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
 SEDGWICK, Mr. L. J.
 SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO, Mr.
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
 SURVE, Mr. A. N.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.
 SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
 THAKOR OF KERWADA, the
 THOMAS, Mr. G. A.

TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.

VELKAR, Dr. M. B.

WILES, Mr. G.

WOODS, Mr. E. E.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order. I have received three applications for my consent to ask for leave for moving an adjournment motion to consider the report of the Reforms Enquiry Committee; the first is from the honourable member Mr. Nariman, the second from the honourable member Mr. R. G. Pradhan, and the third from the honourable member Mr. Jayakar. I should like to know which honourable member wishes to move the adjournment motion as three cannot obviously do so. I will give my consent if these honourable members agree as to who should move it.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: Sir, as the leader of the Swaraj party has already given notice of the motion, I will withdraw my motion.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN: I am willing to withdraw my motion in favour of Mr. Jayakar.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Then, I will call upon Mr. Jayakar to ask the House for leave to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, "the highly unsatisfactory nature of the majority report of the Reforms Enquiry Committee".

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University): Sir, I beg to ask the leave of this House to make a motion for the adjournment of the business of the Council for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, to call the attention of the House to the highly unsatisfactory nature of the majority report of the Reforms Enquiry Committee.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Does any honourable member object. (After a pause.) As no honourable member objects, the leave is granted, and the motion will be taken up at 4 o'clock. The House will adjourn for tea at half-past three.

Demands for grants.

(Discussion on demands for grants resumed.)

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind): Sir, I beg to move

Reduce by Rs. 10,38,200 provision for Barrage establishment (Rs. 28,86,300) shown on page 3, P. W. D. Civil Estimates.

I wish to confine my remarks to the reduction of the barrage establishment for which motions have been given by another honourable member from Sind, Mr. Khuhro. It is in order to have a discussion of this matter and in order to know the intentions of Government in this matter once for all, that I rise to move the reduction of this grant. The establishment for the barrage forms a part of the project that was framed by this Government, submitted to the Government of India and sanctioned by the Secretary of State for India in 1920. The project estimates were prepared by the executive engineer Mr. Musto and subsequently

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

checked and controlled—these are the words “checked and controlled”—by the Chief Engineer, Sind, Mr. (now Sir) Frederick Gebbie. The Government of India in sending the compilation to the Secretary of State for India made a special mention of this. On page 2 of their despatch they state :

“Mr. Gebbie, C.I.E., Chief Engineer, Bombay, and formerly Chief Engineer, Sind, has throughout most ably controlled the preparation of the project in its engineering aspects. Finally, Mr. A. A. Musto, Executive Engineer, who has been responsible for the detailed preparation of the project, has shown an ability and capacity for work which cannot be too highly commended. He has dealt in great detail with all points arising in connection with the project and has, we consider, fully justified his selection for this important duty.”

This is the statement with which the Government of India sent the papers to the Secretary of State. The facts and figures prepared by Mr. Musto under the able guidance and control of Sir Frederick Gebbie, who was the Secretary of the Public Works Department here in Bombay, were sent to the Secretary of State for India, and those facts and figures contain 15,81 lakhs, not 16,07 lakhs that was found in the estimates prepared by Mr. Musto, and the Government of India further recommended that additional provision of 2,55 lakhs should be made in the estimates against the rise in prices of plant and steel in England during the next nine or ten years. This margin of 2,55 lakhs was for the rise in price of steel and plant in England : it had nothing to do with any increase under establishment. The original estimates framed by Mr. Musto, in which establishment and every conceivable thing were put in, were for 16,07 lakhs. It was an estimate made purposely liberal enough and it had to be curtailed afterwards to 15,81 lakhs. I am taking my stand upon this estimate prepared by Mr. Musto under the able control and check which I expect from Sir Frederick Gebbie, who was then Secretary of the Public Works Department. Now, these estimates were sanctioned by the Secretary of State for India in June 1923 ; when this Council sanctioned the scheme unanimously it had before it the figures both about establishment and about plant, as also about other things necessary for the Barrage. The figure, placed before this honourable House by the Honourable the General Member, Sir Chimanlal Setalvad, were 18,36 lakhs. It was on those figures that the House was induced to sanction the estimates. They were led to sanction the estimates on the figures placed before them preparatory to the meeting. Those figures form part of the 5th volume. The establishment figures are shown separately. The establishment during the preliminary year was Rs. 4,21,000 ; during the first year, Rs. 15,10,336 ; second year Rs. 19,10,336 ; third year, which will be the next year, Rs. 29,18,336. So that according to the estimate.....

Mr. C. S. O. HARRISON : We are asking money for the next year. The preliminary year was the first year ; this is the first construction year for which we are asking money. I may point out to the honourable member that we have had budget sanctioned for the preliminary year and this budget is for the first construction year 1925-26.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: Perhaps that will bring me to the first year, which is going to end by 31st March 1925. I am also moving in the same lines. The year that will end by March 1926 is the second year of the project.

We shall have to proceed on the original estimates on the strength of which the Council sanctioned the works. In July 1923, the Government of Bombay in the Public Works Department issued a resolution, according to which the administrative staff required was three superintending engineers and one chief engineer. This resolution was issued by the whole Government sitting including the present Honourable Finance Member. After this resolution was issued, I find no other Government Resolution. What we have got is that in the very first year 1923-24, the Government employs one Chief Engineer and five superintending engineers with establishment in proportion with a number of executive engineers and temporary engineers. In the present year we have got an increased number of 13 executive engineers and 50 temporary engineers in the budget. I now put it to you, Sir, whether it is fair that, after placing these estimates before the Council, after the Council has sanctioned those estimates and after the Government have actually fixed the staff as one chief engineer and three superintending engineers, Government should come before the Council and ask them for a demand of 28 lakhs for the establishment charges when the amount provided for in the original estimate is only 19 lakhs. I therefore request the Council to exercise proper control even at the initial stages of the scheme so that we may not be landed in the same difficulties as those of the Bombay Development, where the original estimate of 9 to 10 crores has increased to 27 crores. If the Council desires that the estimate of the Sukkur Barrage also should be allowed to go from 18 to 40 crores, then they are welcome to sanction any amount the Government demands. But when the barrage was first sanctioned the honourable the Chief Engineer who was then the important speaker distinctly gave the House to understand that these estimates would not be exceeded. They are mere words of encouragement which are forgotten as years roll on. He assured the Council in the following words. With regard to possible fears felt by other engineers, he said :

"We have no such tricky conditions in Sind. Rock, which, as I have said, is one of our enemies, may cost us ten times as much as earth and we do not meet with it in Sind. In Sind we have no rock or unknown and greatly varying conditions to face when excavating canals. We have also in the Deccan other causes that lead to excesses over estimates, such as heavy rainfall and unexpected floods. I speak feelingly as I have myself had this experience of excesses by heavy rainfall falling when we least expected it. It is not so in Sind. There is practically no rainfall in Sind."

Coming to the Sukkur Barrage estimate, he said :

"We feel satisfied after some study and then we begin to see further difficulties and we have to re-study it again. I claim, Sir, that the engineers who framed the designs and estimates of this great work have exhaustively considered every problem that human mind can possibly conceive as likely to arise during construction. Years of thought have been expended and I claim that we have before us an estimate as carefully and as soundly prepared as that of any of the great engineering works that have been undertaken by man. I ask you, Sir, and the House to accept as safe the estimates for the barrage and canals."

That was the estimate prepared by Sir F. Gebbie, Mr. Musto and the honourable member the Chief Engineer himself. The Council must

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

compel Government to stick to those figures. Year after year we have been told that more establishment is necessary and the charges are going up and yet we are consoled that at the end of 12 years the total estimate will not be exceeded. I know the honourable the Chief Engineer will refer to the note of Sir F. Gebbie, and I reserve my remarks with regard to that till my turn for the reply comes.

But so far, Sir, as his own binding is concerned, his own care of the estimate is concerned, we find a strong commitment, a definite commitment in the letter that was addressed to the Secretary of State for India by this Government through the Government of India, and we proceed, Sir, now in the way in which the establishment is working in the barrage. What do you find in the barrage? There are already five executive engineers working there and a sixth is going to be appointed. We have a number of executive engineers, and assistant engineers, and upper subordinates are few, and if you go to the spot you will find that all the estimates are taken and lot of other work is done by the assistant engineers; and executive engineers are doing the very duties which assistants could safely do; and the superintending engineers are simply checking the estimates prepared by the executive engineers. That is all the work they have to do. The work that any trained executive engineer would have done is done by the superintending engineers. In this connexion I wish to bring to the notice of this Council that the opinion of Sir F. Gebbie on that point has to be taken with considerable importance because, while preparing these estimates which were placed before the Council he had occasion to go—that fact is mentioned in the Government of Bombay's despatches—into all this. With full knowledge of the requirements of Sind and the barrage the sanction to the estimates was given. He knew Punjab as well as Sind. Both Sir F. Gebbie and Mr. Musto prepared the estimates for the establishment with full knowledge. Therefore I submit that looking to the estimates prepared, looking to the report of Sir Gebbie, according to which only three superintending engineers were required there is no reason to increase the establishment this year whatever work it may be. Therefore, I submit that this House will give a cut of 10 lakhs to the 28 lakhs that has been brought for sanction before this Council.

Question proposed.

Mr. L. J. MOUNTFORD: Sir, I must admit that I am somewhat surprised at the character of this discussion. We have tabled here many motions to reduce expenditure on the Sukkur Barrage and I find Sind members suggesting cuts which however they have not pressed, cuts of 45 and 47 lakhs, and I find the honourable member for Western Sind, Non-Mahomedan rural area, now proposing to cut down the establishment of the Sukkur Barrage by over 10 lakhs.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: Sir, I rise to a point of order. The honourable member, the Commissioner, C. D., is referring to the cuts of 45 lakhs and 47 lakhs which have already been disposed of.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: They were on the agenda paper and the honourable member the Commissioner, C. D., is simply making a passing reference to them.

Mr. L. J. MOUNTFORD: Now the honourable member for Western Sind, non-Mahomedan rural area, has proposed a cut in the establishment of the Sukkur Barrage of over 10 lakhs. The establishment required to carry out expert work of this kind must, I consider, Sir, be left to the expert as long as he keeps within the sanctioned estimates. I think we might say by way of simile that if he were to require 5 yoke of oxen to plough a deep furrow through a very heavy soil in a given time he should be allowed to use five yoke of oxen. I remember once on tour while passing through Karad in the Satara district I saw a ploughman using ten oxen to his plough and it struck me that possibly he would be able to plough just as well with four yoke of oxen. I was not a ploughman any more than my honourable friend is an engineer, but suppose I went to the man and discussed the necessity of the ten oxen that he was using for the plough in the very heavy black soil of the village of Umbraj: He would have told me he wanted five yoke of oxen to do his job. Supposing I had said to him, I knowing nothing about the necessity of this particular soil that what he really wanted is four yoke of oxen, what would have been his reply? He would have said assuming he was polite and did not make the obvious rejoinder, that if you reduce the number of my oxen, not only shall I be driving a less deep furrow, than I am driving at present, but it will take me much longer to do my job and my field will not be thoroughly ploughed, and possibly some of the oxen may strain themselves and I shall suffer a heavy loss and shall have to buy a new lot of cattle. Therefore I appeal to this House on the same lines not to cut down the cattle that the Chief Engineer, Sukkur Barrage, thinks necessary to drive his very heavy furrow that he has been directed by the House to plough, this heavy furrow which he has undertaken to finish within a certain time, which he has been told to plough as deep and as early as possible with every foresight and care.

Now, the reduction of over 10 lakhs as proposed will of course mean delay if not serious hindrance of the work on the Sukkur Barrage. It will be really a very serious cut. It is not a nominal figure which is proposed when an honourable member desires to draw attention to some error in policy. It is a serious cut which will have only one result, namely, hampering of this great work, one of the biggest works of its time in the world and one on which depends the future destinies of the province of Sind. Besides this Barrage, there are very great works now projected in the Punjab which when completed affect the flow of the Indus to a great extent especially when the river is falling. Here I ask the attention of my honourable friend from Kaira to the fact that it is not when the river is flowing fully that we feel the effect, but at a time when the river level is falling that we feel any reduction in our level very acutely, and if these Punjab works are completed as they surely will be, and we have no Sukkur Barrage, we shall lose four annas of our supply of water, and the level will fall until Zemindars will not be able to raise the magnificent crops which we expect the barrage to

[Mr. L. J. Mountford]

supply. The Zemindars of Sind have still in their recollection the disastrous inundation of 1923, when the river level kept low. We all know how in August 1923 their crops were saved in a most providential manner by a most timely though a most rare rainfall, which gave them 2 inches for Upper Sind and thereby just saved their rice crop. These are facts, Sir, however, which we cannot always look upon as likely to be repeated. Rain does not often fall in Sind. Therefore, the canals must be provided with ample water, except in your very biggest years, and these big years, as you know, have not been of frequent occurrence.

Now, if a policy is objected to, it is usual to propose a nominal cut of, say, Rs. 100 or Rs. 1,000 and so on. That is the custom in the other place to which an honourable member alluded, namely, in the Mother of Parliaments. I do think, Sir, that a paralysing cut like Rs. 10 lakhs and odd, merely for the purpose of objecting to a policy, would never have been supported in any House of representatives either in Europe or in the United States of America. Therefore, assuming that this House is noted for its wisdom, sobriety and commonsense, honourable members can come to only one conclusion, and that is that the honourable member for Western Sind desires to destroy and annihilate the Sukkur Barrage.

Now, let us consider how this work proceeded. First of all, at a special session of this Council in June 1923 you decided that the Sukkur Barrage was absolutely essential for the good of the province of Sind and, incidentally, for this Presidency. Remember that the Punjab draws its main revenue from irrigation. You have got a vast mine of wealth in Sind which you can tap by the Barrage, and as you will gain by it—you members from Sind and those whom you represent here, so will the whole Presidency, so will all India, nay, so will all the world gain by such a mighty scheme as this which will bring 6½ million (6,529,705) acres under cultivation. For this great scheme the engineers are called upon to carry out the work. The details have been worked out, and revised and revised again over a very long period of time. They were not worked out with ill-considered haste; they were worked out with due deliberation and care, and the Chief Engineer was then directed to propose the establishment to Government with which it would be necessary to carry out this great work. His proposal was then duly scrutinised and finally decided upon. But the establishment which the Chief Engineer has asked has been condemned already by the highest authority in India on irrigation as not being adequate. That highest authority on irrigation is Sir Frederick Gebbie, and if the honourable member for Karachi will bear with me for a while, he said:

"If the necessary additional establishment is provided all the plans and estimates should be completed and sanctioned during the next hot weather and construction should be in full progress by the beginning of October."

He goes further and says:

"The Rohri Canal is in the most advanced stage and the completion of estimates is now being delayed for want of establishment."

I do not want Sir, to take the time of the House any longer on the question of establishment. There is no doubt that Sir Frederick Gebbie

[Mr. L. J. Mountford]

considers that unless the fullest staff is provided we shall not be able to keep up our scheduled time. And supposing we do not keep our scheduled time, what will be our loss year after year? We should lose tens of lakhs of rupees, apart from the fact that the zemindar would lose the magnificent crop which he will get from these canals. Meanwhile a bad year like 1918 or like 1923 might supervene. If that happens you would go on your knees and pray Government to double or treble or even quadruple your staff. Therefore rather do everything you can to accelerate the progress of these works, put in the adequate staff to finish them in time. I should say to this House—and I say so in all seriousness—that the mandate that they should give to the Chief Engineer should be rather to increase the establishment and to try and complete the barrage a year or even two years earlier and to tell him: “If necessary, double your present establishment if that is essential and we will vote the money gladly, we will vote the money willingly”. We want to get on with this work, which would be impossible if year after year the establishment is criticised, is cut down, and the necessary funds are not voted. The issue is very plain: Do you or do you not want the barrage as quickly as possible? There would be only one answer to that. Such a procedure as to cut down the establishment which the experts say is necessary has no parallel outside India. There the custom is to go carefully through the account of costs and to give a free hand to the engineer within the cost that it has been decided will be necessary, in order to carry out the project that the House has once accepted. The cost of the establishment that is now budgetted is considered by the Chief Engineer to be necessary. That is a matter wholly and solely for expert opinion and it is for you to see that it is supplied. We are told by honourable members that the barrage is necessary. Well, then, let us get on with it. Let us see that the required number of officers are given. As regards the officers who have to work there, it is quite possible for officers to work overtime for a period. It is not possible to work overtime for many years. It spells breakdown; it also spells unsatisfactory work. Each man on the establishment must have a full time job, but not more than a full time job, and in Upper Sind we cannot strain a man to breaking point. It is possible, in the first beginning, while work on the various sections is being planned and all establishment is being collected, that the full amount of work cannot immediately be worked up to, until the whole machine is running in full swing. In a big machine the wheels begin to turn slowly, then faster as it slowly gathers way and then finally at full revolutions and full power. If the same thing occurs in the case of this big machine, it is not to be wondered at. The officers have to learn their work and, having learned it, they must settle down to their work in Sind with the knowledge they have gained, for if they leave other officers must come along and learn the work all over again and slow down the wheels of this gigantic machine while they gain the experience, which will enable them to work the machine once more with full power.

My advice to the House is not to do anything which will hinder the smooth working of this machine. The establishment that the Chief

[Mr. L. J. Mountford]

Engineer considers necessary for the working of this machine has been held by the most experienced authority on irrigation in India as being inadequate. It is not excessive. Those honourable members who vote for this motion of reduction are voting against the Sukkur Barrage. They are declaring that they are against the execution of this work. They are destroying the province of Sind, and I would urge the honourable member (Mr. Pahalajani) therefore to withdraw his motion. If anything in the policy or the appointments is, in his opinion, open to criticism—and all sincere and just criticism will be welcomed cordially—then the real way, the only recognised constitutional procedure is to propose a nominal cut to draw attention to the grievance. It is not fair, it is not just, it is not consistent to approve of the Sukkur Barrage on the one hand, and, on the other, to vote for a cut which will make the execution of this mighty work impossible.

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON: Sir, the Deputy President sets himself up as a champion of economy in all directions. But, Sir, it seems to me that he wants to usurp the position of others. From the speeches which he has made here, it would appear that he was almost the only member in this House who wanted to occupy the position of the guardian of the public purse. But, Sir, I would like him to give some credit to others for their efforts. I think he has on the contrary, throughout his speech, done all he can to discredit the efforts that I have so far made to establish economy in this great work which I have been ordered to supervise. Well, Sir, I resent that as a personal matter, and I deny that as a matter of truth.

The Deputy President has made out in the preliminary part of his speech that the barrage sanctioned estimates provided for a certain sum of money each year for establishment. I thought I had made it very plain a few days ago, when the question of the works was raised, and when I described what an estimate was in the eyes of Government and in the eyes of ordinary commonsense men of this world. I pointed out that an officer is put on to work up an estimate and he then has to make a programme which, to the best of his ability, he considers possible to carry out. He then works out the cost of the different heads under the scheme, and finally he comes to his financial forecast. It is necessary for him to try and approximate expenditure for each year of the project to arrive at a sum which he can set off against incoming revenues when the project becomes revenue earning. This is exactly what is being done in this project. But, Sir, the Deputy President touches on the matter again, which I am surprised at, in view of what I said about the subject before. It is very simple for anybody to see that these annual figures were not matters of detailed calculation in the project report. We have for the first year Rs. 21 lakhs; for the second year Rs. 15,21,336—please watch these 336; in the third year Rs. 19,10,336; and in the fourth year Rs. 29,18,336. This estimate has been worked up so accurately to the last rupee on establishment. I submit, Sir, that it is absolutely evident that certain figures divided by a certain number of years give the common figure of 336 right through. It is pretty obvious

[Mr. C. S. C. Harrison]

how those figures were arrived at. They occur, I think, in one or two more years. I am speaking from memory, but these are not the detailed calculations for each year. Having been entrusted with this scheme, I have planned out what is to be done during the current year and during next year. In the beginning of this scheme, as the Commissioner, Central Division, has just stated, we have to start a gigantic machine. I was wrong in the first year in the total amount of money I required, I was wrong in the second year. The balance not required has been returned to Government; it has been in no way squandered. The honourable member, the Deputy President, raised this question last year, and he said that after hearing the words that fell from my lips he was prepared to withdraw his motion for reduction. The point was, Sir, that I had estimated for a certain figure; I found that that figure was unnecessary.....

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: Sir, is it in order for the honourable member to disclose in this House any private conversations that I might have had with him? I have not the slightest objection to his doing so, but I shall have to disclose conversations as well.

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON: This is on the records of this House. I informed this House that I had made an over-estimate—I think it was 26 lakhs—in the first year, and that I had returned to Government Rs. 11 lakhs out of the 26 lakhs, as I found that the establishment was not required according to the requirements of the work. It is not a question of a private conversation; it was raised in this House, and on the strength of that statement, I think the Deputy President informed the House that he would withdraw his motion for reduction. Last year I admitted that I had over-estimated my requirements. We are but human, and I had to start a gigantic machine going, but each year as we go on, we know nearer and nearer what our figures are going to be. If you will glance through the budget, you will see that had I really proposed this extravagance that has been laid upon me by the Deputy President, the figure would not have been Rs. 28 lakhs that has been provided for the next budget, but something like Rs. 45 lakhs, because last year we asked for Rs. 38 lakhs, and the project has to go on expanding. I found that I was able to return Rs. 20 lakhs to Government, and Rs. 20 lakhs have been returned unspent. I have worked out this year my requirements, and they are nearer to what the possibilities are going to be, because each year as we go along, we get more experience of actuals.

I now come to the next point. The Deputy President, I submit, Sir, has—I hope not directly—misled this House. He has referred to a Government Resolution as having been passed in July last by Government. In that Resolution he says Government considered the matter and sanctioned only one Chief Engineer and three Superintending Engineers, and he gave the circles which were in their charge. I should like to inform the House that those were never placed before this House nor sanctioned by Government in the form read out by the Deputy President. I have before me the Resolution. It is dated 11th July and its number is S. 50-I of 1923. In that Resolution there is sanction

[Mr. C. S. C. Harrison]

for one Chief Engineer and six superintending engineers, and every detail of those charges is given in full in this Resolution which has been misquoted by the Deputy President to this House. Notes have been taken and the G. R. has been misquoted, and he has pointed out that there have been three superintending engineers sanctioned. There have been *six* sanctioned but only five have been appointed. I wrote in to Government, and pointed out that I did not think it was necessary to appoint the sixth at present, as I wanted to see how the works would progress, and delayed the appointment of the sixth until the necessities of the work demanded such an appointment. Government agreed to my proposal, and at the present moment five out of the six superintending engineers that were sanctioned are now at work. I would like the House to bear this point in mind, because I consider it a direct misleading statement which was made by the Deputy President.

The Deputy President then went back to the records of this House and referred to the debate of June 1923. He read out to the House a part of the speech that I had made in which I expressed my hopes as regards the safety of these estimates. I stand here now, Sir, and repeat that I still have those hopes. I have had nearly 2 years' opportunities since that time to look into the estimates, and I am more satisfied now than I was then that we have every hope of carrying out this great scheme within the sanctioned amount. I do not withdraw one word of what I uttered in 1923, and I repeat that with my subsequent experience I substantiate it.

The Honourable the Deputy President further says that the superintending engineers have no work. He practically accuses the Chief Engineer of having misled Government to appoint unnecessary superintending engineers, and he says that the superintending engineers sit down and do what we call computing work; simply check the estimates prepared by the executive and assistant engineers. These were his very words: "The superintending engineers are simply doing the checking of estimates." Sir, I deny that statement. It is not true and it is highly misleading. The superintending engineers have a very great amount of work to look to. They are responsible to me, as I am responsible to Government and this House, for the accurate working out of the technical details of this work. The superintending engineers are not mere computers. We can get computers to carry out the arithmetical checking of estimates for Rs. 60 or Rs. 100. The superintending engineers certainly have to scrutinise the estimates; they have to scrutinise them and see that the executive engineers have not been extravagant. I submit, Sir, that that statement of the honourable the Deputy President is not true, and his other remarks are directly misleading.

Sir, the Deputy President has forestalled what comparisons we are likely to make as regards the Sukkur Barrage and the Sutlej Valley projects, and rightly so, because he knows, and I feel absolutely certain that he knows, that if we have to compare the establishment on the Sukkur Barrage with any other we are bound to look to a neighbouring

[Mr. C. S. C. Harrison]

province which has almost exactly the same conditions. The point that the Deputy President did not state is what the Punjab, a neighbouring province, has in the way of establishment. I should like to inform the House that for a project which is two-thirds or three-quarters of our project, they have, I learn, an establishment of nine superintending engineers, of which seven are already appointed, and I understand the eighth is to be appointed this next month, that is nine against our six, or rather against our five. (An Honourable Member: Would you like to have nine?). I do not consider it necessary. I have worked out to the best of my ability that six will be sufficient. If I find I am wrong I shall have to go to Government and say I was wrong. But, Sir, if I am extravagant the Chief Engineer of the Punjab has committed a much graver crime than I have, but his province does not seem to reject his demands and cast him to the wolves: he receives the support of the Punjab Council when he goes before it for his grants, and there is no question raised that his establishment should be cut down. In fact I understand that they may be increasing it very soon. I have asked for a total of 29 executive engineers, who will be in charge of divisions and a thirtieth is my personal assistant. Against these 29 executive engineers we have appointed 17 so far and there are still 12 vacancies left against the number of divisions sanctioned by Government and these 12 vacancies will, I can assure this House, not be filled until there are imperative demands that they shall be filled. That is the situation so far as I can see.

The honourable member the Deputy President tries to bring in Sir Frederick Gebbie, and he stated that because Sir Frederick was an officer concerned with the project his report must cloak us in order to save his face. Sir Frederick was asked to make a final report on leaving India, and he consequently came and saw how this work was being carried out. Sir Frederick Gebbie went into all the details; he was for a fortnight with me. He asked me to call some of the officers and he met some superintending and executive engineers. I may inform the House that an executive engineer, an Indian, told Sir Frederick Gebbie that he 'could not stick it'—those were the very words. He told him "I have too much work here; I want to go back to the presidency." He was asked why and he said that he was working at very great stress, that he had to consider piles of estimates. With regard to the question of further establishment, I have issued strict orders that in all cases of increase in establishments a case has to be made out by the officer first of all requiring that establishment, this has to be checked by his superior officers, and checked by the superintending engineer. In every single instance a case has to be made out and the establishment required can only be engaged if that case is made out to my satisfaction and I sanction it. These are the facts which I wish to place before this honourable House.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): I do not know, Sir, whether the honourable member the Commissioner studied the condition of the

[Mr. D. B. Adwani]

cultivator while he was travelling in the steamer *Jhelum* while in Sind or in some other part of the country. But when he began to dogmatise as an expert on the lines we should adopt in this matter of establishment, I was rather surprised. The honourable the Chief Engineer told us that during the current year, if I understood him right, he would save 20 lakhs from the establishment charges. If that is so, the honourable the Deputy President is not asking for too much in wishing him to cut down 10 lakhs in advance. Instead of retrenching 20 lakhs at the end of the year it would be more graceful if the Chief Engineer retrenched 10 lakhs in advance.

Turning now, Sir, to the merits of the case, I find that out of the total provision of 2,83 lakhs for works, 1,30 lakhs is for tools and plant, which leaves about 1,50 lakhs for the works proper. That means about 30 lakhs for each superintending engineer, which seems to me to be a very small amount of work to be done by a superintending engineer in one year. We must remember the fact that in the original estimates, as pointed out by the Honourable the Deputy President, only provision for three Superintending Engineers was made for the second year. These estimates were prepared by engineers and a definite provision for so many engineers was made; the provision was not a lump sum one, stated by the honourable the Chief Engineer. We will therefore oppose this grant.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind): Sir, my feeling when the honourable member the Commissioner spoke was one of amusement. Unfortunately, I had studied the figures, and he had not. I do not understand whether it is the theory of the honourable member the Commissioner that it is not the duty of this House to glance over the figures that are presented to us by the honourable member the Chief Engineer of the barrage, but accept them as absolutely correct. It appears that according to his opinion any interference with those figures will be the ruin of the barrage. But, Sir, the one answer that I expected has not been forthcoming, and that is an answer to my question whether the framers of the estimates that were placed before this House when they gave their sanction to the scheme were not correct. The honourable member the Chief Engineer has not answered that question. Those estimates had been made minutely by men of the capacity of Mr. Musto, who has got commendation at the hands of the Government of India, and of Sir Frederick Gebbie, who is taken as an authority at present and was taken as an authority even before. Those two officers prepared those estimates and they gave us definitely what the scheme would cost year after year. Are they experts or not? Or are they as ignorant as myself. I say these estimates were prepared with considerable care and this is apparent from the fact that each of these volumes contains the number of superintending engineers, the executive engineers, the assistant engineers, the number of clerks, the number of superintendents of offices that will be required for this work—including even the Bhistis and peons. They relate to Barrage proper. All the five volumes are to be found in the library and each of which gives the number of all sorts of officials required for the works. With meticulous care these estimates had been prepared. Are we to be told now that the present Chief Engineer is a greater expert than any of them in estimating

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

the requirements of the works? I never based my proposal for reduction on my opinion but on the opinion of those experts. Sir Frederick Gebbie says in the last portion of his letter :

“There will be excesses under certain heads but these will be more than covered by savings under other heads except in the case of ‘steel work’ ‘machinery’ ‘tools and plant’ and ‘establishment’ for the barrage itself. The excesses on the first three are well within the special provision of 255 lakhs made by the Government of India and I think the cost of establishment has been over-estimated in the detailed estimate now under preparation. The cost of establishment has been taken as a percentage of the cost of ‘works’ and as the latter has gone up, owing to the increased price of steel machinery, etc., the cost of establishment has gone up correspondingly, but because the cost of, say, a dredger is twice what it was originally estimated to be it does not follow that the cost of the establishment required to run it will also be doubled. If an estimate is made of the establishment which will actually be required, I think it will be found that this charge can be reduced considerably.....”

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON : It was a revised recapitulation submitted to Government. It was purely on a percentage basis.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : That was a percentage basis. Then the real estimate was not placed before the House, and the real figures were not placed before the House? Sir, at the present moment we are to be guided and should be guided by the opinion of the experts, who have worked out in detail the whole estimate. If the honourable the Chief Engineer reads the letter from which I just now quoted he will find it stated there that at the initial stage the number of superintending engineers required would be three and not five. I was not making a wrong statement and if the honourable member the Chief Engineer refers to paragraph 14 he will find that my statement is correct. Now, the work has not passed the preliminary stage. When he said that he handed back to Government 20 lakhs of rupees, I referred to the figures to find out the amount referred to by him. I find in the last year's estimate, the amount demanded was 35 lakhs and what was returned was only 9 lakhs. That was the figure that was given to us yesterday by the honourable member the Secretary, P. W. D.

Mr. C. S. C. HARRISON : The figure referred to by the honourable member the Deputy President was the return up to September last. The figure I quoted was received 6 days ago. The honourable member can take it from me that I am speaking the truth.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : I certainly trust the honourable member and trust the figures placed by the Honourable the Finance Member. If the honourable member the Chief Engineer had returned 20 lakhs for the last year, then it will be very easy for him to return 10 lakhs in the coming year. If we are to understand that in future the figures that are placed before the Council for the carrying through of any scheme are not to be depended upon and they are only mere eye-wash, we do not know what that future will bring in its train. Every year the honourable member the Commissioner for the Southern Division is warning us that we will be ruining the barrage and hindering its smooth working. I wish to point out to him that it is the function of this Council to compel Government to stick to the figures given by

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

experts who investigated into the details of the whole work the results of which are contained in these five volumes.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: You said, Sir, that the debate ought to be over by 3-30, but I think that I will not be able to finish my remarks by that time:

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The Honourable the General Member has referred to the suggestion I made to him, and it is therefore desirable to point out that under the time allotted for the discussion of the budget, it is laid down by the rules that not more than two days will be allowed for the discussion of one demand. The discussion on this demand started at 4-54 on Saturday and the two days will be up at 4-54 to-day. In consequence of the adjournment motion the House will adjourn at 3-30, and the question will arise when do those two days expire. I therefore appealed to the honourable member that as this is the last item under this demand, and the honourable mover was replying, it would be very desirable if the Honourable the General Member, when he rises to reply, to be brief, so that the House could proceed to vote before adjournment at 3-30. This would avoid the difficulty of considering whether the discussion of this item could be prolonged till to-morrow and the one hour and 24 minutes that will remain could be allowed then. That was the reason why I appealed to the Honourable the General Member to bear that fact in mind, when he gets up to reply.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: I only say, Sir, that this is the 12 years' estimate and Government propose to finish it in 12 years and it is by these estimates that the Government ought to rise or fall.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Sir, it was very kind of you to have warned me that I would have a very short time to reply to the accusations made by my honourable friend the Deputy President, but I had hoped that you would have warned the Deputy President also.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I stated the facts for the benefit of the whole House.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Now, Sir, never before in this House have I heard a responsible honourable member get up and quote a resolution passed by government; tell us what that resolution contained and give us its specific terms, and when the resolution is produced find that it is exactly contrary to what the honourable member informed the House.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: Sir, may I be allowed to correct myself.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: I cannot allow that interruption. Every honourable member who is present is a witness to the fact that the honourable member the Deputy President got up and quoted a resolution of July 1924 and informed this House that under that resolution government had decided to appoint three superintending engineers and he found in the budget that they were appointing five or six. That was the statement made. I can state that the resolution was

Engin.

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

settled in the time of my predecessor, but sanctioned after I joined Government. The resolution clearly states the staff that is to be engaged. The honourable member now states that he meant three superintending engineers for the preliminary work. He distinctly said that we are not carrying out the resolution, and I will ask the house whether they will tolerate an honourable member mis-quoting a resolution to the extent done on the present occasion. Never in my experience have I found an honourable member so mis-quoting a resolution in order to mislead the House.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : Sir, on a personal explanation—

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : I cannot allow an interruption—

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I cannot exclude a personal explanation when a serious charge is made against the statement of an honourable member.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : I distinctly said, Sir, at the commencement that in the preliminary investigation that was the sanction. I read the last words.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : The Deputy President said nothing of the sort. Now Mr. President a great point has been made of the project estimates, and the Deputy President said that the chief engineer had not explained them. I do not know how any honourable member can explain the position more clearly. He went into the details, gave figures and he also informed this House that when they trusted Government and budgetted for an establishment of 38 lakhs last year, Government spent exactly what was necessary and refunded the balance. We cannot exactly calculate what work can be done because the work depends upon so many factors ; it depends upon machinery that has to be imported, it depends upon many other factors ; if those calculations turn out to be wrong much less establishment will be employed. But if all goes well and if we can work according to our programme, the chief engineer has calculated that he will require this establishment.

The one point I would like honourable members to really consider is whether they want Government to do the work as quickly as possible, and whether when they budget for a certain amount the House should call for an explanation why that amount is not spent ; because, what does it show ? that the work has not progressed as quickly as was anticipated. That is what Government call upon their officers to explain. Unless Government received a satisfactory answer to such questions they call upon the chief engineer to explain why he budgetted for 38 lakhs and spent only 18 lakhs. The explanation submitted to Government was satisfactory. Factors arose over which he had no control. The honourable member the Deputy President wants to-day to reduce the grant by 10 lakhs. Does the Deputy President mean to say that the chief engineer and Government are deliberately asking this House for 10 lakhs extra, knowing that they will not spend it ? We hope to spend it, we hope to be able to employ this establishment, we hope the work will progress. If new factors arise

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

and the work does not progress, we are prepared to give this House an explanation as to why the work did not progress as was anticipated. I would just remind this House that one of the engineers—Mr. Musto—who worked out the project report is still employed under Government, I will refer also to the other engineer Mr. Gebbie, now Sir Frederic Gebbie. He also was responsible for this project. We have got the opinion of Sir Frederic, we have printed and placed it on the table of the House, I have quoted it once, it was quoted by the honourable member the Commissioner, Central Division, when he said that if you do not give more establishment the work won't progress. His one complaint is that we have economised in the establishment. The chief engineer did it at the request of Government. The consulting engineer went into what the executive engineers were doing. He asked them what staff they were engaging and he came to that deliberate conclusion that more staff was required. Notwithstanding this what does the Deputy President say. He says it is special pleading. I am not a lawyer but there are many honourable members who are lawyers, and I know that when they cannot meet an argument they call it special pleading. Mr. Musto is also responsible for the barrage establishment. He is still the Superintending Engineer for the Barrage Circle. I do not wish to occupy the time of the House any more, but I do hope that this honourable House will trust Government as they did last year, and we shall do our best to see that not a rupee is spent unnecessarily. And may I, Sir, since an attack, a more or less veiled attack, has been made upon the chief engineer, take this opportunity of expressing the confidence Government have in the chief engineer. They feel confident, from what they have seen personally, that as far as the expenditure on the barrage is concerned, he has done and he is doing his very best, because he has got a thorough grip over the whole department, and I feel confident that if he errs at all, he will err on the side of practising more economy than it is wise rather than on the side of extravagance. But I repeat that the honourable House need not be afraid of extravagance, and we hope that we shall not exceed the project estimates. We have got a fair margin, and we feel confident that, when the work is over, we shall be able to show that our total estimates are not exceeded.

Motion to reduce productive provision under II Establishment (Rs. 28,86,300) by Rs. 10,38,200 was put to the vote and declared lost.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : I ask for a division.

(The division bell was then rung and honourable members who were not in the hall at the time came in.)

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Order, order. In order that all the honourable members who have arrived for the division may know the position, I should like to inform them that the motion before the House is that of the honourable member the Deputy President, who desires that the total provision for establishment on the Sukkur Barrage, namely, Rs. 28,86,300, should be reduced by Rs. 10,38,200. In order to save the time of the Council, I propose on this occasion to take the division

Engu.

[The President]

in a different manner, namely, I will ask honourable members who are in favour of the motion to rise in their seats, and after counting them, I will call upon those who are against the motion to do the same.

The result indicated that 30 members were in favour of the motion and 40 against it. The motion was accordingly declared lost.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Sir, I now move that a total demand of Rs. 1,67,40,320 be granted.

Question put and carried.

(After recess.)

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Order, order. I call upon the honourable the leader of the Swaraj party to move his motion for adjournment. I should like.....

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Before the motion is moved, Sir, I should like to explain briefly our position in the matter. I think it is due in courtesy to my honourable friend opposite. I desire, Sir, to explain at the outset the position of the official benches in this matter. We desire in no way to hinder a full discussion of this important subject by all non-official members and parties in this House. But at the same time it is not possible for us officially to intervene. Perhaps, Sir, it is hardly necessary, as our opinions have been printed in full in the appendices to the report. It would be improper for us, Sir, at this stage to offer further opinions unsolicited on a report by a committee appointed not by us but by the Government of India, to report not to us but to the Government of India, on matters not within our own jurisdiction but within that of the Government of India and of the Secretary of State.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Before I call upon the honourable member to move the motion for adjournment, I should like to draw the attention of the honourable House once again to the fact that under the Standing Orders a time limit of 15 minutes is imposed for every speaker.

As the discussion must conclude at 6 o'clock it is my intention to restrict every speaker to 15 minutes. I hope each honourable member who addresses the House will try not to take the full 15 minutes, in order to enable a larger number of speakers to address the House.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University) : Mr. President, I rise to move the adjournment of this House in order to direct its attention to a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the extremely unsatisfactory nature of the recommendations made in the majority report of the Reforms Committee. Having regard to the short time at my disposal, I shall be very brief in my remarks. I do hope, however, that my brevity will not detract in any way from the importance of the question before us. I feel that the merits of this question are so obvious that I need not make a long speech in order to make them apparent to my honourable friends.

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

Sir, the report has been out for the last 24 hours. During that interval I have had the chance of discussing it with many members of this House and the people outside. I have, however, not found many persons who have much to say in support of the recommendations of the majority. I shall briefly submit for the acceptance of this House a few tests by which we can judge of the merits of these recommendations, and I have no doubt that, judged by any of these tests, the recommendations of the majority will be found deplorably deficient and inadequate. We may ask ourselves, "do these recommendations advance the popular cause? Do they give more control to the legislatures over the power or finances of the executive Government? Do these recommendations confer more power upon the Ministers as regards their own departments or the services which administer them." And fourthly, the most important of all such tests, we may ask the question, do these recommendations in any way advance the cause of provincial autonomy by obliterating the artificial distinction between the Transferred and Reserved Departments? Do they bring about a greater approximation between these two departments, with the view that eventually this mischievous distinction may be absolutely obliterated. Take any of these three or four tests which an ordinary layman, not necessarily a politician, will apply towards the consideration of these recommendations, and I venture to say that these recommendations will be found hopelessly unsatisfactory. I shall avoid the use of strong expressions, because it is my purpose not only to appeal to the Swaraj party, but to all the non-official benches. I therefore recognise the responsibility of presenting my case in as moderate, persuasive and non-controversial a manner as I can command on this occasion. If I had to address a House consisting of the members of my party only, I would have perhaps proceeded to use much stronger expressions than I propose to do in the course of my speech. I know the limitations of my task, that I have to take with me non-official members who do not belong to my school of thought, but whose co-operation I desire to have in this debate. I shall therefore be restrained in my temper and language and make the theme as non-controversial as possible. What is it that the majority of the committee recommend? First of all, if we turn to the pages of the report, which some of us have had the chance of reading—I hope, Sir, you are counting time from five minutes past four.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member will not get more than 15 minutes.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: I will not trespass even by one minute upon your indulgence. There is no good case which cannot be presented within 15 minutes. I have a right and just case, and 15 minutes are in no way inadequate for its presentation.

As I was saying, we may take the pages of this report, and glance through them as I have had the chance of doing. Time after time, one feels, Sir, that the one solicitude which the majority of the committee had in view—if the opposite benches will permit me to say so without any unpleasantness—for the power, prestige and emoluments of the "steel frame,"

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

That is the first thing that strikes one throughout the report. They begin by stating what is axiomatic and what no responsible politician has ever denied so far as I am aware—*viz.*, the necessity of a contented Civil Service. Whoever denied that necessity? But the question depends on what “contentment” means, and what are the limits of such contentment. That the majority do not lay down. On what principles the contentment of the services is to be served, and their greed and ambitions regulated, or their position reconciled with advancing popular rights; we do not find any trace of a solution of these questions. I find further that the majority go on to make what is a highly partisan statement, that unjust criticisms have been levelled at the Civil Service, and, that it has suffered great annoyance. I will take the liberty of saying, Sir, that those members of the Civil Service who joined the majority forgot for the moment that they were serving there, not as advocates of the Civil Service, paid out of the public funds to protect the honour and prestige of the Civil Service, but were there in the committee, for the moment, as judges between the conflicting claims of the popular cause and the executive Government. But the enthusiasm of their advocacy for the Civil Service knows no bounds, and they have gone further and opined that much of this criticism is introduced out of a race bias, which is to be condemned. Sir, I feel that such language is out of place in a report claiming to proceed from an impartial commission charged with the solemn duty of holding the balance even between the Civil Service on the one hand and popular rights on the other? I may say, Sir, that I regard this as a flagrant instance of partisanship, and deserving of severe condemnation.

Now, coming to the transfer of subjects from the Reserved Departments to the Ministers, I say, the result is very disappointing. The House will vouch what expectations this Reforms Committee caused when it was appointed. Of course, men like me, belonging to the Swaraj party, knew what was coming on. We therefore refused to participate in the functions of this committee—either to become members of this committee, or to give it any assistance. Many of my friends, however, *e.g.*, my honourable friend from Nasik who will follow me in a few minutes, gave the committee every co-operation. Some of them worked on this committee, others went and gave evidence before it, in order to help the committee to arrive at a proper decision. But what do the majority of the committee find? What subjects do they propose to transfer? People expected that excepting “law and order”—that much abused duality that perplexes politicians—the other subjects would be recommended for transfer, at least in a province like Bombay. But what do they suggest should be transferred? First of all, they begin by an expression of opinion which, I will take the liberty of calling, pontifical. They say that any transfer of subjects is open to great difficulties, because the relative fields of taxation and legislation will have to be determined between the Central and the Provincial Governments. May I ask if the Devolution Rules and other rules of a similar nature have not already attempted this? Is it an impossible task, or even

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

beyond the scope of our ingenuity and wisdom? It will have to be done some day, and the sooner it is done, the better. Then they say that the Central Government will have to employ its own agents to administer and enforce its decrees, but are not the Government of India already doing it, *e.g.*, in the case of the income tax? All these heavy and sombre pontifical statements are merely for frightening people and creating difficulties. And I can warn my honourable friends that the majority report surrounds the transference of power with so many difficulties that unless the popular voice asserts itself and protests are sent up from place to place, my fear is that there will be no further transfer of any important subject for a long time to come. I am told that His Excellency the Viceroy has his view corresponding with the minority. I do hope it is true. I will go further and say that if the views maintained in the majority report prevail at Westminster, then there is no hope, for British connection in this country and it is only a question of time, how soon India will be lost to the British Empire.

Then, Sir, coming to the transfer—I do not wish to excite the humour of my honourable friends—but the position is nothing short of burlesque. What do they transfer? They again begin by another pontifical statement; that transfers should be made without disturbing the balance of the constitution and without affecting the basis upon which stable government depends. I thought, on reading this quintessence of sapience, that we were coming to something like transferring the police or an equally important matter, which would affect the liberties of the people. But what do they transfer after this wise preface? “Boilers and gas” (Laughter), “Fisheries” and “Forests”. My honourable friend opposite who is in charge of Forests will, I am sure, join me, in sympathy. “Fisheries,”—*i.e.*, catching fish. The ministers are worthy of nothing better, say the majority! “Housing of Labour”—is this to stir up trouble between capital and labour? “Land acquisition”, but again caution, “consult the local governments and then act”. “Provincial Law Reports”—what a revolutionary topic—but even there consult the High Court first. “Stationery and Stores”—what a magnificent responsibility. Even there, caution, for imported stationery and stores, “consult the Secretary of State before taking any incautious step.” And lastly, “Provincial Government Presses”, which my honourable friend (the General Member) manages at present,—examine the question before taking any incautious step. I have now exhausted the whole list of recommendations about transfer. That is all we get. More gas, more boilers, more fish catching, etc. India is fit for nothing better in the opinion of the majority. A whole mountain was in labour.... I will not proceed to quote the whole proverb.

But this is not all. The House will not omit to notice that there are some retrograde suggestions in the majority report. What do they say? “The presidents of the legislative bodies should be immune from High Court jurisdiction”. My attention inevitably turns to Bengal, and I will say that the committee were too much obsessed by the experience of Bengal. To talk in these days of curtailing the jurisdiction of

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

the High Courts in any direction is moonshine. The presidents may not be touched by the High Courts. And why not? I know, Sir, that so long as you are presiding over our deliberations, there is not much risk in this Council, but I cannot say whether your successor will be equally sagacious and wise. It is absurd to think of depriving the High Courts of their jurisdiction over the presidents of legislative bodies. Then, the Secretary of State's control is to be slackened, but not simultaneously with any increase of the legislature's control. I can quite understand that. But legislative control is in no way to be enlarged and yet the Secretary of State's control is to be slackened. In what? In "Indian subjects". I challenge any of my honourable friends opposite to define what are "Indian subjects". Everything is "Indian" which goes on in India. Can we conceive of non-Indian subjects in India? To remove ambiguity, we will want a definition clause, as the lawyers require an interpretation clause, as to what are Indian subjects. Then the Governor's control over Ministers is to be made strict and definite, and he is to be permitted to interfere with the decrees of my honourable friends opposite, the Ministers, if they choose to be obstructive or refractory, on the spacious plea of preventing "unfair discrimination between classes and interests" and protecting "minorities". What clever devices are these to usurp power and authority! What splendid phrase mongering! "Protection of minorities" indeed;—another name for "divide and misrule"! Further, if the reserved departments require interference with transferred departments the Governor can interfere. And lastly for the sake of "the interests of the members of the permanent services" the pet topic of the British Government in India. Everywhere it is the one absorbing hallucination, the permanent services. The majority go on further to state—and I want honourable members to note this—I will quote the exact words "we agree that the services should be protected in the exercise of their functions and in the enjoyment of their recognised rights and privileges." They began with the services and end with the services. It is the one refrain of the dismal song. I therefore, Sir, take the liberty of saying that this report, on which so much public money has been spent, so much public energy wasted, on which so many good men have served, is intended primarily to give greater power to the Civil Service. It does not at all lay the foundations of popular rule, even in this province. Having regard to the advanced nature of our presidency, I had expected better treatment, at least from our own Government. But it is surprising, Sir, that the Bombay Government themselves in a somewhat unfortunate moment opine that provincial autonomy is a "drastic" experiment. Mark the adjective, Sir. Are my honourable friends opposite not aware that as late as 1918, 1919, an amiable Governor of this province was prepared to recommend that immediate provincial autonomy should be given to this province? Have my honourable friends in the Government forgotten that? I must, however, take this opportunity of congratulating the Indian members of the Government on the courageous way in which they presented the case for provincial autonomy. May I hope that in the struggle for popular right, the same

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

attitude of courage and frankness will characterise their demeanour in future. But the other members of the Government in their wisdom say that our electorates are not ready. They say :

"The electorate has yet to learn the importance of returning representatives with a real sense of political responsibility for the welfare of the various peoples of this presidency."

They go on to add that until this lesson is learned by the electorates, the present arrangement should be continued. I ask my honourable friends who are responsible for this wise caution, how we are going to learn that lesson by continuing the present farce? Every one realises what this House is. As we have sat here from day to day, one thing has become more and more obvious, *viz.*, the absolute impossibility of making any important advance towards progress. I am sure that this has been realised by my honourable friends opposite as much as on this side. I am convinced that all our work here is pure waste of labour so far as actual progress is concerned, except perhaps that we gradually build up an "opposition" worthy of the name. Hence, I am surprised to see that some members of Government desire a continuance of this present arrangement, under which an official *bloc*, a communal *bloc*, an opposition *bloc* and an obstructive *bloc*, are all huddled up together, causing a babel of noises, but no progress. My official friends desire to continue the torture, until the electorate learn to send representatives with a real sense of political responsibility. But how will the electorate learn wisdom from this farce? I should have thought, Sir, that in the interests of good government every one wished that this arrangement should terminate as early as possible, and should not continue one minute longer than necessary. But the wise Government of Bombay desire that the present arrangement should continue, apparently because they hope that we would exhaust ourselves by our mutual jealousies, quarrels and recriminations, and thereby postpone the day of our real freedom. With these words, I ask my honourable friends to pass this motion.

Question proposed.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Sir, I rise to support the motion for adjournment, and fully associate myself with the sentiment of condemnation, which has been given expression to by the leader of Swaraj party, of the majority report of the Reforms Enquiry Committee. He rightly said that I was one of those who co-operated with the Reforms Enquiry Committee and tendered evidence before that committee. But when I tendered evidence I never expected that the labours of that committee would be as satisfactory as some of us had hoped. My hope entirely lay in the struggle which I hoped the minority, Sir Taj Bahadur Sapru and his colleagues, would make in vindication of our demand for further constitutional advance. Most of the honourable members must have closely watched the proceedings of the Reforms Enquiry Committee and the non-official evidence must have been read by all honourable members of this House. The non-official evidence that was tendered before that committee was almost unanimous in favour of a system of provincial government approximating to full provincial responsible government. If I were to express in terms of the greatest

[Mr. R. G. Pradhan]

common measure the evidence presented before the committee, I may say that that evidence strongly urged the transfer of all departments except law and order.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Why except ?

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN : When we turn to the recommendations of the committee we find that the majority report is not only strongly opposed to the establishment of full responsible government but also opposed to the transfer of such subjects as land revenue. With regard to land revenue, as honourable members must have noticed, it lays down the principle that it should not be transferred so long as law and order is not transferred. The Montagu-Chelmsford report recommended that land revenue should be transferred when the franchise is broadened and when the masses are sufficiently represented in the local legislatures. In other words, that report contemplated the possibility of land revenue being transferred before law and order was transferred. But this committee was not satisfied with the recommendations made in the Montagu-Chelmsford report and it goes further and says that land revenue should be transferred only when law and order can be transferred. Can anybody deny that it is a reactionary proposal ? This is one example of the various reactionary proposals which the majority report contains. I will not tire the patience of the House by referring to all the proposals but when I consider those recommendations I am reminded of the language used by the Honourable the Finance Member in this House a few days ago, and to repeat it. The majority of the Reforms Enquiry Committee "have seen not, have heard not, they have steeled their heart". I am almost tempted to say that they have drugged their conscience. Does Government seriously think, or if our voice reaches the British Parliament and the British democracy, do they seriously think that our political hunger can in any way be satisfied with the petty suggestions that the majority of the committee have made ? Our political hunger has grown and it cannot be satisfied till full responsible government is established. It is impossible that our agitation will cease, and our parties will co-operate with Government in carrying on the administration, until and unless in the near future full responsible government is established. In that way alone can our political aspiration be satisfied. But the majority of the Reforms Enquiry Committee have flouted public opinion and public sentiment and have contented themselves with making these petty recommendations. Let me assure Government that the committee are wrong in thinking that the political problem of India can be solved by such petty recommendations. The time has come when the problem must be courageously faced. Instead of making these petty recommendations, which are not worth the paper on which they are printed and which should be thrown into the waste paper basket, the problem of the political future of India should have been faced in a statesmanlike spirit, in such a way as to satisfy our political hunger for full responsible government. I do hope that the protest we are making here against the recommendations of the majority of the committee will receive the attention which it deserves. Let us all strengthen the

[Mr. R. G. Pradhan]

hands of the minority. They have clearly expressed the popular point of view from which this question should be approached. Let us strengthen their hands; and I sincerely hope that the British Parliament and the Secretary of State will accept the minority report and thereby, make the path of co-operation between the Government and the people smoother.

MOULVI RAFI UDDIN AHMAD (Central Division): Mr. President, I must congratulate the honourable leader of the Swaraj party for his very non-controversial speech and the indignant protest he has made with regard to the majority report. Sir, I carefully listened to him but I never heard a single sentence from his lips with regard to the minority report. Is he satisfied with the minority report.....

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: It is outside the terms of my motion.

MOULVI RAFI UDDIN AHMAD: It may be so, still one would like to know whether the honourable member or his party is or is not satisfied with the report of the minority to find out the nature of their demand. So far as I am concerned, I will say that mere tinkering of the machinery either by way of the majority or minority report will not do. I do say that self-government must come and is bound to come. I may mention in passing that it does not lie in the mouth of the party which wants to destroy all reforms, which considers it a proud day when the diarchy comes to an end, to pass remarks about the machinery of reforms and say that this majority report is unsatisfactory.

I rather sympathise with the speech of the honourable member Mr. Pradhan who, we all know, is ploughing his lonely furrow of liberalism in this Council. Sir, with regard to further growth of the constitution I say that we must all combine and face the great difficulties in the way. It must depend upon the members of this Council and all parties here to come forward to unite in order to prepare themselves for an advance. I must say there are many difficulties in the way. But if we all unite, I do not think it will take long for the Government of India to grant the concession we ask for. But mere tinkering of the machinery will not do. I do associate myself with my honourable friend on my right in congratulating the honourable Indian members of the Executive Council on the manner in which they have come forward to express their opinion. If we want to attain full autonomy, the great difficulty in our way is the absence of unity among Hindus and Mahomedans. We must take steps to bring about a pact between the Hindus and Mahomedans adjusting their differences; then is the time for asking for full autonomy. Therefore, while sympathising with the honourable member the leader of the Swaraj party and while sympathising with my honourable friend Mr. Pradhan, I do say that the mere tinkering of the machinery will alone not do.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North): Mr. President, after going through this document which was issued yesterday the impression that is created upon the mind of the reader is one of dissatisfaction. Sir, there are various grounds why one should be dissatisfied. Take for instance the Meston award. Every one in this House knows how serious the

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

wrong under which we are suffering is. On account of the great loss suffered by us in the income tax revenue we have been crippled in our resources. We cannot make further progress. We feel the need of revenue, and still the majority is, I may say, quite callous about the iniquities of that award. What do they say? They say:

"We consider also that it is probable that an adequate revision will have to await a considerable improvement in the finances of the central government and that therefore the settlement should be revised as soon as favourable opportunity occurs."

Sir, what are the implications of this statement? They admit that the settlement is not what it should be. But simply in order that the Government of India may not suffer, they say when suitable opportunity offers then only let an opportunity be taken. I say that if severe injustice is being suffered by many of the presidencies, is it not right that this Reforms Inquiry Committee should have come forward and stated that the first thing that the Government ought to do is to bring about an equitable settlement whereby even the central revenues as well as the provincial revenues will not suffer and the provincial governments will be entitled to carry on their programme of progress unhampered. In this respect I think the minority report is far more sympathetic and far more just. What does the minority say? They say:

"In any case we are firmly of the opinion that as early as possible an opportunity should be taken to put provincial finances on a sound footing without which we think the development of provinces must continue to be retarded."

Sir, in this you will find that the minority report is far more sensible and sympathetic than the majority report.

Then, turning to the transferred and reserved heads what do we find. We find that the progress made by this report is almost no progress. The suggested transfer of the heads will really add no more to the responsibility of the popular side of this House and it does not even meet the demand made by the representatives of this presidency who had gone there to give evidence. I must explain my own view. I was for a limited diarchy. I did not want, I was not satisfied with, diarchy as a transitional stage. I was quite aware that diarchy is not what we require. I was aware of the state of affairs and the feelings between the communities, and therefore with the reservation of law and justice and finances I was for transferring all other subjects from the reserved to the transferred head. But, Sir, though that was my position, even this very modest demand was not conceded. Our presidency is in a very unique position. We are very advanced, and in the Bombay Presidency the people I can see, are certainly quite capable of managing their affairs—of course the communal feeling will have to be taken into account—but barring that I can say even to-day that the people themselves are quite competent to manage their own affairs, and therefore if we can come to a certain understanding between all the communities, and if provisional autonomy is given to Bombay to-day no much harm will ensue. Therefore, the recommendation even on this point both by the majority and the minority is certainly very unsatisfactory and I hope that the Government of India will not pay any attention to it.

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

Then coming to the position of Ministers themselves, Sir, under section 52 the Ministers are mere advisers and the Governor is to take up their advice if there is no sufficient cause to depart from it. As to that I say that the Ministers should be given more power than they actually enjoy under the present wording of the section. Because if the Ministers are exposed to an adverse vote or say a vote of censure on the part of the non-official side then they are placed in a very false position. Because we know that the Governor has the option of overruling their suggestion, and therefore they are to be very cautious in making their recommendations and at the same time the non-official benches are always ready to find fault with the Ministers. This is a very anomalous position and it is but necessary that more power ought to be given to the Ministers.

Then lastly the terms of reference given to this committee were very narrow and were not wide enough to include any valuable suggestion. I have just stated that our presidency has several grievances, for instance, the Meston award and the ministerial responsibility and other points. Therefore it is but necessary that the Government of India should recommend that India should not be kept waiting till 1929, but that a royal commission should be issued with powers to re-examine these questions and suggest remedies. With these words I support the motion.

Mr. S. T. KAMBLI (Dharwar District): Sir, I rise to support the motion on behalf of the non-Brahmin party. Sir, the majority report of the Muddiman Reforms Inquiry Committee has failed to satisfy any school of political thought in this country. It was not a few alterations in the rules or changes in the procedure of the Government of India Act that was expected in this country from this committee.

The country has been expressing unequivocally its dissatisfaction with the existing provisions of the Government of India Act. When the reforms were first announced about five years ago, they were accepted by some and rejected by others. But, Sir, even those who accepted the reforms expressed their intention to the effect that the country should work out the reforms and should simultaneously agitate to obtain more reforms and in this spirit the reforms were worked out in India in the first three years. Then, the agitation for more reforms took a more defined shape, and that led to the appointment of the Muddiman Committee.

Sir, the majority has, by its report, deeply dissatisfied all the parties in India. The majority has not recommended or suggested any improvement in the position or the power of the Ministers. There is not to be any improvement in the present political condition of the country. They have not suggested any further transference of power to the people. There is no recommendation in the report for the abolition of the transferred and the reserved departments. Sir, the popular demand was for the grant of full provincial autonomy. The people demanded insistently that full responsible government should be established in this country. Instead of satisfying the aspirations of

[Mr. S. T. Kampli]

the people of India, the majority have made a farce of concessions in such paltry matters as fisheries, printing, etc. Instead of correcting the most inequitable Meston award, the majority has indulged in a pious desire that the provincial contributions should be gradually wiped out as financial circumstances would permit. Sir, this is a most unsatisfactory state of affairs. The pace of the political progress in this country is not in any way intended to be accelerated by the majority report. The political position of this country is not to be raised at all by the adoption of the views of the majority of this committee.

This Presidency is the most advanced of all the presidencies in India. It is politically the most advanced province, it is industrially the most advanced province, in the whole of India, and I shall not be wrong if I say that India came to be regarded as one of the eight industrial countries in the world on account of the industrial development which this province has built up. So every one at least in this Presidency expected that the Reforms Inquiry Committee would at least recommend the grant of full provincial autonomy for this Presidency. Sir, as the majority report has failed to satisfy the aspirations of Indians of any school of political thought in this country, I join wholeheartedly in the indignant protest made by the honourable member the leader of the Swaraj party against the majority report. Though I entirely differ from him with regard to his views as to the necessity of communal representation....

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: I never said a word about communal representation.

Mr. S. T. KAMBLI: Of course, he has not expressly said so, but....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member has got to accept the contradiction of the honourable leader of the Swaraj party.

Mr. S. T. KAMBLI: All right, Sir, I now understand and accept that he did not mean that the necessity of communal representation does not exist.

In conclusion, I have to say, Sir, that the reforms were intended only to serve a transitional period and I submit to this House that that transitional period is fast disappearing and has almost disappeared. I may say that it has already passed away. And so the reforms which were intended and meant to be in force only for the transitional period should now give place to further reforms and a further advance—a notable advance—must be made in the form of grant of provincial autonomy to provinces and in the form of grant of full responsible Government to the whole country.

With these words, I say again that I join in the indignant protest made by the honourable leader of the Swaraj party against the majority report of the Muddiman Reforms Inquiry Committee.

Mr. D. R. PATIL (East Khandesh District): Sir, the Reforms Inquiry Committee's majority report is a very sad document to read. The Committee has consumed nearly Rs. 44,000 out of the public funds and we expected a lot of reforms from that committee. But what did we get?

[Mr. D. R. Patil]

If we read the reforms suggested by that committee, we find nothing but disappointment. Sir, the whole attitude of the majority report seems to prolong the life of dyarchy. We know the working of this dyarchy. We know, in this House when we discuss votable and non-votable items, all the difficulties of this dyarchy. We are often told "you can't touch these items or those items because they were non-votable". So, unless we get the death of this dyarchy, I do not think we will be able to do much good to the people whom we have come here to represent. Sir, it is a matter of great gratification to me that the Indian Members of the Bombay Government were frank enough to opine that full autonomy should be immediately given to the provincial Governments—to the provinces. If we look to the various opinions given before the Reforms Inquiry Committee, we find that the majority or almost all Indians are in favour of provincial autonomy. However, I can quote one instance, of Sir B. C. Mahtab Bahadur of Burdwan. I was very much surprised to read his views about dyarchy. What does he say? He says "The realisation of full responsible Government must eventually be gradual in India and so no sane person can claim otherwise." I do not know whether he has got the monopoly of sanity. Mr. President, one of the grounds for not allowing more reforms is that there are communal differences. Sir, communal differences are bound to exist till the end of the world, I can assure the House, and if that was so, were the Government going to postpone the granting of the reforms till the end of the world. We shall settle our communal differences, but let us in the meantime be united in asking for more reforms which we urgently want. Now, Sir, I take the case of land revenue. That is a reserved subject. Agriculturists give a lot of income by way of land revenue to the Government. So, unless and until that subject is made a transferred subject and Government make it a point that a substantial portion of the land revenue is spent for the amelioration of the agriculturists, how can the lot of the agriculturists be improved? The whole difficulty arises on account of the nasty dyarchy.

Now, Sir, I like to quote the instance of one Governor in Council, of the United Provinces. He is a European gentleman. What does he say? He says "Dyarchy is a cumbrous, complex and confusing system having no logical basis". Here is a Governor of one province who says dyarchy is a very bad system, and besides we have got sad experience of dyarchy in this very House. So unless and until this dyarchy is ended, I do not think that we shall be able to do any real good to the people for whom we have come here.

Rao Sahab D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Mr. President, I find that the report of the Muddiman Committee is rather disappointing. We in Bombay had expected that complete provincial autonomy would be given to us, especially because, as the leader of the Swaraj party stated, the Governor of Bombay in 1919 recommended provincial autonomy for this presidency. Unfortunately, even in the year 1925 we are not considered fit to enjoy full provincial autonomy. But the Reforms Committee, while not recommending provincial autonomy, recommends

[Rao Saheb D. P. Desai]

some subjects for transfer for this presidency, and among them I find boilers and gas. These are the only two matters of any importance which we are considered fit to manage. It is a direct insult to this House that, after all, these two matters are to be transferred to this side of the House, and if those subjects were transferred, I personally would consider it a disgrace and not accept such a transfer at all. We require provincial autonomy, not merely to enjoy powers, but to adjust the administration of the country to the actual condition of the people, and for that purpose, if for nothing else, provincial autonomy is absolutely necessary. Again, dyarchy, as has been so well stated by other members, has proved quite a failure; and my experience for the last four years has taught me that it is a failure. If we consider the position of our Ministers, who are supposed to be responsible to this House, who on this side of the House will say that these Ministers are really responsible to this House? The Ministers are not responsible to this House, but they are, if I may use the term, a sort of decoy ducks, that is, ducks specially engaged to decoy members from this side of the House to the other side. Here, recommendation 20(b) proves that. The Secretary.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member does not seem to know the constitutional procedure in regard to Ministers and legislatures.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: So far as I can understand it, I take it in this light, that Government appoint from amongst our number some two or three as Ministers, in the hope that some members at least on this side will agree with the Government.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member does not seem to know the principles of constitutional government.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: Again, Sir, the point that I made that in all cases of difference with their Secretaries, the Ministers' Secretaries had direct access to the Governor has been referred to in the recommendations of the Committee, and that principle has been perpetuated in the Muddiman Committee's recommendation No. 20(b). It is at present in force, and it is going to be perpetuated. My honourable friend from East Khandesh (Mr. D. R. Patil) stated that at least land revenue should be a transferred subject. In this connection, I must say that if land revenue is transferred, then I should think that much of the agrarian troubles to which this presidency is subject will be removed. In short I should think the sooner all the subjects are transferred in the case of this Presidency the better.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI (Indian Merchants' Chamber): Sir, the hopes and expectations of people other than ourselves always end in disappointment. We will be able to find the causes of this when we begin to analyse the origin of the British in India. The origin lies in the greed and the self-interest of certain British classes in India. I am saying this from one of the reports that I read in the past papers of England,

[Mr. Lalji Naranji]

where it is said that India is acquired by the ambition and self-interest not of Great Britain, but of certain British citizens and British classes; and that the whole structure of law, economics, finance and racial association in India is a monument to the greed and arrogance of the dominant race. Sir, the British Empire comprises one-fourth of the human race and out of that one-fourth one half is India. System by which India is held and governed as part of the Empire has nothing in common with the system prevailing in the group of free self determined Dominions. At present, the main question in world politics has become the relation of the people of America and Europe with those of Asia and Africa. The future of the British Empire as a model of the world state and its foundation depends on their being able to find out solution of this problem and on the treatment that is given to India, and to the place assigned to her in the assembly of empire. Now, when I said that hopes and expectations from others always end in disappointment, I was referring to those other interests which cause Great Britain to predominate their British interests in India at the sacrifice of the interests of this country. In this connection I would only refer to the statements made by two big personages, whose financial interests in this country are very great. One of those personages has declared in very clear terms, in business language and not in the language political or diplomatic, that

“There were laudable aspirations on the part of the educated classes in India for a greater share in the government of the country, and though these might be met in course of time, he felt perfectly certain that nothing would ever be allowed to interfere with the supremacy of the British Raj in India.”

He concluded he had no fear as to the future of Britain's great dependency. Now, it is said on several occasions that India is treated as a partner in the Empire. Is there any intention of treating India as a partner, when the intentions are so clearly stated in the manner I have just mentioned? Another commercial magnate of Britain, in the House of Commons on March 3rd whose interests in India are very large, says in distinct commercial language: “We do not intend to get out of India, but intend to govern”. Now, Sir, with this definite policy, can you ever expect to get anything unless you help yourself? The only remedy, I believe, is that this country ought to help itself, and not depend on the reports of such committees, appointed by interests which are entirely and diametrically against us. With these words, I support the motion.

Mr. G. I. PATEL (Ahmedabad Millowners' Association): Sir, the report which is being discussed has to be viewed from two standpoints. The first is, what advantages we have derived under the present constitution, and secondly what further instalments are being offered to us in the majority report of the Reforms Committee. I think the honourable members of this House, from their experience so far gained have learnt that, under the present constitution, we have very limited powers, so far as the whole Government is concerned. The division of powers on the executive side and on the side of the Ministers is, on the very face of it, quite unsatisfactory. Secondly, the finances which are distributed

[Mr. G. I. Patel]

according to the present constitution are quite inadequate to enable the demands made by the nation to be met. Looking from the view-point of the distribution of powers and the distribution of subjects, we find that, under the present constitution, we are unable to do anything when any popular rights are concerned. Now, the offer that has been made to us by the majority report is that there will be some transfer of some subjects from the executive side to the Ministerial side, and one of the subjects mentioned is one with which I am connected, namely, "boilers". I am very proud to say that we are now going to be transferred from the executive to the Ministerial side! The subjects like smoke- nuisance and gas, and boilers are to be discussed with Ministers and not with Executive Councillors. This instalment is to be now advanced, but it does not make up more than a camouflage of further powers. What do we find now so far as the resolutions of this House are concerned? Those resolutions of this House which are satisfactory from the point of view of Government are acted upon, but those which are not considered so are merely filed. The majority of the departments are reserved and certain departments only are transferred. But the finances of the transferred departments are placed in such a position that if progress has to be made the Ministers have to come forward with proposals for new taxes, and if non-official members refuse to raise those taxes, the blame is laid on the Ministers and non-officials. Sir, this is a clever manœuvre to get new taxes imposed upon the people on the plea of doing good to the general public through the Ministers. While the majority report recommends the transfer of boilers and gas and certain other minor subjects, it also recommends more restrictions on the present powers of the Ministers. So *in toto*, we find that instead of having a recommendation for the transfer of more powers, there is on the contrary a recommendation for greater restriction on the present powers also. Our present powers are only five per cent. of the whole field of constitutional Government and instead of our present powers being increased from 5 to 6 or 7 per cent. they are going to be curtailed to rather 3 per cent. Sir, this is the unfortunate position in which we are placed, and therefore to discuss the matter further will mean greater disappointment. In these circumstances I support the motion which has been moved by my honourable friend.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South): Sir, I was really disappointed when the Honourable the Leader of the House announced that Government are decided not to participate in the debate. I do not know whether any amount of persuasion or provocation will change their minds, because we want to know whether they still adhere to what they state in the report which they submitted to the committee, or whether they keep an open mind to feel convinced by the arguments advanced by this side of the House. During the last debate on the adjournment motion I was watching the whole proceedings as an amused spectator and did not participate in the debate. It was very amusing to find the honourable members of this Government finding fault with many honourable members of the Bengal Government, and I found the

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

honourable members of the Madras Government blaming the members of this Government as great believers in the game of bluff. I find out that the Muddiman's muddle can be summed up in the well-known saying that it is a case of the pot calling the kettle black. To our mind the whole system is such that we cannot say that this Government or that Government is better, or this department or that department is at fault. As the honourable member for Poona has stated to us, it is not a case of tinkering with the machinery here and there. As he has already pointed out the Swaraj party did not touch the original reforms with a pair of tongs, and we will not touch even this report with a pair of tongs except with the object of destroying it by putting it in the fire. The very object of my standing here to-day and giving notice of this adjournment is not with a view to criticise either the majority report or the minority report, but to strongly protest against the statement made by this Government and submitted before the Reforms Committee which has been published for this country as well as for this honourable House. Although the authentic report of that statement is not before this honourable House, we find that statement published in the papers. The printed official report is not available in Bombay, but it is published in the papers.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member can only deal with what is published in the report itself.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: It is published in the report, and this is the statement to which I take serious objection:

"The electorate has yet to learn the importance of returning representatives with a real sense of political responsibility for the welfare of the various peoples of this presidency. It will be practically impossible to proceed with further instalments until this lesson has been learnt."

There are many objectionable passages in that statement, but I am only pointing out one. You, Sir, have been very keen in maintaining the prestige and dignity of the whole House and of the individual members of this House. Whenever an insinuation is made by an honourable member on any side against another honourable member, then you at once call him to order and make him withdraw it. But here, Sir, is a wholesale and outrageous insult not only to the whole electorate but to all the honourable members of this House. It is stated, Sir, that we are here without any political responsibility and we are here without any solicitude for the welfare of the people, and until we learn that lesson we are not fit for any further progress and advance. That is written in black and white by the Government of Bombay and submitted to the Reforms Enquiry Committee. And the object, as I say, of my standing here, is to enter a most emphatic protest against a statement of that nature and to say at once that the want of political responsibility is on the other side, not on this side, of the House. If the honourable members who drafted this report had one-tenth of the responsibility to this country as they have to their own country, I am sure all the clamour in this country and all the need for repressive legislation will disappear. To charge

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

honourable members on this side that we come without any political responsibility and without any regard for the welfare of the electorate or the people, is, I am sorry to say, a piece of arrogance which I do not think this part of the house will suffer without protest. Again, Sir, I may say that it is adding insult to injury. Our stand has all along been that if the rulers wish to state that they are the conquerors of the country and they want to rule over us, we have no objection to their saying so, but what we object to is their adding insult to that injury. Always, when we clamour for liberty, they put forward that we are not fit for Swaraj, because we have no political responsibility and we have no solicitude for the welfare of the people, and therefore the intervention of the foreign rule is necessary. That is what we object to. I do not think that anywhere else in the civilised world we have heard of instalments of political liberty for a nation. We have instalments of various other things; we have instalments of money decrees and we have instalments of liabilities. But whoever heard in the political emancipation of a nation of instalments of liberty? This is the first time we have heard that freedom is to be given in dribblets and instalments to one nation by another nation ruling 6,000 miles away. We are said to pass through a transitory stage. I say either we should be absolute slaves or we should be absolute free men. There is absolutely no middle course. This Reform Scheme, as it is put forward, is certainly the most clever political illusion that was ever invented by a statesman to put off giving liberty to the three hundred millions of this country. The real issue is side-tracked. The people are told that they are given more and more liberty, whereas in reality they are given nothing. This is but pure slavery and pure repression. I hope this House will stand as one man and say with me that to say that we have no sense of political responsibility is to make an irresponsible statement. I hope the House will protest against the charge laid that we have no concern for the welfare of the people. I do not wish to go into the details of the report, the majority report or the minority report. From the very beginning I have thought that this is not the way to gain political freedom. No amount of committees or commissions will give freedom to this country. It is quite natural. They have enjoyed for 150 years a position of power in this country, and we can understand that they will be most reluctant to part with that position. But let them say so. Do not let them throw the responsibility on this side of the House and say we are not fit.

With these words, I hope the House will take this opportunity of entering its emphatic protest against the statements of the Bombay Government.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind): Sir, I had not intended to take part in this debate, but at the same time I felt that I should not let go the occasion without expressing my opinion, which is, that this motion need not have been brought before this House. I do not oppose it because it does not lie in me to oppose it; but I do not sympathise with the expression of indignation against the majority of that committee for having come to that conclusion. The feeling of the people of this

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

presidency and members of this Council ought to be one of amusement rather than of indignation, because never did I believe, nor many of the members on this side of the House—even the most optimistic like the honourable member, Mr. Pradhan—that anything would come out of this committee for extending the rights and privileges of the non-official side of the representative assemblies. The very terms of reference were against any such enquiry. The very examination and cross-examination of the witnesses indicated the attitude of the majority of the committee in the matter. Further, Sir, this country, this presidency, was fully prepared to receive the report which is now issued and which makes no advance, months before it came out. No honourable member on this side of this House had even a shadow of doubt that the report of the committee would be otherwise. We knew what would be the result. Therefore it is useless to express our indignation at a thing which we already expected. Though unwillingly I join the honourable member, I differ from him in that that he wants to express our feeling of indignation. Indignation is not the proper term. We must pity ourselves for the expectation and not worry ourselves for having got nothing until 1929. This report will naturally not appeal to any self-respecting Indian who loves his motherland. As the nature of the report was forestalled by every one, I do not think this Council should have gone to the extent of expressing indignation. It is not necessary that we should have taken this measure to express our feeling to higher authorities. This opinion of ours has been expressed not only in the public press, not only by the witnesses that appeared before this committee, not only by the members of the Swaraj party in and outside the Council in their utterances, but by the members of that committee itself, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru and his colleagues who made no secret of their opinions as members of that committee. Under these circumstances, while I reluctantly join my honourable friend, in supporting the motion I must express the view that this need not have been brought before this House on the sole ground of our self-respect to express our feeling of indignation which should on the contrary be one of amusement.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University): Sir, I have not much to say in reply except to thank the several honourable members of this House who have so well supported, with their convincing speeches, my motion for adjournment. While thanking them I must not, speaking for myself, omit to thank also the Government for the delicacy, which I fully appreciate, under which they have refrained from taking any hostile part in the debate on this motion. We have our quarrels with the Government; but, speaking for myself, I must say that so long as I have the lead of my party, it will not be found failing in courtesy on occasions when it is deserved. Let me convey to the Government my personal appreciation of their delicacy on this occasion.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I am obliged to the honourable member.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : With regard to one or two remarks which my honourable friend Mr. Rafiudin Ahmad made that we Swarajists had come to the Council to destroy diarchy, and that being our express object here, we ought not to waste our time in expressing our resentment with the report, I ask my honourable friend whether he too has not come here to end diarchy. I ask any honourable member whether he desires to prolong this experiment, under which we are habitually and perennially divided one against another. Who has not come here to destroy this system of strife and discord ? All have come here to end this miserable and farcical experiment under which our sympathies are divided, our interests are divided, our purse is divided ; in fact everything is divided. What has been the history of this House during the last year ? Every one who takes a dispassionate view of our position in this House—and I have had opportunities of discussing this matter with many members, even on the other side of the House, whose names I am not going to mention now—is of opinion that this experiment should be ended as soon as possible.

My honourable friend the Deputy President, who has for once differed from me, says that we should not express indignation but should feel amused over this miserable report. My answer is : Are we to be amused at a cost of Rs. 44,000, which amount, according to my honourable friend from Khandesh, represents the costs of this committee ? I am not sure whether his figure is correct, if so, I for one refuse to be amused at a cost of Rs. 44,000. I ask whether there is any member here who desires to be amused at such a cost ! I think that the feeling of every rational man should be one of resentment, because so much money, time and energy have been mis-spent. Did the country waste all this labour in order to get more boilers and gas ? Is there not already enough "gas" on this side of the House ?

There is one very important sentiment which was given expression to by my honourable friend for Khandesh (Mr. Patil). That is the true key note to a solution of all communal difficulties and I am very glad that he made that statement with all the courage he possesses. My honourable friend said that communal quarrels cannot end, that we have our communal quarrels, which will continue to the end of the world, and he went on further to say—a very true statement—but when we have power and responsibility, we shall settle these quarrels *inter se*, by sitting round a table and adjusting our differences. I give my entire allegiance to that sentiment. When we have power we shall settle these quarrels amongst ourselves—Brahmins and non-Brahmins, Moslems and Hindus,—but for wresting power from the hands of a powerful executive—I will not use the much abused word bureaucracy—a powerful executive, whose functions and privileges, and emoluments also, are safeguarded by this report ; I say that as against this strong executive, this side of the House ought not to know of any division at all. Ours is a united fight for power and control and when the power comes and has to be distributed, as I have no doubt it will be in course of time, we will sit down and settle all our quarrels and proportions of privileges. Such a time has not yet come. So in our struggle to get for the people more privileges, we

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

recognize in this House only one party, against the executive. A party on this side of the House and another party opposite, which is trying to keep as much power to themselves as possible. We have no third party in this House, and therefore I say, Sir, that I am extremely grateful to the honourable members who have supported my motion. My object in bringing forward this motion was to give an opportunity to the House which they never had up to now. The honourable member the Deputy President says what is the good of this motion. Mr. Jinnah's opinions were known, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru's opinions were known, everybody's opinions were known; but may I say, with all the respect to his views, the opinions of this House were not known. This House had never a chance of expressing any opinion upon the doings of this committee, and as some of us this morning read the proceedings of this committee, we found that many of the statements were blood curdling. They sent up the heat of my blood by a few degrees. Some of the evidence that was given before the committee was so provoking that I was longing to have this chance when we, the non-official members of this House, could frankly tell Government what we felt about this miserable affair. Sir, may I take this opportunity of pointing out to the Bombay Government that they are hopelessly out of date in their views and opinions. At this date, they are even opposed to the appointment of a Royal Commission. The country has been divided. Some people like me say a round table conference is the only thing necessary. Various men like those who served on the committee say: "no, a Royal Commission will suffice"; but our Bombay Government, which takes the credit to itself of being the Government of the most advanced province in this country, is even opposed to a Royal Commission. They say even the stage has not yet been reached for a Royal Commission! While some of us are basking in noon-day sunshine, the Bombay Government blink their eyes and refuse to believe that even the dawn has come. And therefore I wanted this House to have an opportunity of telling the Bombay Government that they are lagging hopelessly behind popular sentiment in this matter. I do not wish to express myself more strongly, because I do not think strong expressions are needed where the cause is just. But I take this opportunity of telling the Bombay Government that we were extremely disappointed at their views. To say that the time has not yet come even for a Royal Proclamation is a bit like Rip Van Winkle! I must therefore warn the Government that if they wish to retain the respect to which they think they are entitled of the ordinary man in the street, they must advance a great deal more rapidly than they have shown an inclination of doing. I think that the object of my motion will be served if we convey, by means of this motion, to the Government of Bombay and through them to the Government of India, the united opinion of this House that they must progress more rapidly than they think of doing if India is not to be lost to the Empire.

Question put and carried.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: Sir, I may convey to you a request made by great many honourable members for meeting from the day after

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

to-morrow at 1 o'clock till the budget demands are over. That will save us three hours that we have lost.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I should like to know what are the wishes of the House in regard to the suggestion made by the honourable member the Deputy President.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I am sorry, Sir, we cannot agree to that. We have other very important duties which have been massing up during the long meetings here and it is very difficult to get through our work. I hope you will, Sir, maintain the rule of 2 o'clock.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I need not remind honourable members of the precedent of last year when an adjournment motion was moved. The House desired that we should meet a little earlier in the early part of the consideration of demands for grants, and after much consultation the consensus of opinion was in favour of meeting at 1-30 instead of at 2 o'clock and this was done. In these matters the discretion rests with me, but I do not wish to exercise it unless there is a consensus of opinion in favour of a change. I should therefore like to know what the views of honourable members are as regards the time of meeting. I am perfectly agreeable to meet at 1 or even earlier, if the House asks me to call the meeting at such time, but as I have repeatedly said I will not change the hour of meeting if there is even a fair minority against such change.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I think, Sir, it is very undesirable that we should alter the hours of our meetings. We have already made our arrangements, we have many meetings in the morning up to 1-30 and even up to a quarter to two. I have to meet many people and all the secretaries are fully employed, besides the long council meetings to be attended here. I therefore submit, Sir, in the interests of the public, we ought not to meet earlier than 2 o'clock.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : Will my request to meet at 1-30 meet the wishes of the Government? I do not think the Honourable the Leader of the House will object to that.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I don't think I can accept that, either. It is really a serious matter in the public interests that work should be further stopped even for that half hour.

Mr. V. A. GRANTHAM : I do not think, Sir, we can meet earlier than 2 o'clock especially after a holiday.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I have already said that in these matters I will not be and cannot be bound by the views of the majority, because once the timings are fixed, consensus of opinion alone will make me change. I will ask all those honourable members who wish to meet earlier than 2 o'clock to please rise in their seats. (34 members rose.) I will now ask those honourable members who wish to meet at 2 o'clock, to please rise in their seats. (31 members rose.) I am afraid, in these circumstances, the House must meet at 2 o'clock on Thursday.

The Council is now adjourned to 2 o'clock on Thursday the 12th March 1925.

12 MAR. 1925]

Thursday, the 12th March 1925.

The Council re-assembled at the Town Hall, Bombay, at 2 p.m. on Thursday, the 12th March 1925, the Honourable the President, Sir IBRAHIM RAHIMTOOLA, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN.
ATHAVLE, Mr. S. N.
BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
BEDREKAR, Khan Bahadur I. M.
BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
BHURGRI, Mr. J. M.
BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
BIJARANI, Khan Saheb SHE : MAHOMED KHAN
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
CLAYTON, Mr. F.
COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
GHOSAL, Mr. J.
GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH
GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
HUDSON, Mr. L. S.
JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
JATOI, Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
JOG, Mr. V. N.
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
KALBHOR, Mr. G. M.
KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.

KARKI, Mr. M. D.
 KAY, Mr. J. A.
 KAZI INATTULLAKHAN
 KOKANI, Mr. G. J.
 KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
 LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
 LALJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.
 LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 LINFORD Mr. J. W.
 MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUERO, Mr.
 MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
 MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
 NANAL, Mr. B. R.
 NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
 NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
 NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
 OWEN, Mr. A. C.
 PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
 PATEL, Mr. A. E.
 PATEL, Mr. D. N.
 PATEL, Mr. G. I.
 PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED KHAN
 PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 PIR RASULBAKSH SHAH
 POWAR, Mr. M. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 PRATT, Mr. F. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSENALLY M.
 SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
 SAPTARSHI, Mr. C. M.
 SARDESAI, Mr. S. A.
 SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH
 SAYED MUHAMMAD KAMIL SHAH
 SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
 SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO, Mr.
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
 SURVE, Mr. A. N.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.

SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
 THAKOR OF KERWADA the
 THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
 TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
 VELKAR, Dr. M. B.
 WILES, Mr. G.
 WOODS, Mr. E. E.

(Discussion on demands for grants resumed.)

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Demands for Grants.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Mr. President, I rise to move for a grant of Rs. 4,09,000. It stands as item No. 25 in the Schedule of Demands, Civil Works—Reserved.

Question put and demand granted.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Sir, I move for a demand of Rs. 13,000 under 37, Miscellaneous Departments (Transferred).

Question put and demand granted.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Mr. President, I ask for a demand of Rs. 4,39,000 for Miscellaneous Departments—Reserved, No. 23 on the list.

Question put and demand granted.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Mr. President, I move that a grant of Rs. 99,000 be made for the Industries Department. I have to make a short statement.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: As the Honourable Minister likes; I have no objection.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Sir, last year the Director of Industries had to be taken out, and, as there was no Director, the various activities of the department were distributed among some other departments. But Government have now come to the decision that the Industries Department ought to be reconstituted, and also, at the same time, developed, and therefore Government is making a demand of Rs. 99,000 for this department. The activities of the department at present are the various weaving schools and demonstrations and the potteries section in the School of Art and some other activities. As I informed the Council on a previous occasion, Government want to introduce legislation for giving monetary help to small industries, and, I may submit to the Council later on a scheme for the development of fisheries. There was a Fisheries Development Department formerly but that department was carried on with the idea that Western methods might succeed in Eastern waters. That experiment was not a success. Now, we want to experiment again, but with our own methods. The Presidency of Madras has succeeded in improving their fisheries with the advice of Sir Frederick Nicholson, they started a Fisheries Department, and in that way encouraged fish manure, fish guano and fish oil industries and all these industries have been developed to some extent.

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

The conditions in the Bombay Presidency, especially on the western coast are nearly the same as those on the coast of Malabar, and it is expected that if those methods are taught to our fishermen, then some good might come out of it. I do not propose that we should go into a very large expenditure for a start, but expenditure of a few thousands will, I think, in the beginning give a very good start. I need not take the time of the Council in a long description of what is intended to be done. Every new scheme that is intended to be undertaken will first be submitted to this House, and when it is approved, Government will go in for it. I therefore make a total demand of Rs. 99,000 for the Industries Department.

Question proposed.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Mr. President, I move :

"That the whole demand of Rs. 99,000 for the Industries Department be omitted."

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: That cannot be allowed; it is a negative motion. After all the items have been disposed of, the Honourable Minister will move for the total demand, and then the honourable member can oppose it.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South): Mr. President, I beg to move :

"That the total demand of Rs. 99,000 for the Industries Department be reduced to Rs. 98,000."

If we peruse last year's budget discussions on the subject, we find that there was

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Before the honourable member proceeds, I should like to know what the intentions of the honourable member Mr. Dev are. He has given notice of a reduction of the demand by Re. 1, which really amounts to a vote of censure.

Mr. S. S. DEV: I had no idea of bringing a vote of censure.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member wants to reduce the demand by Re. 1. What is his object? The motion to reduce the demand by Rs. 1,000 is practically on the same basis as the reduction of Re. 1. I cannot allow two discussions on the same item. If, after the honourable member (Mr. Nariman) moves his motion and the House discusses all the merits of the department on that motion, the honourable member Mr. Dev still desires to press for his motion, it will have merely to be put to vote. There cannot be two discussions.

Mr. S. S. DEV: I won't move my motion, Sir.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: Sir, I move for a reduction of Rs. 1,000 from the total demand, and I may frankly state at once that my intention in moving this motion is not to bring exactly a vote of censure on the Honourable Minister in connection with the department, but in order to bring to light several irregularities and in a way to protest against them, and the manner in which this department has been worked. I may say that there are some honourable members on this side who believe that the department is worked so hopelessly that it is not possible to improve it at

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

all. I believe that was the idea of my honourable friend Mr. Dev when he moved for the total rejection of it. I do not want to go to that extent, particularly this year. Because, we find, Sir, that although, year after year, this department has been the one department in the transferred side which is criticised by the non-official members, if you look at the criticism of previous years you will find that they have all been directed not at the department itself, the industries department, which in the ordinary circumstances would be a useful department, a department which ought to receive the support of this House, but at the method and manner in which this department has been worked all through. First and foremost the complaint of this side of the House has been particularly against the personnel of the establishment of the department. The criticism last year was against the idea of having a highly paid European at the head of a department of Indian industries. It was considered that it was ridiculous to have a high salaried foreigner, no matter who he was, at the head of a department which should particularly be in the hands of an Indian, because we feel, however sympathising a European officer is, he cannot see eye to eye with an Indian. So far as this department is concerned, it is just the department which should be entirely in the hands of Indians. In order to make it popular among the public of this presidency, this department should be worked by a sort of non-official agency helped and financed by Government. That would be the proper way. Because, very often we find that occasions arise wherein the head of this department, if he is a European, has to work against the commercial interests of his own country, in order to promote the industrial interests of India. Very often occasions arise, when the director of industries, if he is a European, has to work, in the discharge of his duty, against the commercial interests of his own country. Very often, I have known instances in the working of this department for the last two years, wherein the encouragement of a certain scheme by this department would have meant a death-blow to certain British industries which have been developed. Therefore we cannot expect a European at the head of this department to work wholeheartedly, to work it in such manner as will satisfy the non-official benches. It was for that reason that we feel that it should be in the hands of an Indian. So far as that demand is concerned, the Honourable Minister has literally and partially conceded it. The European director has been removed and the department has been placed formally in the hands of an Indian gentleman. But in the beginning I understood him to say that he wanted to revive the department and bring it back to its original state. I hope they will not revive the post of director, or, if they do so, they will not put a European at the head of that department. What I wish to impress on the House is, it is but natural that when interests are likely to clash between the European community and the Indian community, the Indian is likely to work more satisfactorily from the non-official point of view, than the European. (An honourable member from the Government benches: No : no.)

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

But apart from that, Sir, the very manner in which the department is worked is very unsatisfactory. I should say the real director of industries for the whole of this presidency and for the whole of India even, is Mahatma Gandhi. If they want to follow him so far as the economic and industrial point of view is concerned,—leave aside his politics—and they work the department through an Indian, so far as the popular side is concerned they will support Government. So far as that is concerned, I should urge, apart from the humour of it, that they should seriously consider, apart from the politics of the question, first and foremost the development of cottage industries looking at the economic side of it. Mahatma Gandhi has placed before the country his facts and figures, and if Government really wish to benefit the country and attract the sympathy of this side of the House, they should begin from the bottom and encourage cottage industries. Where is that encouragement in this department? The encouragement given to cottage industries is almost insignificant and not worth mentioning, although that is the first industry that should be developed. It would relieve the economic pressure on the starving masses of this country. The first thing to begin is the development of cottage industries if the intention of Government is *bona fide*. But where is that? Instead of that, they begin first with other commercial enterprises in which other local firms have already started, and in which further Government enterprise would mean a sort of commercial rivalry, and an unfair kind of rivalry it will be when a mighty Government with all its powers and wealth start an industry in which other local private firms have made a start. It will be more or less starting a rival firm against another firm, I am referring to the Tar and potteries industries which have been developed to a certain extent in this country, and which will undoubtedly be successful ultimately. If Government enter into rivalry with them now, it will mean not encouragement but discouragement to private enterprise.

Another point which I wish to urge is this : that so far as the European head was concerned, the director has been made into a superintendent. It is only a change in name. The post is retained and the duties are retained, and the responsibilities are retained. Only the salary is lessened and the staff will be much less. The name is changed into superintendent of industries. Now, Sir, next to the superintendent we find an "assistant to the director". The director is done away with, but why is the assistant to the director retained? The head of the department is called the superintendent of industries. What is the use of a mere change in the name? The whole work, responsibilities and duties of the director are retained. Simply because a pledge was given to this honourable House that the post of director will be done away with, literally that promise has been kept. But I say, Sir, that that promise has not been kept in the spirit. They have only changed the name from director to superintendent. That makes no difference. The criticism was directed not against the name of the head; the criticism was directed against the method and manner in which the industries department was worked. But so far as that is concerned that has continued to remain in the same

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

old position. Therefore that criticism has been wasted. Therefore, I hope, Sir, that on this debate the criticism won't concentrate on the name of the head of the department, whether he should be called superintendent or director, or whether the salary should be Rs. 2,500 or Rs. 950, but on the whole method and manner of the working of this department. I hope it will be demanded that the method and manner of working of this department should be changed, and that real encouragement should be given to cottage industries.

I shall point out, Sir, an instance which goes to show that this department has been working with the object of encouraging foreign industries than with the object of encouraging indigenous industries. We know that not very far from our city at Ambernath some foreigners have started a match factory. Now, according to the Industrial Commission it was laid down that whenever an industry is started in this presidency at least three-fourths of the capital should be subscribed locally either in the city or in the province. I do not remember the exact proportion; it was three-fourths or some substantial portion. Now, I understand that this factory has been started to compete with an indigenous industry, and its capital has been subscribed in Britain and the whole factory is worked entirely by foreigners. This factory is competing against all the indigenous match factories which Indians are trying to establish. In a place like this it is the duty of the Government in the Industries Department to come to the rescue of the indigenous industry and not to allow foreign industry to encroach upon the indigenous industries of this nature. But we see nothing of that sort. What we really see is the encouragement of foreign industry at the cost of the local Government. In this case I should like to know from the Honourable Minister in charge of this department why the recommendations of the Industrial Commission have not been given effect to with regard to this industry?

Another point I wish to bring to the notice of this House is this. I shall give an instance where an indigenous industry is not allowed to prosper when it is anticipated that it will kill some foreign industry. I was told that sometime back Mr. Mackenzie Wallace introduced a system of biscuit making in this presidency out of some indigenous material grown in this presidency. I was told that material was sent to England and it was found that a biscuit industry with that material would be successful. If it had been introduced it would not have been necessary to import foreign biscuits at heavy prices and it would have given a new phase to the economic feature of this country. But no encouragement was given to that new venture in spite of the fact that it was recommended by an eminent European. Instances like these go to show that this department is opposed to the formation of any indigenous industry. Till the Industries Department shows some tangible progress of its work year after year it is impossible to expect any support to that department from this side of the House. I hope the criticism on this debate will be centered on the manner and method of this department so that it will impress on the department the necessity of improving the economic condition of this country.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh) : Sir, I support this motion on three grounds. In the first place, the sum provided is ridiculously too small to meet the requirements of the presidency. A presidency, with a revenue of 16 crores, to spend a paltry sum of Rs. 99,000 on industries looks ridiculous. It was this time last year my honourable friend Moulvi Rafiuddin described this department as a mere mockery, and advocated that it be abolished. Secondly, even this small sum of Rs. 99,000 is not spent on any useful purposes. This money is mainly spent on two purposes. I shall take the first item of expenditure.

We have got one superintendent drawing a salary of Rs. 1,145 a month to supervise only four weaving schools and seven demonstrations and nothing more. The whole budget of this department in the Blue Book covers a span and is confined to two pages only—224 and 225 of this White Book. For the potteries department we have a separate superintendent. You will find him on page 159 of the White Book. So, the only duty of the superintendent of the weaving department is to supervise four weaving schools and seven demonstrations ! You all probably know what these demonstrations are like. Each demonstrator carries two handlooms with him from place to place. On one handloom he works and on the other he employs a weaver to work. This is what is called a demonstration. For supervising four weaving schools and seven demonstrations, the superintendent is paid Rs. 1,145. Is not this a sheer waste of money, I ask ? This waste becomes more clear when we come to the potteries department. It is really very wonderful that our Industries Department should spend any sum over pottery demonstration. If you go over pages 159 and 224-25 of the White Book, you will find that Government propose to spend Rs. 37,151 on potteries. It is a mere waste. Government must know that Talegaon Paisa Fund Factory has made pottery a success. Pottery then has passed the stage of mere demonstration. I do not therefore see the necessity of spending any sum over pottery demonstration. To spend Rs. 36,000 year after year is a mere waste. It is now for the Honourable Minister to see whether this waste at least can be stopped. Next for fisheries they propose to spend Rs. 1,500 and for rounding Rs. 500 are added as if Rs. 1,500 is not a round figure. We can in this way round the department by adding Rs. 1,000 more and instead of 99,000 have a full lakh to waste on so-called industries. What a grand sum for our presidency to spend on industries ? Honourable members on Government benches have been quoting figures from foreign countries. Will any of them tell us whether England and America, France and Germany spend so much as 99,000 on industries, as we do ! Those countries may well anticipate that we would soon beat them in industries with our big expenditure of Rs. 99,000 a year !

Lastly, Sir, it is absolutely hopeless that we shall make any progress in industries under this Government. So long as this department is not run entirely in conformity with the wishes of the people, and so long as the Minister is not free to formulate his own schemes and carry them out, it is hopeless to expect any real progress in this department. In the

[Mr. S. S. Dev]

last October session of this Council, the Secretary, Mr. Thomas, announced to the House :

“ I may also inform the House what the Honourable Minister was perhaps too modest to say himself, that he has recently asked for a scheme to be prepared for the revival of the department under an Indian Director. ” (Vol. XIII, page 569, dated 20th October 1924.)

The Minister undertakes here, I may bring this to the notice of the honourable member who preceded me, to have an Indian director. I want the Minister to formulate a grand scheme on the lines suggested by that famous committee of Sir M. Visweshwaraiah. I do not hope to have any substantial scheme of industrial education. We shall not have industrial education because Government consider that it would be a curse to turn out men who cannot obtain employment. We shall have no trained men because we have no industries to employ them and we shall have no industries because we have no trained men. And I assure you, Sir, we shall have neither because we have this benign Government to save our country from the curse of industrial education. We must congratulate the Government upon saving the country from this curse. Let England be cursed, who with her population of 4 crores gives vocational education to 8 lakhs of students every year. According to that proportion, this presidency with its population of two crores should give similar education to at least 14 lakhs of students. But we hardly give such education to 2,000 students ! And mark, we have made all this progress in hundred years of British rule. That means that our progress industrially in a century is 200th part of that of England. By rule of three, you can see, Sir, that it will take at least 20 thousand years for us to come up to the standard of England in regard to industrial education ! Long live the British Empire ! But then you may ask, have not Government been doing anything for us ? Yes, they have been doing much. During the last forty years, every third or fourth year, we had either a commission or a committee or a survey or an officer appointed to tour and investigate. Their investigation is not complete and may not be complete till the Doomsday ! I request the Honourable Minister not to waste any more time over these shams, but straight off formulate a scheme on the lines suggested by the Minority Report of the last committee and at once put it into practice. I can assure him that if he makes such a serious effort, the whole non-official side of the House will stand by him and he will surely earn the blessings of the generations to come.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Sir, from 7 lakhs that were allotted we have come to Rs. 99,000 for the ensuing year. That is a very sad climb down. I do not know, Sir, where the other six lakhs have gone. I thought that the whole amount of six lakhs would be spent in developing the industries for which this Council had been asking the then Minister to spend. But unfortunately, Sir, all these six lakhs of rupees have been diverted somewhere, I do not know where.

[Rao Saheb D. P. Desai]

The honourable mover has touched the question of small industries, that is, cottage industries. Now it is perhaps a shame to this Government and disgrace that they have not even made a rough survey of these cottage industries and other small industries. I must admit that there appeared a small item (but subsequently deleted) in the list placed before the finance committee for the survey of small industries, but unfortunately it was proposed to be placed in such hands that the members of that committee would not like to insist upon it and thus entrust this survey to the particular gentleman concerned. I think that a man who is really an adept in the question of industries and crafts should be entrusted with the regular survey of all our cottage industries and if that is done there is no harm in spending 7 lakhs of rupees. (An Honourable Member: What is the name of the gentleman?) Mr. Hoggarth was proposed to be put there, an officer who does not possess any knowledge of survey but only possesses a certificate entitling him to teach a third class drawing school.

Now as regards the sum of Rs. 36,000 to which reference was made by the honourable member from Khandesh, I visited these pottery works and I found that there are only five students undergoing training; we are spending Rs. 36,000 a year over this department, and this is too much. If the Honourable Minister wants to prepare some men for the purpose of training let him give scholarships to some students and let them be sent to learn these things in the private concerns which have come into existence as stated by one of the honourable members who preceded me. I would request, Sir, that this Rs. 36,000 may be diverted towards some really useful industrial work, and that could be done only after proper survey of the industries by a competent expert and not by every day experts that you find in Government employ. The previous Council cut down good many items out of the 7 lakhs; but at that time our attention was directed to the item for fisheries, potteries, etc., and we then did not think that that was a proper method of working the industries department and we wanted therefore the progress of Government in that direction to be checked, and so the former Council put a check on this sort of thing. We do not want this fishery undertaking because our fishermen are all right so far as they go, but there are other industries for which some expenditure should be made.

As regards the School of Art, so far as the craft work which is taught there is concerned it requires to be further developed because it is the best of small industries and the amount that can be saved from the potteries may be diverted towards enlarging the scope of the crafts and artisan classes in the School of Art.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Sir, I am very much obliged to the honourable members who have given their advice to me on these questions and their constructive criticism will help me much. But I think I ought to explain what the real circumstances are.

This time last year, Sir, the European director's salary was not voted and Government undertook to employ him to do other work and they have literally and in spirit kept their promise, and the European director is not charged to the industries department. There was an assistant

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

of his, Mr. Bharucha, a very capable man and a good mechanical engineer and a man who has taken part in advising on industrial works in this presidency. He was a professor in the College of Engineering, and has been doing very good work since he was taken over to this department and I can say with confidence that he has been assisting industrial concerns in his official capacity ever since he was taken up. I think the honourable member from Satara will bear me out, because I am told that he has derived great benefit from the advice of Mr. Bharucha. Mr. Bharucha is not as a matter of fact engaged in simply supervising the work of the four weaving establishments and the six demonstrators as was stated here. I am sorry that the White Book does not give the exact catalogue of the work that Mr. Bharucha does; and the meagre establishment that is placed under him at present gives one the idea that he is supervising the work of these and nothing else. But as a matter of fact he has to carry on another branch of the department which is answering inquiries. I do not find fault with the criticism but I want to supply more information and to show that Mr. Bharucha is not engaged on demonstration and supervising the work of the demonstrations only; but that he has to give replies to a large number of questions asked by various industries, and he has to give them advice wherever it is sought, from Karachi in Sind to Satara and Belgaum in the south. Mr. Bharucha has to visit industrial concerns to give them advice and the value of his work is amply testified by numerous letters from the proprietors of these industrial concerns expressing gratitude to Government for sparing the services of Mr. Bharucha and the valuable advice he was able to give them. So, as a matter of fact the director of industries has not to supervise the work of the few demonstrators that are placed under him but that he has to give advice to many industrial concerns in this presidency. I may assure the House that the title 'Superintendent' is not exactly what it ought to be, and I think the department should have a Director and he will be henceforth—he has been as a matter of fact—styled accordingly.

I may offer a few remarks and point out a few facts about the Ambernath match factory. This department has from the first at heart the advancement of the match-making industry in this presidency. There are about three or four factories in this presidency and I think these factories are doing well. There is a factory at Ahmedabad; there is another factory at Karad; there is one at Belgaum, and so forth. They met latterly with a very severe competition from foreign articles, and when the Government of India imposed a high duty on foreign matches, the foreigners managed to evade that duty by importing splint and other match box materials, which coming under raw materials, were allowed free of duty or at a very low customs duty. The Department of Industries, Bombay, raised a protest, brought the fact to the notice of the Government of India, and the Government of India was induced to charge a heavy duty on splints and veneers for box-making. When the foreigners found that their splints and other articles were equally taxed, they have now taken to the method of importing the logs and are making their splints here, and that is the origin of the Ambernath match factory

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

The department of industries has also raised a protest against this and brought the facts to the notice of the Government of India, and I think it depends upon the Government of India to help the indigenous industries by their customs regulations. But at the same time, it must be borne in mind that this factory at Ambernath imports only logs from outside and turns out splints and everything else in this country. Our indigenous match factories, that is, those at Ahmedabad and other places use indigenous wood and this factory at Ambernath uses logs brought in from Europe. This factory is worked by foreign capital, but I do not think the powers of the Industries Department are such as to prevent foreign capital from coming into India. It is an Imperial question and it will rest with the Government of India as to what measures to take.

An Honourable MEMBER: Is it British capital?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I do not know; perhaps it is British.

An Honourable MEMBER: No; I think it is Swedish.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Whether it is Swedish or British, it is just the same; it is foreign capital.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: Is it?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Yes; I think so.

As to the meagre amount spent on industrial education, I have to plead also the same excuse, that is, the actual amount spent on industrial education is shown under different heads and not under this demand. As a matter of fact, the School of Art or Reay Workshops spend a large amount of money in industrial education, but that is shown under education. In the same way, the grant made to the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute is also shown under another head. The engineering colleges in Poona and Karachi also give a sort of industrial education and they are not shown under this demand. The amount spent on industrial education, therefore, is not Rs. 45,000 as is supposed but it is much bigger; but this method of showing only Rs. 45,000 under the Industries Department has led to this misunderstanding.

It is very unfortunate, indeed, that the expenditure on this department which was at one time 7 lakhs has now dwindled down to 1 lakh and I hope, with the help of this Council, the expenditure will rise and that it will even exceed the original amount of 7 lakhs in days to come.

An Honourable MEMBER: It will depend on yourself and the Honourable the Finance Member.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: But the amount spent will be with the sanction and with the advice of this House.

I do not think I need add anything more. The suggestions made by the various speakers are very helpful and I may assure the House that Government is also as anxious as the House itself for furthering Indian industries and encouraging them. As I told you, the best encouragement that is required in this part of the country is expert advice and, at the same time, some of the smaller industries require financial

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

aid. If these two are provided, this presidency is bound to make a rapid progress. As for the home industries, that has not escaped the attention of Government. Home industries are very important no doubt and they will be encouraged. Government had employed Mr. Hoggarth to make enquiries, but I think that was about three or four years ago. I do not know what he has been able to do. He has been asked to submit a report, but he has not yet done so. When that report is received, Government will give their best attention to the suggestions that are made. As regards the qualifications of Mr. Hoggarth, I need say nothing. He has been in the service of this Government for a long time and he is an officer of the Indian Educational Service. At the same time, I may say that he has been doing very good work in visiting drawing schools and helping them in his own way.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : Is he the same gentleman who is inspector in the Arts School ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : No ; not in the Arts School. He is Inspector of Drawing Schools outside—not in Bombay city.

So, Sir, I think with this explanation the honourable mover will see that it is good to withdraw his motion.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD (Central Division) : Sir, my honourable friend Mr. Dev referred to my remarks last year when I characterised this department as a mockery. I think this department has not proceeded much further than mockery even now.

Sir, I was sorry to hear my honourable friend Mr. Dev state that as long as the bureaucracy exists, the Industries Department would not prosper. I say he is entirely wrong. Why is the Minister there ? What is his business ? Is he to act merely as an agent with regard to industrial concerns ? If there was any difference of opinion why did he not report to us that he wanted more money and that his colleagues would not give it to him ? I believe, Sir, that a capable Minister can make his department as important as he chooses to do. It is useless to find fault with the bureaucracy. Ninety-eight thousand rupees in an industrial province like Bombay for Industries ! Are we not ashamed to see that this small sum is given for Industries ? Is it worth having ? Sir, the Minister now says that he forgot to put into the White Book some other works of the Director. What is this explanation ? It is merely childish. What we want is, that he should come forward and say that the Government would not give the necessary amount to him, and the Council would certainly grant it. I never heard a single word from the Honourable Minister as to his industrial work, what members of the Council he consulted, and how many meetings he held in connection with this Industries Department. It seems to me that his heart is not in the work. We have got our Indian Ministers for the purpose of introducing Indian ideas, encouraging Indian aspirations, and indianising the whole administration. What is the use of blaming the bureaucracy ? We have not advanced one bit. On the other hand, as my honourable friend Mr. Dev remarked, from Rs. 7 lakhs the provision has come down to

[Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad]

Rs. 98,000. I think it would be better if the whole thing was abolished. It was the duty of the Honourable Minister to see that proper provision was made. Last year, when this question was being discussed, the Honourable Minister was a new man, as he had held office for three months. Now, he has had at his disposal a whole year, and he cannot show us any better result. He says that he forgot to put in certain things in the White Book.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I did not forget to do that.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: I am not satisfied with his explanation. I think, Sir, that the department has been totally neglected. I think it is the fault of the members of the Council that they do not hold the Minister responsible for progress in this direction.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University): Mr. President, I rise to support the motion of my honourable friend from Bombay, South (Mr. Nariman). I do not want to interpose in the quarrel between the bureaucracy and the Ministers, as we are not very much concerned with it, but I rise to ask the Honourable Minister one question. I was expecting some reference from the Honourable Minister to that question in the course of his remarks, but I was disappointed. I should like to ask, what are the intentions of Government with regard to the Technical and Industrial Education Committee's Report. We had a committee appointed by our predecessors in this Council, an important committee appointed under Dr. Paranjpye's inspiration. Its president was no less a person than Sir M. Visvesvaraya, a man trained to western methods, with a complete knowledge of the industrial situation of this province. Government have had that report before them for more than a year. I tabled a question on the subject during the last session, to which a laconic answer was given that Government would not turn to this report until the claims of primary education had been satisfied. That means till doomsday. I suppose the claims of primary education are not going to be satisfied for a long time yet. Is it the intention of Government that all this time this report should lie on the musty shelves of the Secretariat, and the Minister would not take any action on that report?

I was surprised to hear the Honourable Minister say that the one difficulty in this Industries Department is that he does not get expert advice. Only five minutes ago he was pleased to say this. He has got this expert advice on technical education. I do not know what he means by "experts". "Expert" reputations in India are made easily by Anglo-Indians, just as easily as fortunes are made by them in India. But, Sir M. Visvesvaraya is a real expert of commerce and I want to know what the Minister is going to do with this "expert" report of Sir M. Visvesvaraya. I want to know this on behalf of the honourable members on this side, and I do hope the Honourable Minister will satisfy our curiosity as to what are the immediate intentions of Government in this matter.

Mr. HOUSENBHOY A. LALLJEE (Bombay City): Sir, I was really surprised with the explanation that was given by the Honourable

[Mr. Hooseinbhoj A. Lalljee]

Minister with regard to the Industrial Department. But I did not expect that he knew so little about one matter, and that is in regard to the match industry. Sir, from the facts that the Honourable Minister put forward regarding the match industry it is clear that he is not aware of the A. B. C. of what is going on in our presidency with regard to the match industry. The import duty levied by Government on foreign matches is not 13 per cent., but 150 per cent. It was about two years ago that the Indian match manufacturing concerns started works with Japanese experts; they have factories in the interior of the Bombay Presidency, and there are no less than five factories between Bombay and Thana at present, employing nearly 3,600 workmen. Now, Sir, these people started with the help of Japanese experts; I am one of them, and we got most of the material from outside India, but we have been working the factories with Indian labour. As soon as we found that certain of the chemicals could be had in India, we used them. Then we started using our own wood. In this connection, I am sorry to state—it may be a fact—that when we wrote to the Forest Department about the wood for match manufacture, we received a reply that in the Bombay Presidency we could not get sufficient match wood of the quality required for match manufacture from our forests. Then we thought of having logs from outside, and getting the necessary machinery to get our workmen to do the splitting. The industry is going on for the last six months very successfully, and no less than 3,000 more men have been employed in turning out match splinters from the logs.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: From which place are the logs being imported?

Mr. HOOSEINBHOJ A. LALLJEE: From Siberia. We tried to get some wood from upper India and from Bengal, but the railway freight is very exorbitant. In fact, the railway freight from upper India to Bombay is much more than the steamer freight from Siberia via Japan to Bombay. This is the state of affairs.

Now, Sir, something has been said about the Ambernath factory. May I inform the Honourable Minister that Bombay requires 200 cases of matches every day? The Ambernath factory is able to produce hardly 30 cases a day. The reason why one factory has been established at Ambernath (Bombay), one at Karachi, and one at Calcutta is evident; and shortly, one more factory will be established near Rangoon. What is the object? Not to supply India with matches, but to compete with the Indian industry. The Ambernath people are a syndicate of Americans, and they have been offering the Indian manufacturers lakhs of rupees in order to stop their works. Very handsome sums are being offered to them to buy over their factories. The reason of this is that the American syndicate have taken over most of the concerns in other parts of the world including Swedish factories and they have guaranteed to them to pay handsome dividends, 7 to 9 per cent. They have been trying to make a corner of the match industry of the world and they want the match

[Mr. Hooseinbhoj A. Lalljee]

manufacturing industry to be their monopoly. They went to Japan, but they did not succeed there, but they have succeeded in China. In India, they have not succeeded up to now, and they have therefore started their own factories, their object being to sell matches at fairly lower rates and kill the Indian match industry. This has been our representation to the Government of India, and I am prepared to prove it if the Honourable Minister wants, by facts and figures. Furthermore, this American syndicate have gone to the extent at present of cornering one of the chemicals necessary in match manufacture. Formerly, we used to get this chemical from Belgium and Germany. But for the last two months we have found that it cannot be had from any country in the world. This American syndicate is a very rich concern, with a capital of £2 crores, which has recently been increased by £40,00,000 from England, and they have been able to get a monopoly of a great portion of the world of match factories as well as of this chemical. All the manufacturers of this chemical whom we approached, have referred us to these people. May I ask what relief the Honourable Minister is able to give to us ?

If such is the ignorance of the Honourable Minister, then I am sorry. As a merchant, I do think that this department should really be overhauled and some radical changes must be made before we can pass any item of expenditure for the department. Therefore as a protest against the work of the department, I support the motion.

Mr. G. I. PATEL (Ahmedabad Millowners' Association): Sir, I regret to see the Honourable Minister's ignorance in the matter of industries, from the explanation he has put before this House. I hope the Honourable Minister does not need to be reminded that India is not a country but a continent from the standpoint of the production of raw materials. If he takes in his hand a list of the exports and imports of India, he will find that hundreds of articles are sent out of India in the form of raw materials and hundreds of articles are imported into India as manufactured products out of the same raw materials. This is where the industrial skill enters into this field. When this country is producing millions and millions worth of raw materials which foreign countries like England, Japan and America buy at cheap rates, manufacture several things out of the same materials and send them back to this country, after paying freight, insurance and the middleman's charges, it is a matter of great regret that only a small sum of Rs. 90,000 has been reserved for the support of the industrial development of this presidency. I believe that the Honourable Minister is aware of the fact that the industries of this presidency pay about 10 crores of rupees in the form of various taxes. If out of the receipt of this 10 crores the Honourable Minister spares only 5 or 6 per cent. that is 40 or 50 lakhs of rupees, in order to support indigenous industries and cottage industries, as Japan has done, I think Government will be benefited from the return which they will derive from those very industries, and at the same time the members of the industrial community, the labourers and the agricultural classes and everybody else, will also be benefited.

[Mr. G. I. Patel]

The Honourable Minister referred to Mr. Barucha. I have some experience of Mr. Barucha, and I have found him a very intelligent, nice and amiable gentleman. But what was the work that the Honourable Minister had assigned to him? He was asked to take some samples of print and colours and made to roam from one industrial place to another in order to show them to us. Is this the sort of work to be assigned to an industrial expert of his type? He was asked to take samples of certain cloth printed in coloured flowers and other designs. The province that was assigned to Mr. Barucha was a narrow one. A man of his intelligence ought to have been given more important work by the industrial department: he ought to have been asked to study the industrial problems of this country and suggest means of initiating and helping the industrial concerns in this presidency.

Then, I may draw the attention of the Honourable Minister to another fact, namely that there are several things which are imported and consumed in this country, but which can very well be manufactured cheaply here. We import our china clay, when there are mines in this country wherefrom china clay could be raised. In such cases no assistance is given by the industrial department. Then we get our shuttles, leather goods, bobbins, magnesia, oils, ropes, tin stuffs, healds, reeds, etc., from foreign countries; but all these can be manufactured in India provided help is given to start such industries. Further I may draw the attention of the Honourable Minister to various herbs which are being exported from this country, out of which several medicines are prepared and imported at heavy prices into India. Now, that is a field in which the industrial department can render useful help to indigenous industries. Then, there is manganese, which is exported out of India in thousands of tons, and there are several mines in India waiting to be developed. When an Indian gentleman wanted a license to explore for mines of manganese there was a block somewhere from the Government side and he had to waste some thousands and yet wait and wait.....

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: What is the name of the gentleman?

Mr. G. I. PATEL: I have given the name and details to the Honourable Mr. Dehlavi. So that is the difficulty. Whenever there is a gentleman coming forward with some scheme of industrial development there is some block from the other side and no assistance is provided for him. The man has to go somewhere and find out a European partner in name only and to get him to address the Government in which case Government orders would be issued. This is the inner condition of the industries department and the scheme of industrial development in this country.

As regards the engineering colleges and other technical institutes, to which the Honourable Minister has made some reference, I may say that he has been good enough to look after the R. C. Institute at Ahmedabad. But at the same time I must state from my personal experience that the progress is stationary and the Institute itself requires to be

[Mr. G. I. Patel]

put on a twentieth century basis, and not kept running on nineteenth century lines as is now the case.

Now, I may remind the Honourable Member of what Japan has done in the matter of cottage industries. I was myself in Japan, and I found that in every poor family each member of the family was working on something, and all the members of the family were wage-earners. Hence the textile industry in this country is suffering in another form, because in Japan the wages are thus very low : they import our raw materials, manufacture them there, and export the manufactured goods to this country to compete with our goods and dump the markets. If therefore the Honourable Minister directs his attention to what Japan has done, he will find scope for various cottage industries in this country.

Then, take the potteries department. If an enterprising man comes forward and establishes the industry there is some clog or trouble compelling the man to give up his enterprise : unfair competition is started. Then if the Honourable Minister studies the mineral and vegetable wealth of India, he will find scope for development in thousands of ways.

Finally, I come to the match industry. I can assure the Honourable Minister that the progress of the match industry in India, and particularly in Ahmedabad is not on the lines he suggested. I know from personal knowledge that the indigenous match factories there had very great difficulty in getting concession from the railway companies. The concession was given by the railway companies to certain other companies and not to these indigenous manufacturers. Then when the indigenous company was going to put up a big fight the same concession that was given to other companies was granted to it. I may tell him that these factories are not in a position to prosper as the shareholders desire. In regard to the factory to be started at Ambernath, I may say that it has come to my knowledge that it is to be managed by Swedish manufacturers who have got special skill in this line and that the share capital has been subscribed in England. The factory is to be built here in India to compete with the Indian factories. This means no support to the indigenous industry, and support to the outside industry at the cost of the former. They are trying to monopolise the industry all over the world.

Therefore, Sir, I would request the Honourable Minister to find not Rs. 90,000 but Rs. 50,00,000 to develop the industrial wealth of this country.

An Honourable MEMBER : I move a closure, Sir.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I accept the closure.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South) : Sir, the honourable member who has just sat down has performed for me the task of giving an exhaustive reply, and I do not think there is any need now to take up the time of the Council. The only reason why Japan is successful and India is not is a plain and simple one : Japan is self-governing and India is not. All the efforts made by honourable members on this side

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

have failed because India is not self-governing. We will succeed when we get the government in our own hands ; but so long as we do not get it, we can only be content with criticising.

Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, I do not think I need take much of the time of this House after my first speech. I plead guilty to the charge that I do not know the number of factories in this presidency for the simple reason that I am not in charge of the factories department. That department is under the charge of the Honourable the General Member.

The honourable member Mr. Lalljee has given useful information about the match industry, but there is a great obstacle in the way of developing this industry. The difficulty is with regard to railway freight and forest concessions. The wood suitable for this industry is not plentiful. It may be found in plenty in the Himalayas. Unless logs of wood useful for match industry are available in large quantity at cheap rate, India will have to suffer from keen competition with other parts of the world like Siberia.

As regards the work which Mr. Bharucha has been doing it has been well described by my honourable friend from Ahmedabad. He will soon be put in charge of the department and I can assure honourable members that he will not go from shop to shop showing samples of prints. With regard to China clay, shuttles and antimony I can only say that if enterprising gentlemen come forward, Government will be only too glad to give all assistance that will be proper in the particular circumstance. But the Government cannot undertake to start any industry themselves. If enterprising gentlemen come forward it will be the duty of the Government to help their enterprise.

Turning now to the question of the recommendations made by the Visweswarayya committee, I wish to bring to the notice of this House that they are under the consideration of Government ; and Government have not yet formulated any definite scheme on those recommendations. At the same time I may assure the House that the suggestions made in the minority report of that committee, especially the suggestions made by Dewan Bahadur Godbole in the form of a list of measures which ought to be taken in hand at once, have been engaging the attention of Government. Government are carrying out one by one the suggestions made there. The development of the Engineering College, Poona, the Victoria Jubilee Institute and the Science Institute, Bombay, are engaging the attention of Government. As an earnest, this House will find that provision has been made in the budget for the development of these institutions which give scientific and technical education. I again repeat that, these schemes will be taken up one after another. Government regret that they cannot find it possible to take up all the schemes together. But they have decided to take the schemes one after another.

Question put and lost.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, I beg to move :

“That a total grant of Rs. 99,000 be sanctioned.”

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Sir I beg to move :

“That a grant of Rs. 24,48,000 be made under 34, Agriculture.”

In view of the few amendments which have been proposed for reduction under this head, I should like to make a statement to explain to the House the activities of this department very briefly, in the hope that honourable members who have given notices of motions for reduction may consider whether it would not be advisable to withdraw those motions.

Sir, the activities of this department can be divided under three heads: research, propaganda and agricultural development. Taking the last first, the best testimony I can produce before this Honourable House of the success and the usefulness achieved by the Agricultural College, Poona, is that students from all parts of India, from Ceylon down to Bengal and Burma come to it for agricultural education. Further we have not only drawn students from all parts of India but we have drawn to the college about 33 per cent. of the students from the agricultural population of this presidency, and it is hoped that that number will increase every year. This 33 per cent. has been drawn from all the agricultural communities in this presidency. In addition to this college we have at present vernacular agricultural schools in different parts of this presidency, and agricultural bias schools started by the Educational Department. We are doing useful work by spreading agricultural education through these schools.

Coming to the research activities of the department, which is the most important branch of agriculture, I should like to point out to the House that it has been doing very useful work in the direction of improving the staple of cotton. I am glad to be able to announce to the House the success which has attended the experiments in connection with cotton. This experiment is concentrated in five important centres of the presidency where cotton has improved a good deal. They are Dharwar, Dhulia, Surat, Viramgam and Mirpurkhas. To give this House an idea of the importance of this work, I may mention that in the Dharwar tract the improved strain of Kumpta cotton, which is now being sown on an area of 75,000 acres, gives a net gain to the cultivator of Rs. 5, roughly speaking, per acre. The other variety which has been tried in the American Dharwar known as Gadag No. 1 which is I think still more successful in the way of giving better income to the cultivator. About 65 thousand acres come under that variety, and give a net profit of about Rs. 13 per acre to the cultivator.

Sir, similarly experiments have been made in improving the quality of rice, jwari and wheat in various other centres such as Larkana, Jakobabad, Karjat and Ratnagiri and in other parts of the presidency. Attention of the department has also been devoted to the question of manure and ploughs; and I think eleven thousand improved ploughs have been introduced in the Dharwar area. Similarly other implements as tractors and other improved implements, in connection with agriculture, are being tried and pushed on wherever they are suitable.

In the horticultural branch of this department useful experiments have been made in the matter of preserving fruit juice, or drying fruit and for the benefit of the agriculturist. Similarly the

[Mr. A. M. K. Dehlavi]

live-stock question is an important question, and centres have been established where, in cattle farms, experiments are being made in the matter of improving the breed of cattle. These centres are: Karachi, in Ahmedabad at Charodi, Bankipore in Dharwar. With the same object in view the scheme of premium bulls is popularised and the breed is improving. In this connection we are also utilising independent institutions such as the Gorakshans by encouraging them to help us in improving the breed of the cattle. Sir, these Gorakshans are Pandharpur, Mulund and Kandivli where useful work is expected in the future and every year. Then we have the divisional agricultural boards and the taluka associations through which we carry on most of the propaganda work and bring home to the cultivator the results achieved by the Agricultural Department. Sir, every attempt made in this connection has proved useful to the country so far, and I might say that we have before us a very wide field of work in which a great deal more might be achieved. The demand that I am making, Sir, on behalf of agriculture, is really not adequate to the various needs of the country. But under our present financial circumstances it is a pity that a greater demand cannot be asked for. Here, Sir, I may enlighten the House that, at the suggestion of His Excellency himself, a programme of extensive work and intensive activity in these nation building departments was taken up some months back, and we the Ministers sat together, formulated our individual programmes, and we thought we would be able to take a good step forward this year also. But unfortunately the financial circumstances did not permit us to do so although we were heartily assisted by the Honourable the Finance Member, and his able Secretary. However, I hope and trust that this House will not grudge the little amount I ask on behalf, and in the best interests, of the agricultural and co-operative activities.

Question proposed.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Sir, I move:

Reduce the votable portion by Rs. 50,000—Total demand of Rs.28,19,000 (C.E. page 200).

The only thing I wish to say in connection with this department is that I find from reference to the Blue Book as well as the White Book that during the current year our estimate for agricultural education was one lakh and 80 thousand, and the revised estimates were one lakh 98 thousand; whereas for the next year we are going to provide only one lakh and 71 thousand rupees, that is, nine thousand rupees less than the budgeted sum for the current year or 27 thousand rupees less than the revised estimates. Is this provision satisfactory, I ask? In this connection I may bring to the notice of this House one deplorable fact, namely that although it is true and admitted on all hands that ours is an agricultural presidency, yet it is very surprising to note that throughout the presidency we have only six agricultural schools, which give agricultural education to about 148 boys only. In a country in which about 80 or 85 per cent. of the people are agriculturists, we give agricultural education to 148 boys and in six schools, spread throughout the presidency with a population of two crores! I maintain that if our

[Mr. S. S. Dev]

agricultural education is also not a farce like industrial education and if it is to be a success, every taluka in the presidency must have at least one agricultural school maintained by Government. At any rate, it is very sad to find that in the next year Government is going to reduce the expenditure for agricultural education. Page 202 of the White Book is a very delightful sight. On that page you will find a phalanx of officers. I shall not read that phalanx to you if you would kindly open the Book at page 202. So we must have a phalanx of officers, even if we cut expenditure on education. It is curious details under agricultural education are not given. I believe the details as they were shown last year ought to have been shown this year also. There is only the foot-note "Provision has been made under a new subhead agricultural education" at page 209, but I do not find any such new subhead, wherein all the details of agricultural education are given. Why are not these details shown? What is there in them to be ashamed of? The world has by now come to know that we spend more on officers than on the objects for which those officers are maintained. So those details of agricultural education ought not to have been withheld. Whatever that may be, this is clear enough that during the next year we provide a budget for agricultural education by about Rs. 9,000 less and you will admit, Sir, that it is a sad feature of the budget for the next year.

Question proposed.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District): Sir, I concur fully with the honourable member Mr. Dev in certain observations he made, but nevertheless I oppose him with these remarks, Sir. While going through the pages of the White Book, I happened to read that one lakh and odd has been provided for agricultural education. Then I began to compare that item with the item provided in the last year and the year previous to the last year. In the year 1923-24 Rs. 2,03,037 was actually spent for agricultural education; the budget estimate for 1924-25 was Rs. 1,80,000, while the revised estimate went up to Rs. 1,98,000. Now Government, this year, have made a provision of Rs. 1,71,000. This means that Government are going to spend Rs. 27,000 less on the spread of agricultural education this year. Sir, are we to understand by this provision that Government think that agricultural education in this presidency has reached its zenith, or are we to understand by this that Government think that by the spread of agricultural education among the cultivating classes there will be no substantial advantage to the material and moral prosperity of the presidency? Sir, the population of our presidency approaches nearly two crores. Out of this population 80 per cent. solely depend upon agricultural profession and for this vast mass of the population, namely, 80 per cent. of the whole, a scanty provision of Rs. 1,71,000 has been made for imparting agricultural education, and there are only six schools, as has been just told by my honourable friend (Mr. Dev), for imparting that education. Sir, this provision of Rs. 1,71,000 is vastly disproportionate to the requirements of the presidency. It is this profession of agriculture that brings the

[Mr. L. S. Chaudhari]

greater portion of our State revenue and for this reason this profession requires to be supported liberally, while Government has extended a miser's hand to the development of the education of this profession. This profession is the main support of the administrative machinery of our presidency and, therefore, Government ought to have liberally supported the expansion of the agricultural education in the presidency.

Now this leads me to the propaganda and research work of the Agricultural Department. Government is very keen and anxious to carry the results of the research department to the very door of the agriculturist and for this purpose Government have used two sorts of agencies. One of them is the staff engaged by the Government and the other is the formation of agricultural associations. No doubt the staff engaged by Government has been doing its own duty, but Government has found that even this present staff is not sufficient to carry the results of the research work to the doors of the agriculturists and, therefore, a new provision has been made in item 181 on page 214 of the Blue Book, and there Government has clearly stated that because the present staff is too meagre to carry the research work and inventions to the door of the agriculturists, therefore this scanty or inadequate staff requires to be increased. If the Government fully knows that the present staff engaged on propaganda work is too meagre, why should not Government make a liberal provision for that and do away with the difficulty in that direction ?

Sir, with regard to the other agency,—the formation of agricultural associations—I have got a very sad story to be narrated about that. I, from my own experience, say that this agency is far superior to impart agricultural education among the peasantry classes than the present staff of Government itself. Now, the work of this agency chiefly depends upon the zeal and efforts of the honorary workers. Sir, if the honorary workers are not encouraged by way of liberal donations to the associations, how will the work be carried on in the districts and in the different talukas of the districts ? There are five agricultural associations in my district alone, out of which two are prominent. One of them is at Pachora and the other at Jalgaon. The work of both these associations has been appreciated by the higher authorities of the department. Not only that, but the work of the Jalgaon association was appreciated by the then Director of Agriculture, Dr. Mann, who was Director of Agriculture until a few months ago, and on account of the excellent work which was shown by my association, that association had been recommended to Government for the grant of a subsidy of Rs. 2,000 and the application of the association with strong recommendations of the divisional board was forwarded to the Government. But to my great disappointment, I got a letter only to-day from my fieldman that Government is not willing to grant a subsidy of Rs. 2,000. As a matter of fact, we had undertaken an expensive programme in anticipation of this subsidy of Rs. 2,000. But only recently we have heard from Government that we were not going to get that amount and that we were to get only Rs. 1,000. If we are to be discouraged in this way, who will undertake such honorary

[Mr. L. S. Chaudhari]

work and how will this work be carried to the nooks and corners of the districts? Therefore, the Honourable Minister should take a very pointed note to help this propaganda work and to make very liberal help to these associations. In the White Book there is a provision of Rs. 10,000 to be given to the Central Co-operative Institute for the formation of supervising unions and in the remarks column Government has clearly stated that the initial difficulty with such associations is that of funds. Now, if that is the case in the case of a well-organized institution like the Central Co-operative Institute, then much more, therefore, is it necessary for these agricultural associations to be helped. There are certain associations who have got their own funds, but now-a-days they want this initial help very absolutely, and if they will not be helped by handsome subsidies, I doubt whether they will be able to continue their existence. I would quote one instance, of the Chopda Association. That association had got a little fund of its own. That association carried on its propaganda work by engaging a fieldman. But when the last pie of the fund, that they had, was exhausted, they had to discharge the fieldman and the work of the association came to a standstill. If these institutions which, as I have pointed out, are the best agency for carrying on the propaganda work of the Agricultural Department are starved in this way, I do not think, howsoever good the intentions of Government may be to carry on this propaganda work, that it will ever be fulfilled at all. I would, therefore, request the Honourable the Finance Member that he should put sufficient money into the hands of the Honourable Minister in charge of the department, so that at least these poor associations will not be starved, and there will be no occasion for honourable members like myself to bewail on the situation to which these associations have been reduced. I may here be allowed to record with emphasis that otherwise the work which has been set afoot by the great effort of the then Minister in charge of Agriculture (the Honourable Mr. C. V. Mehta) will come to standstill. As a matter of fact, these associations have done a good deal, and any effort on the part of Government will not have achieved that much success which has been achieved in this field by the agency of these associations.

Sir, these thoughts lead me to make some observations regarding the model farm at Jalgaon. We are all very thankful to Government to have a model farm of this type in the centre of the district itself. It is a model farm, but it is not a model farm in every sense of the word. No doubt, that farm has rendered valuable services to the agriculturists in East Khandesh. It has impressed on the minds of the agriculturists the utility of manuring and the utility of good seed, and the importance of carrying on agricultural operations in time. Also that model farm is carrying on this agricultural propaganda by holding annual shows in the premises of this model farm. But, Sir, now it is reduced to the position of a good seed supplying depôt, and it is not in a position to hold the title of a model farm. I do not wish that it should be stopped, but it should be turned into a farm, which will be a farm of economy or which will be a farm of income. This farm has got 200 acres of the best deep

[Mr. L. S. Chaudhari]

black soil in the district ; it is well fenced, and it is well consolidated. It is worked under proper supervision, and all the agricultural operations are carried on on modern lines. And yet, it is not in a position to show a net income of at least Rs. 15,000. Any agriculturist having all these resources at his disposal must have necessarily shown a net income of not less than Rs. 15,000. I therefore request the Honourable Minister in charge that he should pay attention to this fact, and the model farm which we fortunately have in East Khandesh should be turned into a farm which will be a farm of economy and income.

Now, I shall make a few observations for the enlightenment of the House regarding the checking or destruction of disease and pests of various crops. It has been officially estimated that the damage caused to the crops by *jowar smuts* and borer and the damage caused to cotton by *wilt* and the bollworm, is about 20 to 30 per cent. of the total annual yield. If the loss is turned to money value, I think it is a loss of several crores to the wealth of this presidency. If these enemies of crops are driven out, I think more material and moral prosperity will be brought to the peasantry of this presidency. No doubt by the activities of the Research Department some inventions have been made, so that at least the *jowari* crop has been protected from the ravages of the disease, but I am sorry that the ravages on the cotton crop by *wilt* and the bollworm have not been prevented. As a matter of fact, the East Khandesh district is a cotton producing district, and is a great victim to these two diseases ; and if by the activities of the Research Department, these two enemies to the cotton crop are driven out, I think the wealth of the East Khandesh district will be increased by several lakhs.

The biggest enemy which contributes to the destruction of crops largely is the wild pig. Sir, it is easy to drive out all the other enemies of crops, but this enemy, the wild pig is difficult to be driven out. Government had appointed one committee ; that committee had gone into various aspects of the subject, and they came to definite conclusions. The committee has suggested two or three methods, one by killing these wild pigs by poisoning, and the other by shooting. But, Sir, the experiment of killing pigs by the poisoning system has been found to be very dangerous because the system requires the pre-existence of village societies, otherwise this work of spreading flour balls mixed with poison in the tracts where the wild pigs reside before sunrise, and of picking up these balls after sunset will be impossible ; and as these village societies are not in existence there, that system seems to have been abandoned. It is so dangerous that the ball which is meant for killing pig will rather destroy cattle from the village, and from that standpoint too this system of pig killing by poisoning is dangerous, and that has, I think, been very wisely abandoned. Government have made liberal provision this year for the operations of shooting parties. But I may tell this House my apprehension in the matter that, even assuming that the hunting party undertakes operations in a particular locality in any district the pigs will conceal themselves in the valleys as long the operations of the party are going on, and as soon as the party turns its back upon the locality,

[Mr. L. S. Chaudhari]

the pigs will come and ravage the fields. The district of East Khandesh is bordered by the Saptura range on the north, the Ajanta ghats on the south, the river Tapti runs through the heart and there are various forest places in the centre of the district. These natural aspects of the district provide a very strong resort to the wild pigs, and therefore, with all the good intentions of Government, these shooting parties will not be of any help in destroying wild pigs. Therefore, I would request the Honourable Minister in charge of this department to introduce the third method, which was recommended by Dr. Mann who, I suppose, was one of the members of the committee. He suggested that, instead of these two methods, property protection licenses should be issued on a liberal scale, and I was very glad to hear from the Honourable Minister in charge when he replied to a question asked by some honourable member from the Southern Division that such property protection licenses are given on a liberal scale. That was my impression, but I have got a very sad experience of this matter. As the president of the taluka development association, I recommended one application of an agriculturist, who is an enthusiastic member of the association, for a property protection license. The application was strongly recommended by the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Central Division, Mr. Patil, but the result was that the application was refused with the remark that the wishes of the applicant could not be complied with. If we are to be encouraged in this House only to be disappointed outside the House, I think this propaganda work will not be carried on and the pigs will never be destroyed at all. Sir, the wild pig is a very shrewd animal by instinct. If they find one of them killed, the whole herd will go and take shelter in the valleys adjoining, and as soon as the hunting party turns its back to the locality, they will come in numbers and destroy the fields. Therefore, I request the Honourable Minister that he should issue orders to the Collectors of the different districts immediately, so that we shall have no occasion next year to repeat the same sad story here. In East Khandesh nearly half of the cultivable area is brought under groundnut cultivation, and it is absolutely necessary, in the interest of the district, that such property protection licenses should be issued on a liberal scale.

Next, Sir, I have to make a few remarks about the veterinary staff. It may be efficient for the ordinary purposes and needs of daily life, but it is not efficient, or rather, it is insufficient to meet the demands when there is any outbreak of any epidemic. There was an epidemic of a cattle disease in East Khandesh. As a layman, I do not know the technicalities of this disease, but we call it in our language cholera to animal, and on account of this disease and on account of the want of efficient and timely help to the agriculturist, the district has been deprived of cattle worth Rs. 2 lakhs. The town of Jalgaon alone has been deprived of cattle worth Rs. 5,000, and I have heard that in the village of Manurabad 12 to 14 milch buffaloes died in a short a period of three days. Sir, I therefore bring this fact to the notice of the House. Though the number may not be increased there should be adequate provision made to save the cattle from the attacks of such

[Mr. L. S. Chaudhari]

epidemics. This loss of two lakhs of rupees is too much for the peasantry of East Khandesh to bear.

Before concluding I want to say one thing, and that is about the teaching of rural economy in the agricultural college. One professor, I do not know his name, but I think it was Mr. Gokhale, paid a visit to the model farm at Jalgaon, and while at Jalgaon he visited our association. There he put some questions to the secretary of our association, all of which were directed to the inquiry about the income side of the agriculturists in East Khandesh. I was present there and I asked him what was the object of his enquiry. He told me that the object of his enquiry was to teach rural economy to the students. Thereupon I told him that if his object was to give lessons to the agricultural college students on rural economy, he ought also to put questions about the expenditure side of agriculture in East Khandesh. But he replied that that did not concern him. Sir, if rural economy is to be taught, it should be taught in the right way. If only the income side of the agriculturists is shown to the students, wrong notions of agricultural income will be given to the students of the agricultural college, and the impressions created in their young brains would not be removed. I therefore point out to the Honourable Minister in charge that if this is the way in which rural economy is taught in the agricultural college, I think orders should be issued that that education should not be given in that defective way in which, as I understand from the conversation I had with the professor at Jalgaon, it is being given.

(After recess.)

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Sir, I wish to say a few words on behalf of my constituency. I fully associate myself with what has been said by the honourable member Mr. Chaudhari for Khandesh. I only want to add a few remarks to what he said. He said that immense loss is caused to the crops in his district by pigs. Besides the pigs, elephants, monkeys and other forest animals do immense harm to agriculture in my district. The crop protection committee has estimated that Rs. 7,50,000 is lost to the agriculturists on account of ravages by pigs. It is not a small amount if we compare it with the amount of assessment that the whole district pays. The total amount of assessment for the whole district is between 10 and 11 lakhs, while the damage caused by wild pigs is 7½ lakhs. The exact amount of the loss caused by elephants, monkeys and other wild animals is not known. The Minister for Forests the other day pointed out that destruction of monkeys in the district of Kanara is against the sentiments of the people. But I will point out to him that at the last District Co-operative Conference held at Kumta a resolution was moved and passed by the conference that a society should be formed for the purpose of hunting down the monkeys. This shows what the feelings of the people are as regards the destruction of monkeys. As regards the damages by wild elephants, Government have already given a reply that the damage is immense—I cannot quote the figure, but it was in reply to one of my questions. The Crop Protection Committee have recommended

[Mr. M. D. Karki]

that gun licenses should be freely and liberally issued to forest villages for the protection of crops, but that has not been acted upon. I have pointed out in the course of my budget speech this year that the question is becoming a burning one in my district and that it should receive the attention of Government soon. This year a provision has been made for the destruction of wild pigs, but that is not at all sufficient. In addition to that, provision should have been made also for the destruction of elephants, monkeys and other forest animals. The best way to have the destruction done is by making provision for prizes for people who destroy the animals. Government should encourage people to destroy the animals by giving them small rewards. If that is done, it would be very beneficial to the people of the district, and the destruction would be completed in a short time without resort to the process of poisoning and other remedies.

As regards agricultural farms we have also a farm in my own district. The remarks made by my honourable friend (Mr. Chaudhari) may be taken to apply more or less to that farm also. With these words, Sir, I resume my seat.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Sir, a reference was made to the insufficiency of veterinary assistant surgeons for the purpose of dealing with outbreaks of epidemics amongst cattle. Honourable members of this House are aware that it is a primary duty of local bodies to maintain veterinary dispensaries. However, Government have been assisting them considerably in this direction. Whenever a local body opens a new dispensary, Government gives it *gratis* the services of a veterinary assistant surgeon. Government also gives local bodies grants for the maintenance of the veterinary hospitals and for the purpose of constructing buildings. That is the position. Whenever any local body has come forward, Government has been ready to give them all this assistance. But I am sorry to say the local bodies do not come forward in the matter. Honourable members will see that amongst the new items there are demands for grants-in-aid for the construction of veterinary dispensaries, for the expansion of the cadre of veterinary assistants and for the revision of the grants for the maintenance of veterinary dispensaries. When Government receive requests from local bodies for additional grants for their dispensaries, Government have given them such grants. I am sorry to observe that under 34, Agriculture, the first two motions for reduction relate to these items. I hope the House will bear in mind that they are putting the Honourable Minister in charge in an awkward position by proposing such reductions. When a report is received of an epidemic among cattle, Government concentrate all their efforts in that direction. They do not leave the work to the assistant veterinary surgeon alone, but they send their inspectors and other staff to deal with the epidemic. From the provisions that have been made in this connection, they will find among others a provision for the purchase of serum for inoculating cattle against contagious diseases. That being the position, if honourable members move the local bodies to ask

[Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain]

for help to open dispensaries, Government will be prepared to give such help.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA (Ahmedabad District): Sir, after the speech of my honourable friend I have very little to say. We spend a very large amount on this research work and yet the results remain only with the department itself. It does not percolate to the masses in whose benefit these researches are being carried. The leaflets are issued in English and I do not know of any agriculturist who is so ignorant of his vernacular as to be able to read English. The expenditure would have been more usefully incurred, if more leaflets were printed in the vernaculars. This presidency is frequently subjected to famine and the research should be carried on in the direction of finding out drought resisting crops and educating the people with regard to the cultivation of dry crops. For this purpose demonstrations in dry crop cultivation should be given in every taluka and preferably in every village, because if demonstrations are given in taluka headquarters, only some agriculturists take advantage of them. Therefore if this work is entrusted to agricultural associations with liberal grants so that they may be able to employ an agricultural graduate as their secretary then it will be easy to spread the useful results of research work in rural areas. Therefore my request to the Honourable Minister for Agriculture is to give more liberal donations to agricultural associations so that the results of the research work may be carried to the masses in the districts.

One more point that I wish to bring to the notice of the Honourable Minister in charge is that people at present find it difficult to find out the right officer for clearing any of their doubts or for getting the information they require. It would be advisable if the Honourable Minister notifies that such and such officer should be approached for such and such thing, so that without undue delay and correspondence, the inquiries may be made directly.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): Sir, I rise in order to express my views with regard to this department. I fully associate myself with the complaints made by the previous speakers as regards the meagre expenditure that is being incurred on this department. Calculating the revenue derived from this department, and the sum proposed to be spent I find that Government propose to spend only 4.5 per cent. over this department. That is an indication of the fact that the Government have not yet recognised and realized that agriculture is the key industry of this province.

Now, coming to the various activities of this department, I fail to see that any activity of this department is directed towards enquiring into the indebtedness of the agricultural classes. A question had been put regarding this point, but the Government replied that the trouble and time taken by such an enquiry into the economic condition of the agriculturists will not be commensurate with the benefit to be derived therefrom. I feel that without such an enquiry, it will be really impossible to effect any improvement in the condition of the agriculturists.

[Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar]

There is one thing to which I wish to draw the pointed attention of the Honourable Minister. The Deccan is going dry day by day. The expert opinion is that from year to year there has been and will be an appreciable decrease in the rainfall, and the decrease will continue till Maharashtra will be reduced to the position of the Sahara desert. I do not pretend to say one way or the other in regard to the expert opinion expressed as above, but this much I can say that during the last few years the rainfall in the presidency has not been the same as it used to be in olden times. I think that the Agricultural Department should investigate into the matter and should direct its attention towards the question of finding out the methods of conserving so far as possible the rainfall which the presidency gets each year. In this connection I may draw the attention of the Government to the experiments that have been successfully made in this respect in some parts of America. In some parts of America there is rainfall only in alternate years. And the rainfall of one year is conserved in such a way that it will be useful for the crops of the next year. I suggest that an attempt should be made in this direction in order to spread the knowledge among the agricultural classes as to how to utilise the little rainfall that they might get and how to preserve the moisture in the soil so as to enable them to nourish the crops of the next year. It is also noticeable that no serious attempt seems to have been made by the agricultural department for the diffusion of the requisite agricultural knowledge. I do not wish to cover the ground that has already been covered by the previous speakers in this behalf, but I do say that in spite of the long roll of the highly paid officers in this department, no serious attempts seem to have been made for the spread of that kind of knowledge among the agriculturists which would enable them to improve the quality of the soil and the crops grown therein at a minimum cost. I should like to make one suggestion in this connection to the Honourable Minister in charge of the department of agriculture and also to the Honourable Minister in charge of the education department, namely that inasmuch as education is to be handed over to the local boards in the immediate future, they should by mutual arrangement so alter and modify the text-books to be prescribed for the primary schools as to give the boys therein a considerably good idea as to the recent improvements in agriculture. My next suggestion is in regard to the breeding of the cattle. The Honourable Minister has stated that attempts have been made and some experiments have also been undertaken with a view to improve the breed of cattle. I do not know whether these improvements are in regard to the bullocks or whether they are also in regard to the milch cows; but in this connection I may draw his attention to the experiments that have been successfully made in America to improve the breed of milch cows, and the honourable members of this House might perhaps have read the accounts of the prize milch cows in America, which gave about forty thousand pounds of milk in a year including the dry period. The activities of the department should therefore be at least partially devoted to the improvement of the milch cows, and if honest efforts are made in that direction, I am sure that the

[Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar]

agricultural department will be able to bring into existence such milch cattle as will be able to give, though not 40 thousand pounds per year at least approximately that quantity. These are the suggestions that I would like to make to the agricultural department in general and to the Honourable Minister in particular. Then the last suggestion that I wish to make is that whatever attempts may have been made to improve the staple food and specially the staple food of Maharashtra, I should say that it is one of the bounden duties of the agricultural department to improve first the nutritious elements in the staple food of the country. I do not feel from the information that I have gathered that there has been effected sufficient improvement in the nutritious elements of either the jwari or wheat or other staple food. The agricultural department should, therefore, also take into consideration its obligation to the presidency in this respect. Lastly, I hope that the Honourable Minister will seriously consider all the suggestions made above and will next year be able to show to this House a good record of the work done by him during the year.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Sir, I support the motion. I agree with the previous speakers that in the agricultural department we are spending much less than we ought to. In fact when we entered the Council we spent about 30 lakhs and now we are spending 28 lakhs. Instead of progressing we are going back. That is not fair in a Ministerial department. The other day a remark was made that the transferred departments are starved and the reserved departments get more than enough. From this it is now clear that both the industries and the agricultural departments have been spending less than when we first entered this hall. Like the previous speakers I was also much disturbed with the host of Imperial officers. I say, Sir, that if any department deserved to be under the complete control of the Minister, it is the agricultural department. Even if there are European officers employed in that department, those officers should be under the control of the Minister. (An Honourable Member: They are.) They are not under the control of the Minister. Under the statute they are under the control of the Secretary of State. You cannot dismiss them if they go wrong. The salaries are also so high that in this poor country such large amounts of salaries to these officers in this department appear to be quite unnecessary, so their salaries also require to be lowered in many cases, especially as the result of their work is not quite satisfactory. Take for example the agricultural chemist. We have been maintaining this agricultural chemist for so many years, and what is he doing there? He is chiefly analysing water. Besides this work of analysing water he ought to perform many other duties. He should examine the composition of various manures, and he should find out the exact manure suited for a particular soil and crop, but he has not been doing all these, and even if he does it, he does it in an off-hand manner. So far as I have read the bulletins I have been wholly disappointed. While America is turning out one half and even one bale per acre, we are turning out only 80 pounds

[Rao Saheb D. P. Desai]

per acre. What does that show? With this 80 pounds per acre in competition with America how can we make profits? The same is the case as regards the other crops. The same is the case with wheat. It cannot pay us to grow wheat at the same price at which America sells it to England, and that price is as it were being forced on us, and that is the result why Indian cultivators are always in debt and are always impoverished, and live from hand to mouth. All this is due to one fact and one fact alone and that is the want of knowledge of agricultural economics. Nobody, whether he be a commercial magnate or a graduate of the university, knows agricultural or rural economics. We are taught in colleges economics that holds good so far as trade and industries are concerned, but so far as the agricultural industry is concerned we are completely kept in ignorance. While the agricultural colleges in foreign countries have chairs of agricultural economics, in our country, which is mainly agricultural out of policy, no chair for agricultural economics has been started. We want to know where we stand, where we and our lands stand at present. *Prima facie*, I have reason to believe that like the agriculturist himself his lands are also poor. They are poor, quite worn out, and they have to be rebuilt and organized under modern conditions. We want to know how that can be done. We believe that we grow more than Rs. 15 worth of produce and we get Rs. 13 or less for it. That is my knowledge about the exchange problem and I want to find out from competent authorities whether my knowledge is correct or not. That is what we want to know. I moved this very question—which is at the very root of all agricultural problems, namely, ignorance of rural economics—in the meeting of the Board of Agriculture that was held some two years back and suggested the creation of a chair of rural economics. But, unfortunately, I find that nothing appears to have been done in the matter. The sooner you do something, the better for the country. Take only one instance of my own district. If I grow two maunds more per acre, and I can assure you from my knowledge of agriculture that it is not impossible to grow two maunds more per acre, we can set that much of extra wealth in motion which will enable the presidency to have 100 new factories with a capital of one lakh each, that would be the result if the basic industry of your country is improved, and that could be done with more confidence, if the agriculturists are fully in possession of the knowledge that is required for the purpose. Another fact that I might perhaps mention for my honourable friend the Revenue Member is; we want to know what effect the land revenue has on the agricultural operations. *Prima facie*, I believe that land revenue depresses the prices of agricultural produce when the *hapta* or instalment time comes. When the time of paying instalments by the agriculturist comes, at a cheaper rate the produce is taken from us and that produce is sold to a foreign firm and naturally these foreign countries send their manufactured articles here with which we cannot compete. I have purposely made enquiries about the prices of our produce in London and Bombay, and, Sir, I find many times that the prices are actually cheaper in

[Rao Saheb D. P. Desai]

London than they are in Bombay! The produce we grow is cheaper in London and dearer in Bombay! What does that show? And how can any industry prosper in such circumstances? I see no reason, and I request my honourable friend the Member for Land Revenue just to look at this aspect and take it into consideration, and setting all other considerations aside he should take the opportunity of giving that protection which is necessary for the agriculturists. Government have given recently some protection to the mill and other industries, which are owned by about 2 or 3 per cent. of our countrymen, while they are not prepared to give that protection to the agricultural industry which is owned by 80 per cent. of our countrymen. The Agricultural Department has failed even in minor matters. Take, for instance, the recent frost. The effect of it could be prevented by spending about two pice per acre. They are preventing in England and other cold countries, and here the crops are lost on account of frost! There is permanent loss to the extent of crores of rupees to the country. I do not know whether our agricultural experts are able or not to predict these frosts, but in fact, in America and other places frosts are predicted at least some time before they come, and then proper measures are taken.....

Mr. F. G. PRATT: What measures? I understand the honourable member to say that frost is prevented in other countries. If so, I would very much like to know how.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: Not the frost itself. Frost as a divine calamity cannot be prevented, but the effect on cultivation can be prevented. That can be done only by smoke. That is a simple thing which I am sorry the agricultural experts do not know about and do not go into. If anybody were to study agricultural economics, he would at once see that frost could be prevented by having small fires. It is quite as easy as anything, but no agricultural officer, though he may be drawing Rs. 2,000 or Rs. 1,000 or Rs. 700, has ever approached the question in the true spirit that it deserves. Of course, my only regret in this connection, Sir, is that Government being tardy first of all begins by not accepting or ignoring what is stated in this House on this side, but sooner or later after some mistakes they come to reason. And I do believe that Government does come to reason and sets matters right, just as in the Development Department we have found Government coming to reason. Though the faults of this scheme and its effect were predicted on this side—they were so predicted nearly four years back—no notice was taken of it.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: How did you know?

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: From my own experience and information. When this question of frosts is touched I venture to suggest that if the agricultural overseers were simply supplied with the special instrument—what that instrument is I do not know,—and if these overseers were kept in touch with the agricultural associations, perhaps associations themselves would move in the matter. But, unfortunately, whenever this Government does anything, it does it in a half-hearted fashion.

[Rao Saheb D. P. Desai]

We have started agricultural associations which require to be encouraged. Now, what do we find? Only Rs. 25,000 are provided for agricultural associations. That is a very small amount and deserves to be increased.

My honourable friend from Poona has touched upon the question of dry farming. Again, I say, Sir, that in the United States they get fine crops with only 7 inches rainfall. Here with 7 inches of rainfall we are having famine, famine operations and fodder storage, and all that. Is there any officer, any one officer among these officers drawing Rs. 1,700 and Rs. 600 and so forth from the national purse, who has taken charge of that matter? (Government Benches: Yes, yes.)

Of course, one may say that, but I do not see that any resolution or any bulletin has been issued by any of the officers up till now. The only point is that what is an academical question here, is an accomplished fact in other countries. What is in actual operation there is here simply an academical question, and I do not know whether any active or real steps have been taken by Government in that direction. Even when that question was touched, I could just see that it was done in an off-hand manner, but I am glad to learn now that Government have seriously taken that question into their hands and they have already appointed a man or sent a man to study the conditions there—I do not know which—but they have moved in the matter, and so far I do congratulate Government for taking this step. But when it is actually ready to be put in proper operation, you have to make the agriculturist just fit to receive those suggestions. If the agriculturist is living from hand to mouth—I say this specially to the Honourable the Revenue Member—in this country, you can never hope to put all those things into actual operation in this country, because I know that it is a costly operation as a lot of intercultural work has to be done by costly and rather heavy implements, which would require a team of very good bullocks, which would require some intelligence on the part of the agriculturist, and which would require enough capital with the agriculturist. And it is the want of capital that has contributed in a large measure to starve the agriculturist. You have first of all damaged his credit with the outside world by various legislations such as the Land Revenue Code and the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act. Otherwise, how is it that, with the best of securities behind him, that of landed property, he cannot get any advance of money at a rate of interest less than 20 to 40 per cent.? What does it show? He cannot get any money outside, and Government will not let him have money at a lower rate of interest than 8 per cent. which is a Marwadi rate of interest. It is a shame to them for having suppressed the village agriculturist's credit with the outside world, and, then standing in the shoes of the money-lender, willing to make profit out of transactions with the agriculturists. I thought that, and I still think that, as Government has brought them into this pass, Government would at least be kind enough to give them money not at a cheap rate of interest, but practically without interest, but unfortunately Government have not come forward to do so. By the bye, I say that with that view,

[Rao Saheb D. P. Desai]

and with that view alone, I had tabled certain amendments in the Co-operative Societies' Bill. Those amendments could not be moved, because His Excellency's permission was not to be had. His Excellency always goes on the advice of the Ministers. Under the statute, he is supposed to act on the advice of Ministers. Why should the Ministers give His Excellency wholly wrong advice? Why should the Minister not disclose to His Excellency the true state of the agriculturist? That is my charge against the Minister. If the Minister is still wise enough, I hope he will allow me to, or himself, if he be willing to, put those clauses into the Co-operative Societies' Bill. If those clauses are introduced, I think much of the difficulty of the agriculturists will vanish and co-operation will again expand in this country. At present, it is a sort of spoonfeeding affair. That is, a few gentlemen of the Co-operative Department or the Agricultural Department go to the villages, catch hold of a few villagers and ask them to form themselves into a co-operative society, and out of regard for them a society is brought into existence but they fail to convince the agriculturists; and I think the agriculturists are right. How can they attract cheap capital under the peculiar circumstances of their condition and the land tenure? Again the whole co-operative movement in this presidency is based on such non-co-operative principles that it is but natural that the agriculturist cannot understand it and as stated above, out of some regard for some other people, those agriculturists form themselves into a society, and those societies live in poverty at present, for those societies.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: May I know how long the honourable member is still going to take?

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: I shall now conclude, Sir. For these co-operative societies, I had requested the Honourable Minister to do something in the way of Government help but that money is denied to him. Where should he go for money now? Government talk of introducing dry farming. How are they to do it, if the cultivator has no money? (An Honourable Member from the Government Benches: We have introduced it.) You have introduced it? You may introduce it in a village or two, but I do not know of any agricultural officer or overseer in my district having ever bothered himself about that affair.

I would again just request the honourable member to state where he got the figures from about the net proceeds per acre. I am glad that he has not referred to Surat; it is doubtful whether it is being worked at a profit there, but so far as Dharwar and Kumta and the other places are concerned, to which he has referred, I fail to understand from which budgets of the agriculturists he has culled out those profits. Personally, I am of opinion that to have so much profit out of that seed is doubtful. With these remarks, I support the motion.

An Honourable MEMBER: Sir, I move for a closure.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (Rose).

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I am very much inclined to accept the closure.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Just as you please, Sir.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : The honourable member (Mr. Mehta) may be allowed to make some answer to the points, Sir.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Just as you please, Sir.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : We have got a lot of work to go through. I will therefore accept the closure and call upon the honourable mover to reply.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District) : Sir, so many suggestions and recommendations have been made, and so many complaints and accusations have been showered on the head of the Honourable Minister that I think my purpose has been amply served. I simply wanted to give an occasion to criticise the department. That purpose has been fully served. I do not wish to hear any half-hearted explanations from the Honourable Minister given simply with the object of whitewashing the department. I am persuaded to give him one year more to submit satisfactory explanations. I would therefore withdraw my motion.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : If there is one dissenting voice it will prevent your withdrawing your motion. I do not think it is quite fair to withdraw at this stage. Government have the right of reply, and the honourable member may withdraw his motion after the reply is given.

Mr. S. S. DEV : Very well, Sir.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Sir, I am grateful to the honourable member who has moved this amendment, because it has given an opportunity to a number of members in this honourable House to discuss the question, throw light on it, and bring forward for the consideration of Government all the needs of the people, and the defects of the department. There is no doubt, and I need hardly assure honourable members, that all these suggestions made by them here will receive the best consideration of Government. And I can give no better proof of the best intentions of Government than by stating the real fact, that it was at the initiation of His Excellency himself that an ambitious programme was about to be prepared, which was very sympathetically supported by the Honourable the Finance Member, but Government could in the end only ask for a grant, which could be asked in our present financial circumstances. But the activities of the department are not at a standstill. Every effort will be made to meet all those points which have been made out by the honourable members, and the progress that the department needs will be made as circumstances permit.

There are several points which have been made, but I shall allude very briefly to the salient and important ones. The department has a number of officers both European and Indian who are very sincerely and deeply interested in every branch of the department and every interest of the agriculturists, and they are doing their utmost to meet the needs of the province. It is alleged that this department is officered by a large number of men. But a careful examination will show that every man is

[Mr. A. M. K. Dehlavi]

in his proper place, and that each and every officer is necessary to solve the many problems which are connected with the department. If however I find that it is possible to dispense with the services of any, Government will not be tardy in seeing that any burden of that kind is removed from the department. But the one important mission of the department is to carry the information that the department collects with such pains and trouble to the doors of the agriculturist so that he may benefit by them. We have this year provided as much as could be provided for, for research and propaganda work. The chair of economics, which has been alluded to, is already under the consideration of Government and it is possible that I may have to approach the honourable House for a supplementary demand on that account.

A lot has been said about wild pigs. Government have done, are doing, and are going to do a good deal in that direction. A large amount has been asked for that in addition to what is provided for in the current year. Every effort is being made to see that the pig pest is done away with. But honourable members will bear in mind pigs are after all pigs, and we shall have to meet the difficulty as best as we can. The honourable House need not however remain under the hope that Government will be able to give a wonderful record of their work in that respect next year. Every effort will be made to see that the pig pest diminishes.

Now, coming to the subject of preserving the moisture of the soil, so that better results in produce can be shown, the honourable member Mr. Bhopatkar stated that he feared that the Deccan might go dry in course of time. The Honourable the Finance Member in his opening speech has already pointed out that there is an officer busily engaged in the neighbourhood of Poona, examining how moisture could be preserved, and how the producing capacity of the soil could be increased. When the results of his investigations are known Government will consider whether that activity should be developed.

Then there are so many other questions raised, and if I were to deal with them all, it would take too much time of the honourable House. I have pointed out to honourable members that in every one of the directions they have pointed out Government are doing their best. There is just one point I should like to touch upon, and that is the capacity of cows to give better and larger quantity of milk. That is also being attended to. Effort is being made in every direction to see that cows in this presidency produce more milk than they are doing.

As to an enquiry into the indebtedness of agriculturists, that question is being considered. It is a huge question. It is an all-India question, and is being considered everywhere in India; and in due time I hope honourable members will find that something tangible is done in this presidency also.

The various cuts and amendments that were proposed have been withdrawn. I think and so does the House now, that the money provided for this department is really not enough for the needs of the department. It is therefore a source of satisfaction to me that the

[Mr. A. M. K. Dehlavi]

motions have been withdrawn. That provides a sufficient answer to the other speakers who moved for cuts.

The last speaker, the honourable member from Kaira has pointed out a number of things, but one wonderful thing he pointed out was that the mist which ruined crops could be avoided by expending two pies. Well, if that is so, I shall take care and request the Director of Agriculture on his behalf to spend the few pies during the next year, and see if that method is of any real value.

The figures I have quoted regarding the benefits accruing to agriculturists in Dharwar on account of the introduction of improved cottons are figures to be relied upon. They are reliable figures. The two varieties of cotton which are being grown in Dharwar really give a good profit to the agriculturists.

Sir, as I said, if every little point that has been raised were to be answered it would be taking too much time of the honourable House. It will suffice if I conclude by saying that Government are doing their utmost to meet the needs and interests of the agricultural population of the country.

Mr. S. S. DEV : Sir, I may be allowed to withdraw the motion.

Question put and leave granted.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Sir, I move for the grant of the total demand of Rs. 24,48,000 for Agriculture and Civil Veterinary Services (Transferred).

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, I beg to move for a grant of Rs. 26,00,000 for Public Health (Transferred).

Question proposed.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (Eastern Sind) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the detailed head 33a Public Health Laboratory for Sind Rs. 30,000 be omitted."

I want this item to be omitted firstly on the ground that the laboratory is turning out very small amount of work. If we see further down on page 186 we will find a provision of Rs. 2,000 made for the health laboratory in Poona. My honourable friend for Poona has tabled a question with regard to this laboratory for Sind and has asked for the return of work turned out by this laboratory. I am sorry no information has yet been given with regard to this question. My information is that the laboratory at Karachi is not turning out as much work as the one in Poona and that the laboratory at Poona is turning ten times more work than that at Karachi. Still while a provision of Rs. 32,000 is made for the Poona laboratory, Rs. 30,000 is demanded for the Karachi laboratory.

The second ground is that I am told there is another laboratory at Karachi, which is a chemical analyser's laboratory. I am told that this laboratory in addition to its usual work is also doing the work which this public health laboratory is expected to do. I am told that this Chemical Analyser's laboratory is more efficient. On these grounds I consider that this laboratory should not be maintained.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Sir, in 1916, the Director of Public Health submitted a comprehensive scheme for the bacteriological and chemical examination of drinking water in the presidency including Sind. The scheme could not be given effect to for want of funds. In 1919 Government, however, sanctioned the opening of the laboratory in Karachi. The continuance of the laboratory was in the beginning sanctioned from year to year. As the laboratory has been doing useful work, its continuance has been sanctioned as an independent institution until experience under the proposed Adulteration of Foodstuffs Act has been gained. When that Act comes into force in Karachi, the officer in charge of this laboratory will become the public health analyser under the Act, which will only be workable if there are laboratories of the kind to deal with samples. The local bodies in Sind have been advised to take advantage of the laboratory instead of starting laboratories of their own. The Karachi municipality gives an annual grant of Rs. 1,200 to the laboratory and in course of time other local bodies will be induced to take advantage of this laboratory and perhaps they too will contribute towards the maintenance of this laboratory. The work done at the laboratory is of a varied nature. A daily bacteriological and chemical examination of the Karachi water supply is carried out throughout the year. Samples of water are also received regularly for examination from several towns and places in Sind. Similarly samples of food as well as pathological specimens are also examined. In 1923 an outbreak of Ankylostomiasa (hook-worm) amongst the sewage-farm workmen was investigated at the laboratory. Investigations were also made of intestinal protozoa connected with fevers in Sind. In short, examination is carried out of various miscellaneous matters which it would be quite difficult to send down to the Bombay Bacteriological Laboratory, as the latter is too far distant to be of any use. The need of a laboratory is therefore much felt in a province like Sind.

As to the objections raised by my honourable friend the mover of this motion that the laboratory in Poona is turning out much better work than the one at Karachi, I think I shall have to compare the figures. It does not mean thereby that the laboratory at Karachi is not wanted. As a matter of fact it is doing good work and useful work, because it is utilized by many municipalities for testing water. Water analysis and other bacteriological work is of very great importance. When the Adulteration of Foods Act comes into force, which will soon be the case, this laboratory will be of very great importance because unless there is such a laboratory, the samples of food cannot be analysed and the Act cannot be worked in the province of Sind. As a matter of fact, I do not think there is another laboratory in Karachi; but even if there be one.....

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: Is the Honourable Minister sure?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: So far as I know, I do not think there is another. Even if there is one, this will be necessary, because the chemical laboratory will not take up work from local bodies. This laboratory is intended to assist local bodies as well as private persons.

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

If it is not doing the necessary amount of work, it will require looking into. I promise the House to look into the question and do the needful. But I think this laboratory is necessary and that the motion should be rejected.

Dr. M. M. MEHTA (Surat City) : Sir, I support the motion that has been moved by my honourable friend Mr. Joshi. My purpose in doing so is to elicit further information from the Honourable Minister in charge on the subject. It has been stated that this laboratory is an additional one in Sind. If there is already one laboratory there I do not think that another laboratory should be opened there. I find in the budget that provision has been made for two chemical examiners but the account shows provision for one only. I know that there already exists one chemical examiner in Bombay and I don't find in the Blue Book any mention of Karachi. If the latter is correct I should certainly advise my friend to withdraw the motion. But I do not understand how there can be two chemical examiners ; if one of them is meant for Karachi, it altogether makes a different case for supporting my honourable friend Mr. Joshi's motion. So this requires some explanation. And if the explanation is satisfactory that there is only one chemical examination at Bombay and none at Karachi, then this new item is justified. But if the explanation is not satisfactory I will support the motion for omission.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD (Central Division) : Mr. President, I do not know how my honourable friend from Khandesh, Mr. Joshi, has got this information from Sind. (Mr. P. G. Joshi : From my friends there.) It is a very great distance from East Khandesh to Sind and I think that my honourable friend is rather misinformed. The laboratory at Karachi is really speaking in its infancy. But if in Poona the laboratory is doing good work or turns out ten times better work than the laboratory at Karachi, the argument would cut both ways. Because it would suggest that in order to enable the Karachi Laboratory to do better work, more funds should be provided. Sir, in a matter like this which is essentially for the benefit of the people, I do not think that the House would be justified in passing this motion. The House may certainly give further instruction to the Minister for improving the laboratory there and getting the worth of the money. I will therefore oppose the motion and I hope it will be rejected.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind) : I rise, Sir, to support the motion and with reasons too. Nor do I think that the Honourable Minister himself is very serious about it. He had to explain and therefore he had to deliver a written speech for that purpose. He explained the continuance of it, but I respectfully submit to the House that on page 189 public health laboratory is shown as temporary. It is headed by the word " temporary ". It is stated there, one officer in charge (a member of the bacteriological department), etc., and the whole provision is made 30,000. So, Sir, this temporary department has been started as the Honourable Minister says since 1919, then it is high time either to make up his mind that it should cease to be temporary and

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

if he has not made up his mind whether it should cease to be temporary, and if for the five years that it has been in existence there is no reason to consider its existence as a permanent department, I do not think that there is any further necessity for the existence of that laboratory at Karachi. I think the Honourable Minister, if he inquires, will find that there is a chemical analyser at Karachi, a separate department where all the blood specimens or instruments or clothes which form the subject-matter of criminal cases are sent for examination. It is not the public health laboratory to which these are sent in Karachi and therefore there is, to the best of my information which the Minister is in a position to contradict if he can, a chemical laboratory there and the chemical analyser who can do the little work that this laboratory has to do there. Now, even the Honourable Minister while justifying the existence of this laboratory could only find one small justification and that was that specimens of water are at present being received from Karachi and nothing further. Sir, daily 365 specimens are being received from Karachi and the other municipalities are also expected to send, but that they have not yet begun to send them. Sukkur has not as yet sent any, nor do the other municipalities need to send any, nor have they the desire to pay money, because this laboratory won't do the work without payment nor will the other municipalities or local bodies care to send specimens with money to Karachi. If they do, Sir, then there will be the amounts that our municipalities will contribute towards its up-keep which the municipalities in Sind are in no financial position to do, and no Government can compel to maintain out of their own funds a laboratory of this kind only for the purpose of analysing water, to determine what? I will tell you what is required is chlorinated water, which is available in almost every municipality of Sind, water purified with alum and chlorine which no municipality ever cares to get done because it is not necessary. Then the laboratory has to say what is the percentage of bacilli of this little insect in the water. A certain amount of bacilli is allowed. It is good for the health of the town and for the health of the water itself, but beyond that per square inch is considered inadvisable. That is the whole function that this laboratory might do for any municipality but no municipality is anxious to do it, and I may tell the Honourable Minister that he need not expect the municipalities to support it, at least the Sukkur municipality will refuse to do that. Now if all these facts exist, I may also inform the Honourable Minister, he must have got them himself, that this specimen analysis for 12 months amounts to about 1,000 altogether, I can be excused the mistake of dot or two dots, compared with the Poona laboratory, the health laboratory which does about 12 to 13 times as much. I do not think that at any distant time Sind will contribute, even after the Adulteration of Foodstuffs Act is passed, any larger number of specimens for analysis. It would be very interesting if the Honourable Minister had told us how many specimens of adulterated articles specially ghee have been submitted at any time to the laboratory at Karachi. It will be interesting to know whether

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

adulterated articles have even been submitted to the Karachi health laboratory, specimens which under the law so far as ghee is concerned can be submitted to it because there is section 142 of the Municipal Act. But I do not think that more than five or six for the last three or four years have been submitted to this laboratory: and if a laboratory is to be kept simply for the purpose of making the municipalities or expecting the municipalities to send specimens which hereafter may come into force under the Act, if it is to be kept only for about one thousand specimens to be analysed every year which means 3 a day, half an hour's work, because each specimen won't take more than an hour, if the Honourable Minister thinks that this expenditure of Rs. 30,000 is justified by these figures which I think he must have on his record, then the House will say nothing. If this is the justification I think the Honourable Minister may as well remove the whole establishment under the word temporary because he is not satisfied that it should cease to be temporary.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): Sir, my honourable friend from Poona (Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad) wants to know how I possess the information regarding the laboratory which is situated at Karachi. I may surprise him by telling him, Sir, that I have spent five years myself at Karachi and I have several friends at Karachi, and therefore I am very much interested in matters which particularly relate to Karachi. The Honourable Minister by this time knows that there is a chemical analyser's laboratory at Karachi. When that fact is there and reports have also been issued to members of this House, regarding the chemical analyser's laboratory, the question is whether this public health laboratory should be maintained in addition to that laboratory. Sir, no reply has been given to my remarks that even the Surgeon General with the Government of Bombay is not in favour of maintaining this laboratory, and I am also told that even the Commissioner in Sind is of opinion that this laboratory should not be maintained. In the face of all these things, I think that this chemical analyser's laboratory should alone be maintained and my motion to omit this item of Rs. 30,000, which is provided for public health laboratory at Karachi should be passed.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Sir, I now learn that there is a chemical analyser's laboratory, which works for Government and does not take private work or work of local bodies. So a laboratory for both these purposes is necessary. As for the question of my honourable friend whether the Surgeon General has made a report about the abolition of the public health laboratory, I can only say that that report has not yet come to me and I know nothing about it. But I assure the House that I do not want to have two laboratories in one and the same place and I shall try to reduce the establishment as much as possible. The House will admit the necessity of a public health laboratory in these days. The Poona laboratory, for instance, is doing very good work and nobody will propose its abolition, and when the Adulteration of Foodstuffs Act

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

comes into force, the existence of such a laboratory will be essential. It may also be pointed out that the municipality of Ahmedabad has been urging upon Government the starting of such a laboratory in that city and has offered to pay half the cost. This shows the necessity of such a laboratory. I assure the House that the whole amount provided in the budget will not be spent and I shall try to save money as much as possible and to reduce the expenditure and also to reduce the staff if possible.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): In view of the explanation and the assurance given by the Honourable Minister, I would like, Sir, to withdraw the motion.

Question put and leave granted.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Sir, I move that the votable portion of expenditure on Public Health be reduced by four lakhs.

My reason for making this motion is apparent from the White Book, page 186. The accounts for the year 1923-24 show the amount to be Rs. 19 lakhs and odd; the budget for the current year is Rs 24 lakhs and odd; and now for the next year we are going to provide Rs. 29,60,000 for this department of Public Health. So every year we are rapidly increasing our expenditure. Of all the departments of Government I believe this department will stand foremost in its top-heaviness. If you turn over pages 186 to 199 of the White Book and go over all the officers and their salaries, you will find that there is one officer in this department who carries over Rs. 3,000 that is more than the Director and is called the Medical Research Officer. It was at one time thought that this was a new officer, but it transpired that his designation had been changed and he had been transferred from one sub-head to another. Perhaps this is an officer over the head of the Director of Public Health, who only draws Rs. 2,400 and the Medical Research Officer carries Rs. 3,000. This looks as if it were a department of officers. There are four officers who carry more than Rs. 2,000 a month, about thirteen officers who draw up Rs. 1,000 or thereabouts, and sixteen officers drawing less than Rs. 1,000, omitting of course the Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents and Inspectors and others. Of the total expenditure of Rs. 29 lakhs which has been provided, about Rs. 13 lakhs, that is to say, about half the amount is carried by the officers and their staff. Probably of this Rs. 13 lakhs a greater portion is carried by the officers themselves and the rest by the staff. Rs. 9 lakhs only are reserved for grants and Rs. 4 or Rs. 5 lakhs for miscellaneous works. And what is the work that these three dozens of officers are doing? Of the work that these officers do we have a good sample in the latest report of the Public Health Department, which is for the year 1923 and not for 1924, although we are in the year 1925. I hope to show you, Sir, from this report, that this Director and these Assistant Directors of Public Health have really very little work to do. The same cannot be said of the superintendents of laboratories, but of the Director and his Assistant Directors this annual report for the year 1923 gives a very poor account. For instance, I

[Mr. S. S. Dev]

refer to the work done by the assistant directors in the year under report and I would draw your attention to page 40 of that report, and I will ask the Honourable Minister whether this is really a satisfactory state of things, whether this is really sufficient work for an assistant director to do. I will not read the whole of it, I will simply read the relevant portion believing that the Honourable Minister in charge of the department is in possession of all these facts. Here is a brief summary of the advice given by Assistant Directors in sanitary matters.

"Amalner and Malegaon:—Public latrines for males and females were provided; Bhusawal, Faizapur, Dhulia and Hubli—constructed new gutters; Nandurbar—constructed one open drain 600 ft. in length; Igatpuri—constructed a new drain at a cost of Rs. 2,185 and conducted a rat campaign at a cost of Rs. 454; Bandra—repaired the dumping ground for sullage on the creek at Bunderwadi and laid a cast-iron pipe drain at a cost of Rs. 1,811 to discharge sullage below ebb-tide level. A one-ton motor vehicle for removal of the town sweepings was purchased."

All this to the credit of the Assistant Director of Public Health.

"Matheran—Some latrines in the catchment area of Lake Charlotte were reconstructed Belgaum—acquired land for trenching night-soil on the Nasik system."

All to his credit.

"Gokak, Saundatti, Bail-Hongal, Haveri, Bijapur and Bagalkot—removed prickly pear."

What a heavy work for an Assistant Director to direct and advise?

"Guledgud, Karwar and Anand—purchased sanitary implements. Kapadvanj, Mehmedabad and Tatta—made improvements to wells. Nadiad—spent Rs. 231-7-7 in constructing 6 blocks of latrines."

And so on and so on. This is the work that stands to the credit of these Assistant Directors of Health. Is that sufficient work I ask. Why entertain so many officers if there is not sufficient work for all? This is with regard to municipal towns. Coming to Sanitary Committees' Areas we find that the Assistant Directors of Health visited 38 Sanitary Committees' Areas and gave them advice. I give you, Sir, a few examples of the work done by these bodies upon that advice.

"The Nampur Committee sterilized wells with potassium permanganate, Pimpalgaon Baswant and Mahim constructed gutters. Goregaon removed silt from the wells. Birvadi paved streets. Mahar arranged to get a well bored. Soapir, Khahi, Rahu, Khorewah, Samro and Khipro made improvements to wells. Bhiria provided 15 houses with cess-pools."

It may excite your laughter, but this is the work that stands to the credit of these officers. Here is a department which I emphatically maintain is very topheavy. Next to this department perhaps comes the Agricultural Department, but of all the departments under Government this is a department which is really an eyesore to me because of its unnecessary highly paid officers. I have counted all the officers, and I have counted the salaries that they get and looking to the petty work that they do or have to do, I submit that the Honourable Minister in charge may see his way to cut down half the number of these officers.

Mr. F. G. PRATT: Sir, the objections raised by my honourable friend opposite remind me of the objections which I have met with in the course of my municipal experience to the appointment of public health officers in urban areas. I could tell this House of a municipal area, with a population of 40,000, which seriously came to the conclusion that the appointment of a competent and qualified health officer would be a useless extravagance. Well, Sir, I can only say that the readiness to expend

[Mr. F. G. Pratt]

money on purposes connected with public health is a very fair index of the intelligence and civilisation of the responsible authorities. Now, the argument put forward in that municipal area was : " What do we want with a 400, or 500 or 600 rupees health officer ? Look round our streets, look at the conditions of our purlieus and the outlying fields surrounding this town : let us economise, let us do without a health officer ; let us employ instead of a health officer a staff of Bhangis ". That was the argument. They said " The proper health officers for our community, for our town are the Bhangis ; those are the people whom we should go in for ; do not let us have high paid officers." That is typical of the backward and unintelligent attitude in respect of these matters. People who argue like that do not understand that it is not enough to have executive hands for public health administration, but it is also necessary to have trained, qualified and expert brains, and those you cannot buy at the salaries which will enable you to increase your staff of Bhangis or sweepers.

Now, Sir, my honourable friend opposite created a great deal of amusement by reading a list of the works which were performed by the sanitary committees. These sanitary committees exist in small villages, and their funds are limited.

Mr. S. S. DEV : On a point of correction, Sir. I did not merely read the list of works done by the sanitary committees, but I read the list of works undertaken by the committees at the advice given by the assistant directors of public health.

Mr. F. G. PRATT : I heard my honourable friend read out a long list of works constructed by these sanitary committees, including such humourous items as latrines, urinals and things of that kind, and he said that the credit for these works is to be given to the assistant directors of public health. The credit of these works is to be given to the sanitary committees. They very likely could not pay for anything more important than that. I have not the smallest doubt that the assistant directors of public health give local sanitary committees a great deal of advice which does not fructify, because such advice will not fructify unless it is given to people who are intelligent enough and civilised enough to put it into practice. It is no use throwing seed upon barren ground. We hope that these assistant directors of public health will sometimes throw their seed, fruitful advice, upon ground where it will take root and grow up into something really useful, but in any case the blame does not lie at their door if their advice is not translated into action by the sanitary committees. The honourable member invites us to believe that these assistant directors of public health are perfectly useless consumers of high salaries, who give no benefit to the district in which they work. I entirely contradict that from my own experience. In some of the newly constituted district boards, an interesting step in advance has been taken of the appointment of public health committee. and I hold in my hand here a very interesting account of a long meeting and discussion between the public health committee of the district of

[Mr. F. G. Pratt]

Broach and the assistant director of public health. The president of that district local board is a member of this House, though I do not see him in his place at this moment--I refer to the Thakorsaheb of Kerwada—and it was quite clear from the account of those proceedings that the public health committee of that district saw their way very clearly and looked forward with some hope and confidence to making a good deal of use of the expert knowledge and advice of the assistant director of public health. The committee brought to the notice of the assistant director of public health the fact that for some untraceable reasons the population of some Hindu villages was decreasing, and it was highly desirable and necessary that the reasons for this must be traced out. The assistant director of public health promised to work out the problem, and the public health committee promised to give him all assistance in furnishing him with the data necessary for the solution of the problem. Then again the question was discussed of the extreme congestion which so often prevails in villages, owing to the fact that the cultivated land presses right up to the edge of the old village site. The village population goes on increasing and increasing, and consequently the houses become very seriously overcrowded. The population suffers in various ways, owing to that overcrowding. Not only are the houses overcrowded and the people suffer from tuberculosis and all the diseases which overcrowding and lack of ventilation produce, but even the streets are overcrowded. There is no proper provision for such necessities as play grounds, no open spaces. Children have to play their games on the streets in and out of the heels of cattle, for which there have been no communal cattle stands provided. There are not one but twenty different ways in which improvements could be introduced in a village at a matter of small cost, provided you bring to bear upon the problems of that village the trained and expert intelligence of a sympathetic officer as the assistant director of public health who will meet people and discuss with them their needs and wants.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: Who meets them ?

Mr. F. G. PRATT: The assistant director of public health, about whom I was talking just now. He met the district board public health department.

Then, Sir, is it fair to contend that the director of public health is useless, when we compare, for instance, the present condition of the pilgrim town of Pandharpur with the conditions which used to prevail in that town ten or fifteen years ago, when it was a public danger not only to the whole of Maharashtra but even to distant Calcutta, on account of the wholesale dissemination of epidemic disease which used to proceed from that centre owing to the absence of that expert intelligence of superior officers, which my honourable friend opposite reprehends? I venture to suggest to him that for the sum of money which we pay for the services of that assistant health officer he might have employed an army of 200 sweepers, but the work done would not have had the same result.

[Mr. F. G. Pratt]

Another fact. I wish to tell the House of a most interesting and important investigation conducted largely at the instance of one of my Northern Division Collectors, who for years past has taken a keen and much more than an amateur interest in the great and urgent problem of malarial prevention. He has worked up that problem in many, at least in three, different districts. He saw the terrible conditions that prevailed during the monsoon months of the year in that outpost of civilization in the Northern Division, which is known as the Dangs forest area. He saw how practically the whole of that population—not only the villagers, but everybody, the villagers and the officials up to the collector and the political agent themselves—were victims and martyrs to the severe type of epidemic malaria which prevails in that tract. The efficiency of labour is reduced by probably 60, 70 or 80 per cent. owing to the prevalence of malaria. Well, Sir, the assistant director of public health went into the Dangs, and with the assistance of local officers thoroughly familiar with the conditions, he made a thorough investigation of the problem. It might perhaps interest the Council to be told that incautiously he started by taking blood tests from the children in the villages. He had to give that up, because it was very likely that if he had continued to do that, the Bhils in the Dangs might have burned his tent and slain him, thinking that his operations were to cover some sinister plan for human sacrifice, for taking the children and sacrificing their lives. So he had to tackle the problem in a different way. He contented himself with spleen investigation. Well, the result of his work was that we have got now a report which I hope may prove of interest to India as a whole and go a step in advance towards the solution of the urgent problem of malarial epidemic in rural India, a problem which in other Eastern countries—I am thinking of the Federated Malay States—has been carried very much further towards solution than probably most members of this House would consider it to be possible.

Sir, I do not think I have much to add in defence of these officers whom my honourable friend describes as incubuses. I hope the House will decide by its vote which of the two types of health officers they prefer, whether they prefer the health officer on Rs. 12 or Rs. 15, the humble sweeper, or whether they prefer to have an admixture of brains together with the humble executive capacity of the lower ranks of the department.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University) : Sir, I rise to defend that barbarism which regards these highly paid officers as octopuses absolutely useless for the country. I hold the view, Sir, that the issue which has been raised by the honourable member for Khandesh is a simple one and should not be confused with the levity which the honourable Commissioner for the Northern Division has imported into this debate. The plain issue is this. Here you find half the amount provided in the budget spent on the salaries of a few highly paid officers. The issue which the honourable member has raised is clear and it has to be answered straight and not treated with ridicule by doubting the intelligence and the civilization of those who hold the contrary view, as the honourable the

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

Commissioner for the Northern Division has done. Having regard to the comparatively simple problems of our village sanitation and public health, the Minister of Education owes an explanation to this House why half the salaries are spent on these useless octopuses which spread their tentacles over the poor people of the country. That issue has to be judged on its merits without importing motives or doubting the intelligence and civilisation of those, who, like myself, are barbarous enough to imagine that these people are absolutely unnecessary in the districts. Sir, their existence has been defended on the ground that they are "experts." We know how expert reputations are made in India, especially by those who come from outside the country. Do we not know of the "expert" bungling in Poona in drainage some years ago, from which the people of Poona are still suffering? Do we not know of the "expert" advisers of the Bombay Improvement Trust, from which people suffered for long? Do we not know of the "expert" activity of the Development Department of which we hear so much in this Council? Whenever the word 'expert' is used in my hearing, I get very suspicious especially if the expert comes from outside. I have learned to understand the word 'expert' in the language of Anglo-India, as a *subjantevala*, a man who understands everything. All those varied topics from the educational portfolio to gutters, these "experts" are supposed to know. I therefore want to put it to the Minister for Education a very plain question—some honourable members may doubt about my intelligence, civilization and culture for putting that question—Why are these officers necessary, having regard to the simple way in which our villagers live? I certainly hold the view, and I congratulate that municipality, to which the honourable the Commissioner for the Northern Division referred, for holding the view that twenty *bhangis* are far more useful to the countryside than one highly paid officer! I certainly belong to that class of people who believe that a *bhangi* is more useful to a village than a highly paid officer who poses as an expert. Where is the occasion for this expert knowledge in the villages? I can understand a very highly evolved organisation in an advanced European country where problems arise of health and sanitation which require expert knowledge and expert consideration. I have seen such communities myself, miles and miles removed from India. May I know why so much ridicule should be poured on us who believe that our village life is so simple and our problems are so free from complexity that we do not want these highly paid experts at all?

Mr. F. G. PRATT: What is the mortality in rural areas?

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: I am not concerned with the mortality. I am doubting the wisdom of employing in villages these experts and paying them half the amount of the whole cost of the department. The issue is plain and simple. I know that there are questions for which experts are wanted. I have seen their use. I shall give one instance: I am not talking without my book. In the Pandharpur fair and in other similar big *melas* experts are very useful. But may I know, how many

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

occasions arose during the last year when these experts were found necessary? May I appeal to the Honourable Minister for Education to state categorically, within the whole of the last year, how many occasions arose when these experts were required to give expert advice? What does the word 'expert' mean? What are his duties and how often is he called on to act as an expert to the simple village folk? I have no doubt that we shall considerably soften our opposition if the Honourable Minister will give, without indulging in levity and ridicule, a straight answer to my plain question. It is somewhat amusing to find one highly paid officer justifying the necessity of another highly paid officer. But I do want the Honourable Minister to state on how many days during the year these officers devote themselves to give the people expert advice and on how many days they have to do the work which an ordinary officer can as well do. If, on a review of a year's work, I am satisfied and my honourable friends are satisfied that the normal life of these people, I would not say abnormal, is spent in giving expert advice which the community needs, I will withdraw my opposition. In short what we want to know is how far this department is justified in permanently maintaining such highly paid officers. I am sorry that the Honourable the Commissioner, Northern Division, thought it right to indulge in ridicule, and I will take the liberty of saying that if the spirit of his unfortunate speech indicates the temper of these officers who work in our villages, then I see no hope for them. I ask whether these officers sympathetically inquire into the difficulties of the village people and go about offering their aid and advice, after placing themselves on the same pedestal as the people themselves? I consider that it is their duty to go about, doing their work in quiet sympathy, inducing the people gradually to understand their point of view and not to claim to stand on a superior pedestal of civilisation, intelligence or culture as the Commissioner, Northern Division, does. I therefore want to get from the Honourable Minister an answer to this simple question as to how far these people possess expert knowledge, and how far that expert knowledge was found necessary or useful during the last year, and how far it was kept within the means of those people on whom these officers have been thrust. These are simple questions and I hope the Honourable Minister will answer them without equivocation.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind): Sir, I thank the honourable member the Commissioner, Northern Division, for having excited by his speech a mentality of opposition, a mentality born of self-respect in every member on this side of the House which he values most. I thank the honourable member for having openly made the allegation that many municipalities are uncivilised and I thank him for styling himself as belonging to one of the civilised nations of the world. If the honourable member the Commissioner wants instances to be quoted where municipalities have eschewed and rejected health officers and replaced them by sanitary inspectors, I will give him an instance from my own experience, because I am the president of one myself. There are other

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

municipalities, besides, which have done so. With the concurrence of a civilised I.C.S. collector, and with the concurrence of a more civilised I.C.S. commissioner, for both of whom I have great regard, I have done away with this officer. As regards the assistant directors of public health I regret there has been no information before this House for the last 3 years. An enquiry was held as regards the work performed by these officers. An assistant director of public health came to give evidence. The Director of Public Health was asked to give in detail the duties of these officers. Surgeon General Jennings who commands the respect of Indians and Europeans alike gave us the list of duties of the officers. I shall give you the opinion of the Surgeon General who is responsible for the health of the people of the whole presidency. He was of opinion that a separate health department was unnecessary for this presidency, and that it should be placed under the Surgeon General.

One of the *great* duties of the assistant director of public health is to prepare statistics of births and deaths in this presidency. The collection of the same statistics is then repeated again in the office of the Director of Public Health—a duplicate process. This was admitted by the Health Department. In the examination the assistant director told us that the other work they have to do was to tour round the country. I shall give an instance as to how they tour, how they inspect and how they do their work. I give the instance of Sukkur. In the company of the chief officer of the local authority, he walks round the town. They tour round the place in half a day and then go away. That is the great work they do in a municipal area. I challenge any Commissioner on the other side of the House to show me a single report where the assistant director has suggested the means and methods of removing congestion in towns that the honourable Commissioner talked so much of.

The prevention of the epidemics or presence at the time of epidemics at two or three fairs in all these three divisions of the presidency is another function : there are only four fairs held, in all, at three or four places in the presidency, apart from Sind. If, for the purpose of these three or four fairs, not exceeding six in the whole presidency, four directors of public health are necessary to advise the local bodies, I submit that the appointment is unjustified. There ought to be a proper sense of proportion, not on paper as the honourable member the Commissioner, Northern Division, read, not to the uncivilised and boorish people as he styled we are, to whom this special advice and the lecture from the Commissioner, Northern Division, was addressed, I say not on paper, but in practice. Let us find and analyse the duties that these officers have to perform. And I will refer to the evidence of the assistant directors themselves and also to the evidence of the Director of Public Health, Colonel Murphy, who is the officer in charge of the Public Health Department, and also to the evidence of the Surgeon General Jennings ; against the evidence of these officers as regards the duties of the assistant directors of public health, let the commissioners and collectors come forward and defend their existence.

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

The Public Health Department does not consist of only one department. It consists of the laboratory establishment, it consists of the local vaccination department, it consists of the Sanitary Engineer's department and also the Consulting Surveyor to the Government of Bombay. There is no doubt whatever that these departments are top-heavy. I read only this morning the opinion of the Honourable Members of Government, the Revenue and Irrigation Members before the Muddiman Committee and nothing struck me so well on the question as their opinion expressed in writing that members on the non-official side object to the top-heaviness of the department; as they cannot effectively join to do away with the top-heaviness of the department, they unite otherwise. What do we find in this department?

The growth of the non-votable expenditure of this department is worthy of note. We know we are helpless, we are crying in the wilderness when we express an opinion, but, Sir, it is for the Honourable Minister if he wants to be strong and answerable to this side of the House, and not answerable to the Government of which he forms a part, I say, if he looks into these matters he will find that the increase, the percentage of increase has been certainly far more than it is desirable. Consulting Surveyor to Government, in 1923-24 accounts, 93,000 voted, non-voted 30,000, that is to say, 33 per cent. or 30 per cent. is the non-voted expenditure. In the revised budget estimate it is in the proportion of 90,000 to 38,000. You will see the proportion in which it rises. It was 93 to 30 in the revised budget, that is to say actuals, it is 90 to 38. Then in the present year's budget it is 107 to 47. That is to say, a rise between 92-93 of 17,000 against a rise of 9,000 only in the votable items. The figures are clear, while the votable expenditure has risen from 93 to 103, the non-votable expenditure has risen from 31 to 47. The figures speak for themselves. Of course the Honourable Minister in charge cannot put his foot down upon the increase in the non-votable items. He is helpless if the Finance Member does not care to assist the Council: we can say nothing: the figures are there. These are items with which we can do nothing. But proceeding further and coming to the Sanitary Engineer and his staff, I am not fighting with the details, there is considerable increase. But let us see the figures given at page 193 of the White Book. Against non-voted 78 there are voted 2,30. Then, Sir, the revised budget estimate 2,73 voted, 1,07 non-voted. From 78 there is an increase to 1,07, increase of 29 thousands in one year. Then in the new year so far as votable items are concerned we have an increase of 10 thousands only from 2,73 to 2,83: the non-votable figure is a rise to 1,40 from 1,07: a rise of 33 non-voted against the rise of 10 in the voted. Can there be, Sir, a greater evidence of top-heaviness in this department? With such a top-heaviness can these departments, absorbing more in the non-votable items, be called nation-building? They cannot be nation-building, simply because they are under the charge of a Minister.

Then, Sir, looking down into the establishment of the Director of Public Health, we find 1,08 non-votable and 2,93 votable. Imagine, Sir, if the Honourable Minister finds himself absolutely helpless in controlling

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

this rise in the non-votable items, if we find that we are helpless in controlling, what is the answer that we can get from the Honourable Minister. If they permit it, if the elected representatives permit it, let them do it, but these figures, if the Finance Member's budget is correct, are non-votable and if they are non-votable then I submit that this House though powerless can put it before the Honourable Ministers to assert themselves. If they cannot, then let them come to this House for assistance and this House will rise, every one of us will rise, to assist them in their policy, provided it is a policy of cutting down expenditure, not in name because it is a nation-building department but because cutting down of expenditure is necessary.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Sir, as the honourable member the Deputy President has referred to some of the departments that are under my charge, I should like to reply to his arguments. Sir, the Deputy President ought to have frankly admitted that in this House no other member has so loyally carried out the recommendations for retrenchment. Taking the Sanitary Engineer's staff, if the House refer to the budget of 1922-23, they will find that the total expenditure was Rs. 4,82,000 and I have actually reduced it to the tune of nearly one lakh. This year we have budgetted in spite of the time scale Rs. 4,23,000 which includes Rs. 25,000 as customs duty. Take away that, and the honourable House will find that there has been absolutely no increase at all. Besides, the honourable House should know that the Sanitary Engineer's staff includes so many other officers. It is not only confined to the sanitary staff. We have the Sanitary Engineer. Then, we have under him one district officer. We have also another officer, the boring engineer and his assistants, and the useful work they are doing is known to this Council from the leaflet issued by me showing the work done by the boring engineer. Then there is an executive engineer in charge of the Poona drainage. He is an Indian gentleman whom we have appointed on the recommendation and with the approval of the Poona municipality. Then, we have the Poona water works engineer and his establishment. In fact, the money that we spend from the grant for the Sanitary Engineer for the executive engineer, Poona water works, and his establishment, will be recouped from the Poona water works and the amount that will be spent on the establishment of the Poona drainage engineer and his establishment will also be recovered in the same way.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : May I know where that revenue is from Poona ? I do not see it anywhere.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : I am sorry, Sir ; I thought the honourable the Deputy President had given up making misstatements, but it seems to be chronic with him.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : I am sorry that that statement should be made. Unfortunately, the honourable member seems to be getting into the habit of making such statements. I must protest against this, and I wanted to come to you (the President) also when the Honourable

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

Mr. Cowasji Jehangir made such a statement, and if any statement is again made, then I think such a statement is absolutely unjustifiable and ought not to be made, unless they are able to show by facts and figures that I am wrong.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: As to my statement, Mr. President, I was perfectly correct. The honourable member did make a mis-statement, a deliberate mis-statement, and said certain things he ought not to have said, and I had to correct him.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: How does the honourable member know that he did it deliberately, that he made a deliberate mis-statement?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Yes, that is right; I withdraw the word "deliberate". I hope it was not deliberate. But he made mis-statements and I corrected them.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: I think, Sir, that the honourable member the Deputy President has forgotten the fact that Rs. 25,000 as customs duty in the ensuing budget is nonvotable.

Now, Sir, coming to the Consulting Surveyor, we are employing the same staff which we employed when the Retrenchment Committee was sitting, and the Retrenchment Committee went into all the work that this staff was doing, and even the Retrenchment Committee, whose recommendations the honourable member the Deputy President and I consider to be the last word of wisdom, did not cut down a single rupee on the establishment of the Consulting Surveyor. The establishment was there then, and it is the same now. Only Rs. 1,000 or Rs. 2,000 might have been increased owing to the increments due to the time-scale. But as regards the good work that the Consulting Surveyor and his subordinates are doing, I need not take the time of this Council, because I merely wanted to give you an idea. Most of the establishment charges are recovered from the local bodies for whom we do the town-planning or acquisition work. There is a great demand for such work from the Ahmedabad municipality and we have a special officer there. He has prepared their town-planning scheme under which lands worth several lakhs of rupees—if I mistake not, 50 lakhs of rupees—will be acquired by our specialist officers and the establishment under that officer will be charged to the local body. In fact, Sir, as regards the Consulting Surveyor, even the Retrenchment Committee have approved of his establishment, and we have the same establishment now.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Sir, I am very sorry that extraneous matters have been imported into the debate on this occasion which have aroused feelings which are not creditable to any one and which I do not think make us much wiser on the points involved. This department of Public Health, Sir, consists of a number of sub-departments and that leads to a great deal of confusion and misunderstanding. There is the Public Health Department proper under a Director of Public Health, under whom are the deputy directors of public health.

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

There are certain laboratories. There is the vaccine laboratory of Belgaum, and under this heading "Public Health" come the water works and drainage schemes of various towns and cities, and also the water supply of villages, and Sanitary Engineer's department and the town-planning establishments, and so on. The grouping together of all these activities under one head causes a good deal of confusion even to those who have to deal with them all the year round, and there is no wonder if it is somewhat confounding to those who have to look at these figures for a few weeks only. I would draw your attention, Sir, to page 86 of the Blue Book, and there you will find that the expenditure on Public Health Establishment is Rs. 10,28,000; grants for public health purposes, Rs. 9,75,000; expenses in connection with Bubonic plague, Rs. 1,23,000; Bacteriological Laboratories, Rs. 2,14,000; Pasteur Institutes, Rs. 23,000; Works, Rs. 5,63,000; Exchange Rs. 34,000. In all, Rs. 29,60,000. The expenditure in England is Rs. 1,01,000. Grand total, therefore, comes to Rs. 30,61,000.

So it will be seen, Sir, that although the demand appears to be a very big one, it contains various items of very great importance not only to the village communities, but also to the town population. Grants for public health purposes—Rs. 9,75,000—are, I think, absolutely necessary and no member on either side of the House will raise any objection to that. And, Sir, I may also draw your attention to the new items in this book which, unfortunately for me, were not discussed piecemeal. Had they been dealt with piecemeal, I could have shown how necessary they were and were wanted in the interests of the people. Then there are works costing Rs. 5,63,000, and there is establishment of Rs. 10,28,000. All this establishment, I again say, does not belong properly to the Public Health Department, as understood by some of the members of this House, that is the Director of Public Health and the Deputy Directors of Public Health. I can assure the House that the question of abolishing some of the posts in the Public Health Department has been engaging the attention of Government. I know that the Retrenchment Committee have made certain recommendations, and Government will, in proper time accept some of them. (An Honourable Member: In proper time?) But I may also add that the sanitation of the villages and the towns is not what it ought to be. A great deal is required to be done, and for that purpose there is a necessity of persons looking after these things. Government desire that the district local boards should entertain district health officers for each district, and for that purpose have offered to contribute two-thirds of the salaries of these officers and the establishment under them. It is a matter for regret that no district local board so far has come forward to start this very necessary establishment.

An Honourable MEMBER: Why not?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member will have his opportunity of speaking. The Honourable Minister has not replied.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : It is not for me to say why, but it appears that they object to the payment of one-third of the expenditure.

Sir, it is said that this Department of Public Health is topheavy. In the circumstances of the case, there is no escape from that. It has to carry on various activities for which specially qualified men are required. Take into consideration the Bacteriological Laboratory in Bombay. Very highly paid officers are required—I am rather afraid to use the word experts, because it is likely to be misunderstood,—but highly qualified officers are required to carry on the investigation and researches at the Bacteriological Laboratory. It is no wonder then that persons drawing a salary of Rs. 2,500 and even Rs. 3,000 are required to be employed. Then there is the vaccine laboratory at Belgaum which also ought to be kept under the supervision of a highly paid officer. Then there are laboratories in different centres, and there is the Sanitary Engineer. And all these high paid officers are required to be maintained. So, under the peculiar circumstances this department cannot avoid the charge of being topheavy.

Much has been said about the utility of the work of the deputy directors of health, and, Sir, I do not want to plead guilty to the charge that I am shirking to place before the House all that I know. As at present employed, many of the deputy directors of public health cannot be said to be doing enough work for the salaries they get. A good deal of re-organisation will be required. When the department was first started, and the deputy directors of public health were appointed, it was under contemplation to appoint district health officers, and to have these divisional officers to look after them. But the district officers have not come, and these officers, the deputy directors of public health, have to do the work for the division. I have not got any personal knowledge of what work they are doing, but I took the first opportunity of accompanying one of these and have seen with my own eyes.....

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : As a Minister ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : . . . as a Minister the work one of them has been doing in the pilgrim centre at Pandharpur. Pandharpur is a centre which draws pilgrims from all the presidencies in this country. Actually I saw there a contingent of about 200 Madrasis. There are people from Gujarat, there are people from Rajputana, and there are people from Maharashtra, the Karnatak and the Konkan who flock to Pandharpur during certain times of the year, and, as has been described, every three years in every four years, there was cholera at Pandharpur,—of a very serious type, which was disseminated far and wide, and the approach of the pilgrimage days were much feared by authorities of every district for fear that cholera might spread. The attempts of the various local bodies to stop infection were unavailing, but at last, Sir, the Public Health Department has been successful in maturing a system of prevention of cholera, and the system has been working for the last four years with a good deal of success. Every *palkhi* that goes to Pandharpur is watched on the road, is accompanied by a medical officer, all suspicious cases of

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

cholera are segregated, and in that way infection is prevented from being carried to the chief centre at Pandharpur. Then great precaution is taken to supply good potable water to about 2 lakhs of pilgrims who collect together on the stream at Wakri, where the stream is generally dry or with very insufficient dirty water, and which in the olden days was one of the centres of infection. But that place, Wakri, has now become a health centre, and on the last two or three occasions there were not even a dozen cases of cholera on any of the pilgrimage days, whereas previously there were hundreds and hundreds of cases at that place. Great care is also taken of the water supply at Pandharpur, and every precaution is taken that enough supply should be kept, so that none of the pilgrims should have any occasion to go to the river and take bad water from there. The river water is in that season a prolific centre of disease. In this way cholera has almost been banished from Pandharpur, and the same good work is carried on at Jejuri, at Shingnapur and in many other places. I have also heard that very good work is being done also at Dakore. (An Honourable Member: No.) I am very sorry to hear that. I shall make enquiries and see that it is done.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Will the Honourable Minister take a long time to finish his speech?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: About 10 minutes, Sir.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The Minister has his right of reply.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I shall then conclude,

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The Council is adjourned to 2 p.m. to-morrow, Friday, the 13th March 1925.

Friday, 13th March 1925.

The Council re-assembled at the Town Hall, Bombay, at 2 p.m. on Friday, the 13th March 1925, the Honourable the President, Sir IBRAHIM RAHIMTOOLA, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
ATHAVLE, Mr. S. N.
BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
BEDREKAR, Khan Bahadur I. M.
BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
BHURGRI, Mr. J. M.
BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
BIJARANI, Khan Saheb SHER MAHOMED KHAN
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
CLAYTON, Mr. F.
COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
DARHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
GHOSAL, Mr. J.
GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH
GIBSON, Mr. R. E.
GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
HUDSON, Mr. L. S.
JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
JATOI, Khan Saheb KARIMBAKSH
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
JOG, Mr. V. N.
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
KALBHOR, Mr. G. M.

KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.
 KARKI, Mr. M. D.
 KAY, Mr. J. A.
 KAZI INAITULLAKHAN
 KOKANI, Mr. G. J.
 KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
 LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
 LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSFINBHOY A.
 LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 LINFORD, Mr. J. W.
 MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO, Mr.
 MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
 MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 MUJUMDAR, SARDAR G. N.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
 NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
 NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
 OWEN, Mr. A. C.
 PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
 PATEL, Mr. A. E.
 PATEL, Mr. D. N.
 PATEL, Mr. G. I.
 PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED KHAN
 PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 PIR RASULBAKSH SHAH
 POWAR, Mr. M. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 PRATT, Mr. F. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSENALLY M.
 SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
 SAPTARSHI, Mr. C. M.
 SARDESAI, Mr. S. A.
 SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH
 SAYED MUHAMMAD KAMIL SHAH
 SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
 SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO, Mr.
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 SHIVDASANI, Mr. H. B.
 SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
 SURVE, Mr. A. N.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.
 SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.

THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
 THAKOR OF AMOD, the
 THAKOR OF KERWADA, the
 THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
 TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
 VELKAR, Dr. M. B.
 WILES, Mr. G.
 WOODS, Mr. E. E.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Questions.

TOWN PLANNING.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City) : Will Government be pleased to state —

(a) The places (towns and cities) whose local authorities have declared their intention to make a town planning scheme since the passing of the Bombay Act No. I of 1915 ?

(b) The date on which each of such local authorities made the said declaration ?

(c) The names of those persons who have been appointed as arbitrators in such places under the aforesaid Act ?

(d) The places where and the dates on which the town planning scheme has been made final ?

(e) The approximate period within which the town planning scheme regarding Bhamburda and Yerandowna would be completed ?

(f) The date on which the Poona city municipality declared its intention to make a town planning scheme regarding the above area ?

(g) Whether any other province in India has passed such an enactment as the Bombay Act No. I of 1915 ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN :
 (a) to (d) The accompanying statement* gives the information required so far as the Bombay Presidency, excluding the Bombay Suburban District, is concerned. For information regarding town planning schemes in the Bombay Suburban District the Honourable Member is referred to the Honourable the General Member.

(e) It is not possible to fix the period as the introduction of systems of water supply and drainage is now proposed by the municipality which will entail revision of the financial clauses of the scheme.

(f) The information is contained in the accompanying statement.

(g) Information is not available.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : Will the Honourable Minister state when the scheme Poona No. 1 will be completed ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : I cannot give the exact date. That is being considered.

Mr. G. I. PATEL : As regards Ahmedabad, may I know when each of these schemes is likely to be completed ?

* Vide Appendix 58.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHIAKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : I cannot say.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : May I know if the scheme Poona No. 1 is going to be completed ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Of course, it will be.

FERRY AND DAM IN THE ULHASA RIVER IN THE
THANA DISTRICT.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) what amount they have received up to now as income from the ferry on the Ulhasa river, and what they have spent on the construction of the dam ;

(b) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of water is discharged from the dam at night and that this causes hardship and danger to men and animals ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the discharge of water from the dam and the consequent inundation of the river has considerably affected vehicular and other traffic in that part of the district ;

(d) whether they have made any enquiries into the grievances of the people in connection with this dam ;

(e) if so, will they be pleased to state the result of such enquiry ;

(f) who is the officer in charge of the dam and to whom he is directly subordinate ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Information has been called for.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Development Department has put up another dam over the original dam on the Ulhasa river, and if so, why this has been done ;

(b) who is the officer in charge of this second dam and to whom is he directly subordinate ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : The information has been called for.

APPOINTMENT OF BRAHMINS AND NON-BRAHMINS
IN GOVERNMENT SERVICE.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City) : Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that by the orders passed in Government Resolution, Finance Department, No. 2610, dated 17th September 1923, Brahmans will be excluded from clerical appointments till the number of non-Brahmans in any particular department equals that of Brahmins ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : The answer is in the negative. Attention is invited to the recent press note on the subject which has been distributed to Honourable Members,

Mr. R. D. SHINDE: Are Government aware that the number of Brahmias in the Government services, especially in the Central and Southern divisions, is out of all proportion to their numerical strength?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I think the statistics from which the reply can be judged have already been placed on the table.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA: Out of proportion to their intellectual strength?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I said nothing about the proportion. I merely said all the information from which the reply could be judged have been placed on the table.

TEACHERS IN ENGLISH CLASSES ATTACHED TO PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): (a) Will Government be pleased to state the reasons which induced them to issue G. R., E. D., No. 605, dated 1st September 1923, in regard to teachers in English classes attached to selected primary schools in supersession of G. R., E. D., No. 2103 of 14th June 1919 and G. R., E. D., No. 605 of 12th June 1922?

(b) What provision is made regarding the pay and prospects of teachers who accepted the employment relying upon the G. R.'s. of 1919 and 1922?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) In view of the impending transfer of the primary schools to district local boards under the Bombay Primary Education Act, 1923, orders had to be passed for the transfer of the English classes attached to these schools to the district local boards concerned, in due course. The classes are for *secondary* education and not primary. The District Local Boards cannot therefore be compelled under the provisions of the Bombay Primary Education Act to accept the transfer of the teachers of these classes along with the teachers of primary schools. The Boards had therefore to be allowed to exercise their choice in this matter.

(b) The opening of these classes was an experimental measure on a small scale and the teachers for them were employed temporarily. The teachers engaged on a temporary basis must stand their chance of being employed by the District Local Board concerned or of being relieved from service. It has already been directed that if any teacher be a permanent servant of Government at the time of transfer of the classes to District Local Boards he should revert to his service under Government in the event of not being employed by the Board.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR: It is stated "It has already been directed that if any teacher be a permanent servant of Government at the time of transfer of the classes to district local boards he should revert to his service under Government in the event of not being employed by the board." Will the Honourable Minister please explain where he is to be reverted if he does not hold a permanent appointment under Government?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: If he holds a permanent appointment Government will take him back: if he does not hold one, then Government cannot help him.

RESERVATION OF LAND UNDER THE SUKKUR BARRAGE
FOR FOREIGN CORPORATIONS.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any foreign corporations or capitalists have applied to them for the reservation of land coming under the Sukkur Barrage scheme ;

(b) whether it is a fact that a corporation called "The Empire Cotton Growing Corporation" has applied for lands there on an extensive scale for growing cotton ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: (a) and (b) No such applications as are referred to in the question have been received.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR: Have any other applications been received ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: I will ask for notice of that question. I think some enquiries have been received.

CLERICAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE KALYAN MUNICIPALITY.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: Will Government be pleased to furnish the number of persons of Maratha and allied castes holding any clerical or higher appointments carrying a monthly salary of Rs. 30 or upwards in the office of the Kalyan Municipality ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Nil.

KHAR LAND IN KOLABA DISTRICT.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware of the resolution passed at a meeting of agriculturists held at Shahabaja near Dharamtar in the Kolaba district on the 4th November 1924 regarding the embankment of Khar land ; and

(b) what steps they propose to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) Yes.

(b) The matter is under the consideration of Government.

EDUCATION OF THE DEPRESSED CLASSES.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh): Will Government be pleased to state the amount annually spent on the education of the depressed classes during the last three years in East Khandesh ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The subjoined table gives the information required:—

| Year. | | Amount spent. |
|---------|----|---------------|
| | | Rs. |
| 1921-22 | .. | 29,121 |
| 1922-23 | .. | 40,127 |
| 1923-24 | .. | 46,782 |

ENHANCED RATES OF GRAZING FEES IN EAST KHANDESH.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state how many applications were received by the Collector of East Khandesh and the sub-divisional forest officer of East Khandesh complaining against the enhanced rates of grazing fee?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: The honourable member is referred to the reply to question put by him on the 7th March 1925.

GUN LICENSES TO CULTIVATORS.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state whether it is the intention of Government to adopt a policy of granting gun-licenses to cultivators who apply for them for the protection of their crops from wild pigs and other wild animals?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Government's policy is as stated by the honourable member. District Magistrates have full discretion to grant such licenses in all proper cases under the rules under the Arms Act.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI: Are there any rules by which the collector is guided in exercising his discretion?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I do not think there are any particular rules as to that.

WEMBLEY EXHIBITION.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(1) whether they are aware of the fact that the United Provinces Government deputed the Principal and students of the Art School there to represent Lucknow at the exhibition at Wembley;

(2) If so, will Government be pleased to state whether similar opportunities were given to the Principal and students of the Sir J. J. School of Art, Bombay?

(3) Will Government be pleased to state who were the persons deputed from this presidency to derive benefit from the exhibition at Wembley?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (1) Government have no information.

(2) No.

(3) No one was deputed.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: What did Government do with the money that was voted by this House.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: It was spent for the purpose for which it was voted. Last year the Council was opposed to spending on the exhibition and therefore Government could not spend anything

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: Under whose directions it was spent?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Under the directions of the officer employed for that purpose.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: Who was that officer?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I think Mr. Bell was managing it.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: Did Mr. Bell go to England?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I presume, not.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: Then, who was in charge of that in England?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Mr. Asly. Am I to understand that the honourable member is in favour of the exhibition now?

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: I am not in favour of the exhibition. I wanted to make sure that the Council was right in refusing the grant since this Government has deputed none.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM: May I know by whom that officer was appointed?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The Government of Bombay.

DUTY PAID BY ALEMBIC CHEMICAL WORKS ON 'FOREIGN LIQUOR'.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state the amount of duty paid by the Alembic Chemical Works, Limited, on "foreign liquors" manufactured in their distillery and sold in this Presidency for each of the years beginning with 1915 up to the 31st March 1924?

(b) Is it a fact that the revenue derived by them from the Alembic Chemical Works has fallen immensely on account of importation of cheap brands of "foreign liquor" from Holland, Germany, Japan and Java?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: The sub-joined statement gives the requisite information:—

| Year. | Amount of duty paid. |
|---------|----------------------|
| | Rs. |
| 1915-16 | 1,25,807 |
| 1916-17 | 2,63,183 |
| 1917-18 | 3,51,884 |
| 1918-19 | 5,53,871 |
| 1919-20 | 4,71,372 |
| 1920-21 | 3,15,191 |
| 1921-22 | 3,35,583 |
| 1922-23 | 1,34,575 |
| 1923-24 | 83,048 |

(b) Since 1919-20 the revenue derived by Government from duty on the manufacture of the Company has fallen in consequence of the imports from foreign countries which were suspended during the War.

QUALIFICATIONS OF THE SUBORDINATE STAFF OF THE CONSULTING ARCHITECT.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether any of the subordinates of the Consulting Architect have had previous training in architectural work? If so, where; what qualifications do these officers possess?

(b) Have any of the trained students from the School of Art been employed by the Consulting Architect either as full time or part time workers under him? If the reply be in the negative, the reasons for not employing such men?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: There are 11 subordinates. All but one have received their training at the J. J. School of Art, Bombay. The one exception is an estimator. Of the remaining ten all except two have passed the final examination in architecture at the J. J. School of Art. Of these two exceptions one was at the school before the institution of the present final examination and the other is a student in his final year.

APPOINTMENT OF INDIANS AS APPRENTICES UNDER CONSULTING ARCHITECT TO GOVERNMENT.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state whether any qualified Indian is employed under the Consulting Architect either as apprentice or assistant? If not, will Government be pleased to state the reasons therefor? Will Government be pleased to state what are the qualifications of the present Consulting Architect and whether there are Indians having similar qualifications in the Public Works Department?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Yes. Licentiate of the Royal Institute of British Architects and a trained Architect; yes, there is one.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR: May I know his name?

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM: May I know his father's name?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: I do not know his father's name; but his name is Henriques.

BUNGALOW OCCUPIED BY MR. FERN OF THE SCHOOL OF ART.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the bungalow occupied by Mr. Fern of the School of Art is now used for keeping European boarders?

(b) If the answer is in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state whether the Principal, School of Art, has approved such a use of a public building within his compound?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) No.

(b) This question does not arise.

EVIDENCE OF THE HONOURABLE SIR MAURICE HAYWARD
BEFORE THE REFORMS ENQUIRY COMMITTEE.

Rao Sahel D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the evidence of Sir Maurice Hayward before the Reforms Committee as published in the press note issued on the 19th December 1924 was laid before and discussed by a joint committee of the Ministers and Executive Members of Government?

(b) If the reply to the above be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state whether the majority of the joint committee were in favour of the views expressed in the above press note?

(c) If the reply be in the negative, will Government be pleased to state the reasons for submitting the evidence as recorded in the above press note in the name of the whole Government?

(d) Which of the three Ministers had agreed to the opinions expressed in the evidence?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a) to (d) Attention is invited to my reply to the similar question put by the Honourable Member for the Nasik District.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SALARIES OF PRIMARY TEACHERS.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state when the report of the committee appointed to consider the question of salaries of primary teachers will be published?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The report of the Committee referred to has not yet been received by Government and it is not possible to say at present when it will be published.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM: May I know the reason for the delay?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I may inform the House that the report will be published next week.

WATER SUPPLY FOR DOMESTIC PURPOSES IN DHANDHUKA TALUKA.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) what steps they propose to take for improving the supply of water for domestic purposes in the Dhandhuka taluka;

(b) whether it is true that people have to go a long way to get water?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Inquiries are being made.

OPENING OF DHOLERA, BROACH AND SURAT AS PORTS FOR LARGE
STEAMERS AND VESSELS AND CONSTRUCTION OF GOODS HARBOURS
AT THESE PORTS.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state whether they intend to open Dholera, Broach and Surat as ports for large steamers and vessels?

Will Government be pleased to state the reasons for not constructing goods harbours at the ports of Dholera, Broach and Surat?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: The matter is under the consideration of Government.

Mr. G. I. PATEL: May I know the approximate time when the ports will be made ready?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: It is impossible to say whether they will be ready at all. What the Government have done now is to appoint a special officer to examine these ports. After the receipt of the report of this officer, the Government will consider whether it will be necessary.

The THAKOR OF KERWADA: What stage it has reached now?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: I do not know what stage it has reached. But the officer is examining the various ports.

Mr. G. I. PATEL: May we reasonably expect this to take 25 years?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: It all depends upon the fact whether the work is practicable.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: Will the report be circulated to the members?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: We will have to consider after the report is received. I do not think there will be much objection.

Mr. H. H. NARIELWALLA: Since what year this has been under consideration?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: The officer was appointed last year about November or so.

REVENUE FORECAST OF SUKKUR BARRAGE.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state what rate for rice lands on the Sukkur Barrage Right Bank Canals was proposed by Mr. Baker in his revenue forecast of the Sukkur Barrage?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: The rate for rice proposed by Messrs. Baker and Lane for revenue estimates for the Right Bank Canals was Rs. 8 for the first ten years, Rs. 9 for the second ten years and Rs. 10 for the third ten years.

EXPENDITURE ON ROADS.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to place on the table a statement showing the expenditure on roads incurred by the Public Works Department during the last three years (*i.e.*, 1921-22; 1922-23; 1923-1924) in each of the districts of the presidency?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: The information has been called for.

PAY OF PRIMARY TEACHERS.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the report of the committee appointed to consider the pay of primary teachers has been published;

(b) whether it is a fact that the committee have recommended a scheme differing from that recommended by Messrs. Sathe and Paranjpye;

(c) if the reply to (b) above be in the affirmative, what will be the total additional expenditure under the scheme of the committee and under the Sathe-Paranjpye scheme respectively;

(d) whether it is a fact that the committee have recommended duty allowance to the teachers; if so, whether the defects of such an allowance were placed before the committee for their consideration?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Attention is invited to the reply given to the Honourable Member's question on the same subject on 7th March 1925.

CATTLE BREEDING FARM NEAR ZANKHARIA.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that it is proposed to start a cattle breeding farm of about 2,000 acres near Zankharia in the Panch Mahals District?

(b) If the reply to the above be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state what will be the total annual cost of maintaining the farm for cattle breeding purposes?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: The question is still under consideration.

AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL AT DHULIA.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether they are aware that there is only one agricultural school at Dhulia for the three districts of East and West Khandesh and Nasik?

(b) Whether they are aware that that school is inadequately equipped to meet the requirements of these districts and of the boys attending it?

(c) Whether they are aware that one class in that school has to meet in a room which has corrugated iron sheets for its roof, as well as the four side walls?

(d) Whether they are aware of the inconvenience and suffering caused during summer to the students who have to meet in such a class-room in view of the hot climate of Dhulia?

(e) Whether they are aware that the said school does not possess suitable class-rooms, or residential quarters for the boys and no workshop, gymnasium or quarters for the Superintendent of the boarding?

(f) If so, do Government intend to take any action in the matter?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) Yes.

(b) The facts are not as stated. The school has been equipped on the same lines as those adopted with success in other similar schools, such as Loni, etc.

(c) Yes.

(d) No complaints have been made either by the students or the staff regarding the inconvenience and suffering mentioned by the Honourable Member.

(e) and (f) The school was first located in Dhulia, and as the local committee appointed by the West Khandesh Agricultural Association to supervise the school was not able to obtain sufficient donations for boarding and lodging the pupils, it was removed to the Dhulia Farm, and the committee mentioned above expressed its complete satisfaction with the arrangements regarding boarding and lodging at the Farm. The head master of the school, who is the Superintendent of the Boarding, has been provided with suitable quarters on the Farm. The workshop at the technical School, Dhulia, provides sufficient training. No gymnasium is essential for an institution of this kind. Steps have been taken to provide suitable class-rooms, for which plans and estimates are being prepared.

Mr. S. S. DEV: With regard to (c) and (d), will Government be pleased to state whether they cannot imagine and realize the hardship of boys meeting in a room which has corrugated iron sheets for its roof, as well as the four side walls, at Dhulia, during summer, when the temperature often goes up to 115 degrees?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: I think that those who suffer should have raised the first cry.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: Is it necessary to raise a cry for even ordinary things of this nature?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Not necessarily.

Mr. S. S. DEV: Why is no provision made for gymnasiums in agricultural schools?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: That is not supplied generally to small agricultural schools.

TEACHERS' PAY.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any circulars or orders of Government which make it possible for teachers with lower qualifications to draw more pay than those who are senior or better qualified;

(b) whether it is a fact that Messrs. V. R. Thombre, S. M. Barde and N. K. Dixit, teachers in vernacular schools in the West Khandesh district who have not passed their third year examination are drawing more salary than Messrs. T. T. Patil, S. V. Gadgil, A. D. Rao, V. R. Bonge, M. N. Dixit and T. H. Naik all of whom have passed their third year examination?

(c) If so, what is the reason?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Enquiries are being made.

REMOVAL OF PRICKLY PEAR IN MUNDARGI PETHA,
DHARWAR DISTRICT.

Mr. V. N. JOG (Dharwar District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the total area of Government waste land in the Mundargi Petha which is covered by prickly pear ?

(b) Are they aware that these clusters of prickly pear give shelter to wild pigs which damage the crop of ryots every year ? If so, do they intend to take any action in this connection ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that wild-pig campaign committees have been started in the Mundargi Petha for eradicating these homes of wild pigs and that owners of private lands have taken the initiative in this matter and have removed the prickly pear and other bushes in and near their lands ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : (a) 525 acres.

(b) and (c) Yes. In thickly covered areas of waste land the people are induced to form representative committees which are authorised to take takavi loans for the removal and destruction of the weed. The waste land thus freed from the pear is granted to the committees free of occupancy price and assessment for the period of the current settlement. Cultivable waste lands and village sites are offered for cultivation free of occupancy price on condition of removing the prickly pear.

INSTRUCTOR OF ENGINEERING IN ENGINEERING COLLEGE, POONA.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) for what period the services of Mr. A. V. Pearce, Instructor in Engineering Drawing and Design in the Engineering College, Poona, have been engaged and when that period expires ;

(b) whether they intend to renew the contract of service with him and if so, for what period ; and

(c) whether Mr. Pearce teaches Graphic Statics and Solid Geometry ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) Mr. Pearce was appointed temporarily to the post of Instructor in Engineering Drawing and Design on 1st January 1920 and was confirmed in his post on 1st April 1921. He is now a permanent member of the Bombay Educational Service and the period of his service will ordinarily terminate when he reaches the age of 55, i.e., on 5th May 1949.

(b) The question of renewing the contract of service with him does not arise, in view of the reply to (a) above.

(c) Mr. Pearce is not required to teach Graphic Statics but he does teach Solid Geometry.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : May I know whether he does not teach solid geometry, because he does not know it ?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : He teaches : But he does teach solid geometry.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : The Honourable Minister said : he teaches ; but he does teach. What is the meaning ?

SOUTH AFRICAN COAL FOR KARACHI PORT TRUST.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any South African coal has been purchased during 1924-25 by the Karachi Port Trust and if so, on what date or dates, how much and at what rates ;

(b) the rates of first class Bengal coal, when those purchases were made ;

(c) whether these contracts for the purchase of South African coal were entered into with the previous sanction of the Karachi Port Trust or whether these contracts were ratified by that body after they were entered into ;

(d) the approximate savings that could have been made if Bengal coal had been purchased instead of South African ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : Information is being obtained.

HUNGER STRIKE IN YERAVDA JAIL.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District) : Will Government be pleased to state under what circumstances the Hindu prisoners at Yeravda Jail went on hunger strike on or about 18th January 1925 ?

The Honourable SIR MAURICE HAYWARD : The Superintendent issued instructions for the restriction of the recent unauthorized increase in the number and size of Hindu shrines in the Prison. Some of the Hindu prisoners thereupon went on hunger strike but it lasted only a few days and the necessary reconstruction of the shrines was satisfactorily effected under the advice of Brahmins entirely by Hindus.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : Am I to understand that according to the instructions issued by the Superintendent, the shrines were actually removed.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I cannot give the honourable member any details without notice. But I suppose that unauthorised shrines were removed.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : May I know who increased the size of the shrines ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : The prisoners.

Mr. H. B. SHIVDASANI : What is meant by "unauthorised" increase in shrines ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I do not suppose that an interpretation of "unauthorised" is required by the honourable member.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : How many days did the strike last ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: A few days.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: How many prisoners took part in the strike?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: A good number, but the details are not present to my mind.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: I would like to know the exact number.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Then, I should be very much obliged if notice were given to me by the honourable member.

CATTLE IN DHARWAR DISTRICT.

Mr. S. T. KAMBLI (Dharwar District): Will Government be pleased to state the number of cattle in the Dharwar District as calculated at the last cattle census and the number at the previous census?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI:

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----|----|----|---------|
| 1919-1920 (last census) | .. | .. | .. | 544,000 |
| 1915-1916 (previous census) | .. | .. | .. | 618,000 |

DAMAGE BY RAIN IN DHARWAR AND KARWAR IN 1923.

Mr. S. T. KAMBLI (Dharwar District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any damage has been caused by floods

(i) in the Dharwar district, and

(ii) in the Karwar district,

by the rains in these regions from June to the 11th September 1923?

(b) If so, what villages have been affected thereby?

(c) What is the nature and extent of such damage?

(d) Whether any steps are being taken to give relief to the affected areas and, if so, what steps are being taken for such purposes?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) Yes.

(b) A list* is attached.

(c) The damage caused was as shown below:—

| Taluka. | No. of houses and huts destroyed. | Value or amount of moveable property destroyed. | Total amount of loss. |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| | | Rs. | Rs. |
| Honavar | 566 completely .. | 14,000 | 45,900 |
| | 664 partly .. | | |
| Kumta | 115 completely .. | .... | 4,000 |
| | 28 partly .. | | |
| Supa | 30 .. | .... | 9,000 |
| Ranebennur .. | Some .. | Some kadbi .. | 8,000 |
| Karajgi | Some .. | Some crops .. | 5,000 |
| Hangal | Some .. | 50 cattle .. | Considerable. |
| Mundargi | 25 .. | .... | 2,000 |

(d) In the Kanara district free grants of hutting materials and timber were made in deserving cases. Work was provided for the able bodied on private and Public Works Department works. Takavi advances

* Vide Appendix 59.

were made on a larger scale. A number of Tali palms were given free in several cases. Contributions were raised for charitable relief, and about Rs. 4,750 were spent for providing food and clothing to the indigent. In the Dharwar district, where the calamity was not so serious, free grants of bamboo and timber were made to some 40 persons in the Inam village of Lakhampur. Takavi was advanced on a more liberal scale through Revenue officers as well as through Co-operative Societies. Steps are being taken to shift the affected villages from their present sites. Charitable grants were also made from the balance of the famine fund collected in 1918-19.

SUITS IN THE FIRST CLASS SUB-JUDGE'S COURT AT DHARWAR.

Mr. S. T. KAMBLI (Dharwar District): Will Government be pleased to state (a) what is the total number of first class suits instituted in Dharwar first class sub-judge's court in the year ending December 31st, 1924, *i.e.*, from January 1924 to December 1924, both months inclusive?

(b) How many of these were from (i) Hubli taluka, and (ii) from Shiggaon taluka?

(c) How many of these were from (i) Gadag taluka, and (ii) how many from Ron taluka?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a) 120.

(b) (i) 34.

(ii) 7.

(c) (i) 18.

(ii) 7.

ENHANCEMENT OF LAND-TAX IN PEN TALUKA.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(1) whether it is a fact that the landholders of the Pen taluka have complained against the proposed enhancement of the land tax in that taluka;

(2) if so, whether any enquiry has been made into their complaints, and if so, with what result?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (1) Yes.

(2) Proposals for revision settlement of the taluka and the petitions of objections raised against them have yet to be considered by Government.

CATTLE AND FOREST TRESPASS.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of cattle in the town of Mundgod in each of the last three years;

(b) the number of cattle impounded by the Forest Department for trespass in forest area during those years ;

(c) the amount of fine levied by the pound-keeper in respect of such cattle during the same period ;

(d) the amount of compensation recovered by the Forest Department during the same period from owners of such cattle ;

(e) whether there were any prosecutions during those years against the owners of such cattle for default of payment of compensation ;

(f) if so, the number of prosecutions and the total amount of fine levied ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : A statement* furnishing the requisite information is placed on the Council table.

DENATURED SALT.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that denatured salt is offered to agriculturists free of duty for manuring ?

(b) If so, for the cultivation of what crops or plants is manure used by them ?

(c) Whether they have issued any pamphlets or leaflets on the subject in English and vernaculars among the agriculturists ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : (a) Yes.

(b) Attention is invited to the reply to clause (c) of the honourable member's next question.

(c) Yes.

SALE OF DENATURED SALT FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the place or places in Kanara and elsewhere in the Presidency where denatured salt is offered for sale to agriculturists for manure ;

(b) the quantity of salt sold and the number of purchasers at each of such places during the years 1922-23 and 1923-24 ;

(c) the kind of crops and plants treated with such salt ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : (a) and (b) The accompanying statement† gives the information required.

(c) Paddy, mango and cocoanut.

WATER SUPPLY AT DAKOR.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI (Indian Merchants' Chamber) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the total number of pilgrims that visited Dakor during the year ended March 31st last ?

(b) Is it a fact that Dakor has been suffering from want of adequate source of water supply, and that the pilgrims committee refer to this defect in their report in very clear terms ?

*Vide Appendix 60.

†Vide Appendix 61.

(c) Have Government taken any action in the direction of making available to Dakor sufficient water for Dakor's permanent population, and for the large number of pilgrims visiting Dakor all through every year ?

(d) If the reply to (c) is in the negative, will Government be pleased to state the reasons why despite the report of the pilgrim committee in 1917 and in spite of the fact that a pilgrim centre is liable to outburst of epidemics if water supply be inadequate no action has been taken ?

(e) Will Government be pleased to place on the table a copy of any report that they may have received till now regarding the prospects of adequate water being made available to Dakor ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN :

(a) Information is being obtained.

(b) Yes.

(c) to (e) A scheme for the supply of water at Dakor was worked out in the rough and sent to the Municipality for approval in June 1922. It provided for a 10 gallons protected supply for a population of 10,000 or one lac gallons per day. The source fixed upon was a well known as the Temple well and not a tank or reservoir requiring provision in storage for evaporation and absorption. The annual burden for this piped water supply with a distribution service through stand posts including capital and working charges amounted to Rs. 8,600. The Municipality expressed itself unwilling to undertake the scheme considering it to be beyond its means. Since then the Municipality again raised the question of a scheme based upon the Mahi river as a source of supply but it was informed that this proposal would prove too costly. It has been proved by means of trial bores that an artesian or semi-artesian supply is not available in sufficient quantity. The attention of the honourable member is also invited to the reply given to his question on 7th March 1925.

Mr. G. I. PATEL : Are Government aware that for the last two years funds are being raised in connection with seasonal water supply from charity shows ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : No.

TODDY AND LIQUOR SHOPS NUISANCE AT SURAT.

* Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities) :

(a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that there is a toddy shop belonging to licensee Manekjee Adarjee in Budelvad at Burhanpuri Bhagol at Surat quite adjacent to a *masjid* ?

(b) Are Government aware that there is a liquor shop belonging to licensee Bhikhaji Manekji in the said locality just opposite the same *Masjid* ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a copy of rules regarding the location of toddy shops and liquor shops ?

*This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

(d) Are Government aware of the great disturbance caused to Musalmans while offering their prayers owing to the existence of these shops ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : (a) Yes.

(b) The liquor shop is situated on the opposite side of the street but at some distance from the Masjid.

(c) Attention is invited to paragraph 100 of the Bombay Excise Manual, Vol. 1. The latest orders of Government approving of the recommendations of the Excise Committee on the subject are contained in paragraph 14 of Government Resolution No. 982-24, dated 12th February 1925 a copy of which has been supplied to the honourable member.

(d) Government consider the site of the toddy shop objectionable and have issued orders closing the shop from 1st March 1925. The question of removing the liquor shop to another locality is also under consideration.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI : I believe the honourable member has seen the liquor shop personally. Does he not think it a nuisance ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : As far as the liquor shop is concerned, I thought it was a bit far away from the mosque in question.

TOLL ON PILGRIMS TO SARKHEJ DURGAH.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities) : Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware of the great hardship caused to pilgrims visiting the Sarkhej Durgah by the levy of toll at the Vasna toll bar on the Ahmedabad-Sanand road ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Enquiries are being made :

CLOSING OF FOREIGN LIQUOR SHOP, AHMEDABAD.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA on behalf of Mr. G. K. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad City) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether a promise was given by the Honourable Minister for Excise and Forests that the foreign liquor shop of Kapasia Bazaar in Ahmedabad would be closed on 1st December 1924 ?

(b) If so, whether this promise has been kept ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : (a) and (b) Attention is invited to the reply given to question* put by the honourable member at the October session of the Council. Orders for the closure of the foreign liquorshop at Kapasia Bazar, Ahmedabad, and its transfer to another locality from 1st December 1924 were issued as a result of a petition made by the President of the Agakhani Khoja Jamat Khana to the effect that the shop being located near the Masjid, it injured the religious feelings of Mahomedans. As the new premises were not likely to be ready for occupation by the prescribed date the licensee applied for extension of the period within which he was required to shift his liquor shop and produced a letter from the President of the Jamat Khana to

* Vide Vol. XI:I, pages 81, 82.

the effect that in view of the fact that Government had decided ultimately to remove the shop from the present locality the Jamat had no objection to its temporary continuance in the present premises for some time longer in order to save the licensee from heavy loss. In these circumstances the matter was referred to the Collector of Ahmedabad for report in consultation with the local Advisory Committee and the Collector was requested to give a short interim extension to the licensee if he was satisfied as to the genuineness of the letter from the President of the Jamat Khana.

The Collector reported that the Advisory Committee were of the opinion that the present premises might be allowed to be used by the licensee up to 31st May 1925. In view of these facts Government have permitted the shop to remain open in the present premises up to 31st March 1925, the date on which the license expires.

AUCTION SALE OF LIQUOR SHOPS AT AHMEDABAD.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA on behalf of Mr. G. K. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that at the auctions of liquor shops at Ahmedabad in 1921 and 1922 a promise was given by the Commissioner of Excise to Mr. J. N. Darowalla that the "separate shop system" would be followed?

(b) If so, whether this promise was carried out in the auctions of 1921 and 1922?

(c) If not, what was the reason?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: The honourable member is referred to the reply given by Government to question* asked by him at the last session of the Council.

EDUCATION GRANTS TO AIDED SCHOOLS IN AHMEDABAD.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA on behalf of Mr. G. K. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad City): Will Government be pleased to furnish a statement giving the following information for each of the aided schools of Ahmedabad city for 1922—23:

(a) the amount of expenditure by the school authorities;

(b) the amount of grant which could have been made by the educational authorities;

(c) the amount of grant actually paid?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Information has been called for.

LOCAL OPTION.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District): Will Government be pleased to state whether they have considered the question of giving local option to the people as recommended by the Excise Committee appointed by the Government?

*Vide Vol. XIII, pages 801, 802.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: The honourable member is referred to paragraph 6 of Government Resolution No. 982-24, dated 12th February 1925 a copy of which has been supplied to all the members of this House.

LOCAL OPTION BILL.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District): Will Government be pleased to state whether they intend to introduce a Local Option Bill in the Bombay Legislative Council and, if so, when?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: The honourable member is referred to paragraph 6 of Government Resolution No. 982-24, dated 12th February 1925 a copy of which has been supplied to all the members of this House.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF EXCISE COMMITTEE.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have decided to accept and put in action all the recommendations made by the Excise Committee?

(b) If they have decided not to accept all the recommendations, will they be pleased to state whether they have decided to accept at least some recommendations of the said Committee?

(c) If they have so decided, what are those recommendations that they have decided to accept?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: The honourable member is referred to Government Resolution No. 982-24, dated 12th February 1925 a copy of which has been supplied to all the members of this House.

NUMBER OF VILLAGE PANCHAYATS IN THE PRESIDENCY.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District): Will Government be pleased to state the number of village panchayats in this presidency up to the 31st of December 1924 stating the number in each district separately?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: The information is being called for.

APPOINTMENTS OF HONORARY MAGISTRATES.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South): Will Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether any policy or principle is followed in making selections of the Honorary Magistrates and whether any, and if so, what qualifications are considered necessary for the said posts?

(b) Has Government fixed any age-limit for the post of Honorary Magistrates?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a) Attention is invited to the reply given last February sessions to a similar question from the honourable member for Nasik District printed at page 552 of volume XI, Part XI, of the Council Debates.

(b) The reply is in the negative.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : When the Government imposed an age limit in the case of stipendiary magistrates, why was no age limit imposed in the case of honorary magistrates ? (No reply).

MR. B. G. HORNIMAN.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether their attention has been drawn to the reply of Mr. B. G. Horniman in the columns of the "Bombay Chronicle" to the charges levelled by Sir Maurice Hayward ?

(b) whether in view of that reply Government propose to reconsider their decision about the ban on his return to India ?

(c) can the Government give any idea as to how long they propose to continue the ban against Mr. B. G. Horniman ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : (a) A reference is requested to the reply to a similar question* put at the last July session by the honourable member for the East Khandesh District.

(b) and (c) The reply is in the negative.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : Do Government propose to continue the ban perpetually ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I have nothing to add to the answer.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : Would a resolution of this House affect the judgment of the Government ? (No reply).

WORK DONE BY THE MECHANICAL ASSISTANT TO THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE, GUJARAT.

Mr. D. N. PATEL (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many applications for advice on the erection and repairs of pumping plants and other agricultural machinery were received by the mechanical assistant to the Deputy Director of Agriculture, of Gujarat, in the year 1923-24 and in the current year ;

(b) what action was taken on these applications ;

(c) whether the mechanical assistant has ever visited any villages of the Kaira District possessing pumping plants, in order to give the benefit of his technical knowledge to the men working on these plants ; if so, what villages were visited by him for such purposes in the year 1923-24 and the current year and with what results ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply to question† put by him at the last sessions of the Legislative Council. Information for the current year cannot be given as the year has not ended yet.

* Vide Vol XII, page 462.

† Vide Vol XIII, page 832.

VILLAGE PANCHAYATS IN THE KAIRA DISTRICT.

Mr. D. N. PATEL (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state in how many villages in the Kaira district village panchayats have been established under the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1920?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Attention is invited to the answer given to question put by the honourable member Mr. W. S. Mukadam (Panch Mahals District).

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

Mr. G. I. PATEL (Ahmedabad Millowners' Association): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Honorary Organisers of Co-operative Societies in each district of the Presidency, the time for which each such organiser has been serving the movement the number of societies, whether credit, industrial or distributive, organised by each of the organisers, the number of paid organisers, the number of official organisers, and the number of societies organised by each of these with a mention of the class to which each of such societies belongs;

(b) Whether any expenses or other allowances are paid to the Honorary Organisers and, if so, what amount was paid to each of them as such during the years 1922 and 1923, and whether Honorary Organisers are obliged to undergo any training, and if so how many of these have undergone such training;

(c) whether the auditors of co-operative societies take any share in the work of organising societies, and, if so, how many societies were organised by each of these during the years 1922 and 1923;

(d) how many co-operative societies have been organised in each district of the Presidency since the inception of the movement till July 1924, how many of these were organised through official and non-official agencies respectively, and how many of these are working at the present time?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) A statement* showing the names of the honorary organisers for each district and the time since which they are serving the movement is placed on the Council Table. The number of societies organised by each organiser cannot be given without searching the records of each society. Government do not think, that any purpose would be served by undertaking this inquiry. It may be mentioned that Honorary Organisers do not only organisation work but also inspection work. Out of nine paid and official organisers eight are agricultural organisers who look after non-credit societies and one is industrial organiser, who looks after industrial societies chiefly in Bombay and Ahmedabad.

(b) Travelling allowance and daily allowance for actual halts outside their head-quarters are paid to Honorary Organisers and a limit of Rs. 120 per mensem for Divisional Organisers and of Rs. 60 and Rs. 30 for District and Taluka Honorary Organisers, respectively, is fixed. A statement* showing the allowances drawn by Honorary Organisers during 1921-22

* Kept in Secretary's office.

is laid on the Council Table. Similar information for the year 1922-23 cannot be supplied as it would involve a considerable amount of time and labour to prepare. Many of the organisers take advantage of the training classes organised by the Bombay Central Co-operative Institute, but attendance at these classes is not compulsory. Generally only those who are in touch with the co-operative movement and who have worked in local societies are appointed as Honorary Organisers.

(c) Auditors sometimes do spade work and help in the organisation of new societies. No list is maintained of such societies.

(d) A list of societies is published every year in the *Bombay Government Gazette*. A list* showing the number of societies working in each district on 31st March 1924 is laid on the Council Table. It cannot be definitely said how many societies were organised through official agency and how many through non-official agency.

REMISSION OF VEND FEE ON ACCOUNT OF LIQUOR SHOPS.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): With reference to my question regarding refund to Government by Mr. H. N. Shindore, liquor contractor, and the reply given thereto (*vide* Council Debates, Vol. XI, Part VII, page 336), will the Honourable the Minister for Agriculture and Excise be pleased to state whether any legal action was taken against Mr. H. N. Shindore for obtaining remission of vend fee by representations which were not true, and, if not, why not?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: No, as on a full consideration of the circumstances of the case Government were of opinion that it was not expedient to do so.

SIR CHIMANLAL SETALVAD'S STATEMENT BEFORE THE REFORMS COMMITTEE.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to state whether copies of Sir Chimanlal Setalvad's rejoinder to the statement of the Honourable Sir Maurice Hayward have been sent to members of the Legislative Council by the Director of Information? If not, why not?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Sir Chimanlal Setalvad communicated his rejoinder through the Press and not through the Director of Information.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN: Was the Honourable Sir Maurice Hayward's statement sent through the Director of Information?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: It was.

STATEMENT BY THE HONOURABLE SIR MAURICE HAYWARD BEFORE THE REFORMS COMMITTEE.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): (i) (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the statement presented by the Honourable

* Kept in the Secretary's office.

Sir Maurice Hayward to the Reforms Inquiry Committee (copies of which the Director of Information has sent to members of the Legislative Council) was presented on behalf of the Bombay Government?

(b) If so, does it express the views of the Government?

(c) Were the Ministers consulted in preparing the statement, and did they approve of the views expressed therein? Does it embody the views of both sides of the Government? Was the statement considered by the joint council of Government?

(d) If the answer to (c) above is in the negative, has the attention of the Government been drawn to the statement made in the opening paragraph describing the Honourable Sir Maurice Hayward's statement, in the copies sent by the Director of Information to members of the Legislative Council, *viz.*, that the statement is presented "on behalf of the Bombay Government"?

(e) If so, is that statement made by the Director of Information on the authority of the Government, or on his own account?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a) to (e) Attention is invited to my letter of the 24th December 1924 which was published in the Press. A copy* is laid on the Table.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN: May I invite the honourable member's attention to the fact that the letter which has been placed on the table does not give any reply to my question (e)?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I am awaiting for a definite question from the honourable member.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: In appendix 63—that is, the honourable member's letter to the editors of the "Times of India" and "Bombay Chronicle"—I see the word "Government" used there. Does that word "Government" include the Ministers or not?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I see the words "Secretary to Government". The word "Government" there would include all the Members of Government.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: I would like to know whether Ministers are included.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: In the expression "Secretary to Government"?

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN: Is it constitutional on the part of a Member of Government to send a communication independently, on his own responsibility, without consulting Government or failing to place that communication before the whole Government?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I shall be glad if the honourable member will put his question rather shorter. I did not quite catch his question.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN: Did the honourable member in submitting the statement independently act constitutionally?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: He did.

* *Vide* Appendix 63.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : Whose mistake was that ? whether of the Director of Information or of the honourable member who submitted the whole evidence in the name of the Bombay Government as stated in the press note ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I shall be glad if the honourable member would point out the exact words he refers to.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : I am sorry I have not got the press note with me. But in the press note it was clearly stated that the evidence was submitted in the name of the Bombay Government or something like that. I speak subject to correction, and that is why I put this question.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN : Have Government taken any steps to correct the mistake made by the Director of Information ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I should think that my letter was sufficiently plain and corrected any misunderstanding that might have arisen. A copy of the letter was forwarded to the Government of India.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : Is it permissible for Members of Government to enter into acute controversies of this character without the permission of the Governor in Council ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : It is open to a Member of Government to make statements of fact with the permission of the Governor.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN : Was the statement made officially or in his private capacity ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : In his capacity as Home Member.

MEETINGS OF JOINT COUNCIL.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District) : Will Government be pleased to state :—

(a) how many meetings of the Joint Council were held during the year 1924 and

(b) how many of the subjects discussed at those meetings were reserved and transferred respectively ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : (a) 44.

(b) 74 and 56.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND DEPRESSED CLASSES CHILDREN.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District) : Will the Honourable the Minister of Education be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing (a) the primary schools in which the Government order that children of the depressed classes must be seated along with other children has not been carried out, and (b) the reasons in each case for not carrying it out ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The letter* from the Director of Public Instruction no. 96-D., dated the 11th April 1924, containing the required information for the year 1923-24 is placed on the Council Table. Later information for the year 1924-25 has been called for and will be placed on the table in due course.

APPOINTMENTS OF RS. 500 AND OVER IN THE HIGH COURT, THE SMALL CAUSES COURT AND THE POLICE COURTS IN BOMBAY.

‡Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA (Bombay City) : Will Government be pleased to state (1) the number of posts (a) permanent and (b) temporary carrying a monthly salary of Rs. 500 and over in the (i) High Court, (ii) the Small Causes Court, and (iii) the Police Courts of Bombay and (2) the designation of each post and (3) whether the present incumbent of such posts is a British, Colonial, Foreigner, Hindoo, Parsi, Mahomedan, Jew, Indian Christian or Anglo-Indian ?

APPOINTMENTS OF RS. 500 AND OVER IN THE HIGH COURT, THE SMALL CAUSES COURT AND THE POLICE COURTS IN BOMBAY FROM 1ST JANUARY 1921 TO 31ST DECEMBER 1924.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA (Bombay City) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of appointments (i) permanent and (ii) temporary made to posts carrying a salary of Rs. 500 and over in the (1) High Court, (2) Small Causes Court and (3) Police Courts, Bombay, during the period 1st January 1921 to 31st December 1924 ?

(b) Will Government also state how many of these appointments have been given to the British, Colonial, Foreigner, Hindoo, Parsi, Mahomedan, Jew, Indian Christian and Anglo-Indian communities ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Statements† showing the required information are laid on the Table.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA : Why are the Judges of the High Court not mentioned in the list ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I do not think it was realised that the honour of being entered in that list was intended for them by the honourable member.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA : Why are the Official Assignee and the Official Receiver not mentioned in the list ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : The Official Assignee is paid by fees and not by salary, and the Official Receiver is similarly paid by fees and not by salary, to the best of my recollection.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : Is the Official Assignee still paid by fees and not by salary ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I believe so, subject to a certain limit.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA : Have Government noticed that out of the 26 posts, only two are held by Mahomedans ?

* Vide Appendix 64.

† Vide Appendix 65.

‡ For reply see next question.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Government have noticed it.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Will Government then take any steps to put right the paucity of Mahomedans, as there are only two of them, as pointed out ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : The appointments are made by the Chief Justice.

LANGUAGE OF THE BOMBAY KARNATAK AND SOUTHERN MARATHA STATES.

Mr. S. A. SARDESAI (Bijapur District) : Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the predominant vernacular of the Bombay Karnatak and the majority of the Southern Maratha States is Kanarese ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : Yes.

DISMISSAL OF NANA MITHA TALATI OF SUNVALI, TALUKA OLPAD.

Mr. H. B. SHIVDASANI (Surat District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether they have in their Government Resolution No. 2749, dated 19th May 1905, directed that where the preliminary inquiry indicates that a Government servant has committed a criminal offence, permission should be applied for his prosecution and should be promptly granted if there is a *prima facie* case for prosecution and there exist no adequate reasons (which must always be recorded) for not instituting a prosecution ?

(b) Whether this procedure was departed from in the case of Nana Mitha, Talati of Sunvali, Taluka Olpad, who was suspended on 27th February 1922 and dismissed on 10th July 1922 on a charge of bribery and corruption, after a departmental inquiry and, if so, what were the special reasons for departing from this procedure in this case ?

(c) Whether it is not against Government policy to hold a departmental inquiry into the misconduct of Government servants when such misconduct amounts to a serious criminal offence ?

(d) Whether Government intend to prosecute Nana Mitha under the Indian Penal Code and thus give him a chance of proving his innocence in a court of law ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) Yes.

(b) to (d) Enquiry is being made.

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES IN THE PRESIDENCY.

Mr. H. B. SHIVDASANI (Surat District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) What are the principal cottage industries followed by the people of this Presidency ?

(b) How many people are engaged in each of the principal cottage industries ?

(c) In which areas is each cottage industry followed ?

(d) How much per day is an adult able to earn in each of the cottage industries ?

(e) Does Government give encouragement to any of these cottage industries and, if so, how and in what form ?

(f) Has Government provided any facilities for the teaching of any cottage industries to the people and, if so, which facilities have they provided ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) (b) and (c) The accompanying statement* derived from the Census Report gives the required information.

(d) Separate figures of average earning of a man in each of the Industries are not available. The following figures, taken from the *Labour Gazette* of January 1925 give a fair average of wages earned by skilled labourers per day in different parts of the Presidency in the year 1923 (excluding large towns) :—

| | | | | Rs. | a. | p. |
|----------|----|----|----|-----|----|----|
| Gujarat | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 15 | 3 |
| Deccan | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| Konkan | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 4 | 10 |
| Karnatak | .. | .. | .. | 0 | 14 | 7 |

(e) Government have been giving help and encouragement in the cottage industries of hand weaving, dyeing and calico printing as the largest number of people are engaged in these industries. There are ten peripatetic weaving demonstrations and eight weaving schools opened and managed by the Department of Industries in various parts of the Presidency, and some more schools and demonstrations are now being organised and opened in Gujarat. There is also one peripatetic demonstration going on in dyeing and calico printing. The aims and objects of these demonstrations and schools are to solve the difficulties of the cottage workers and introduce improved methods and appliances amongst them with a view to increase their production and quality of manufacture.

A demonstration factory to introduce the improved method of manufacturing casein from separated mill was opened and maintained by the Department of Industries in Gujarat for some years. A demonstration in the art of designing and manufacturing potteries (tea-pots, vases, jars, etc.) has been opened in Sir J. J. School of Art, Bombay. A demonstration factory for the extraction of fish oil was also opened and maintained by the Department of Industries at Karwar. Experiments in the culture of oysters and smoking of fish were also conducted by this Department.

(f) Facilities have been provided by Government in the weaving and dyeing demonstrations and schools by giving all instruction free of charge and by giving scholarships and stipends to students.

Mr. H. B. SHIVDASANI : In the appendix No. 66 the work of goldsmiths and enamellers is shown as cottage industries. Do Government consider the work of goldsmiths to be a cottage industry ?

*Vide Appendix 66.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Yes.

Mr. H. B. SHIVDASANI : Glassware, bangles, beads, etc., is that also a cottage industry ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Yes.

Mr. H. B. SHIVDASANI : Are leather tanning, trunks, boot and shoe-making, etc., also cottage industries ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I think so.

BRIDGE AT KARAD OVER KRISHNA RIVER.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the construction of a bridge over the Krishna river at Karad was intended to be undertaken about the year 1914 and whether estimates were prepared by the Public Works Department in respect of the same ;

(b) If so, whether this scheme is still under the consideration of Government and when Government is likely to pass orders on the subject ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Enquiry is being made.

PRIMARY SCHOOL AT INGLI, BELGAUM DISTRICT.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the primary school at Ingli in the Chikodi taluka of the Belgaum district had to be closed on account of plague in the last year ;

(b) whether after the re-opening of the school the number of assistant masters which was working in that school previous to the plague was reduced though the number of boys attending the school had nearly remained the same ;

(c) whether it is a fact that after several representations Kanarese assistants were allotted to this school though the language of the school was mainly Marathi ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Enquiries are being made.

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AYURVEDIC COLLEGE.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the Bombay Government has been in correspondence with the Madras Government in connection with the action of the Madras Government in establishing an Ayurvedic College or school in accordance with the recommendations of a committee which inquired into the indigenous systems of medicine ;

(b) if so, will Government be pleased to place the correspondence on the Council table ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) Yes.

(b) A copy* of the correspondence is placed on the table.

* Vide Appendix 67.

GRIEVANCES OF PRIMARY TEACHERS.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Surve Committee appointed to inquire into the grievances of primary teachers has submitted its report ;

(b) if so, what action Government intends to take for the immediate redress of primary teachers' grievances ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) and (b) The report of the Committee referred to has not yet been received by Government.

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST MR. NIMBKAR.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North): Will Government be pleased to state whether—

(a) it is a fact that the Mahomedans made an application on 20th November 1922 to the Collector of Ratnagiri against Mr. Nimbkar, Chairman of Rajapur notified area committee ;

(b) it is a fact that Mr. Nimbkar admitted the allegations made by Mahomedans in their application to the Collector on 20th November 1922 in the course of the proceedings of the Meeting of the municipal committee from 25th to 29th of December 1922 ;

(c) it is a fact that the High Court of Bombay in an appeal criticised the conduct of Mr. Nimbkar at the time when he was working as mamlatdar of the Vengurla taluka ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Inquiry is being made.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : May I know the date of the question ? I appeal to you, Sir, that as a matter of fact six months have passed and no notice has been taken of the question.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : I can assure honourable members that it is not six months.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Will the Honourable Minister give the date of the question ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : I think it is a few days before the Council session started.

TOLL ON TALOD-MODASSA ROAD.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that the people of Modassa Mahal experience great hardships owing to the existence of tolls on Talod-Modassa road ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state when they intend to abolish them according to their declared policy ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : (a) Government have received no complaints about great hardships experienced by the people of Modassa Mahal owing to the existence of tolls on the Talod-Modassa road.

(b) In due course.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : May I point out that the toll on Vady road is less than half a mile from the city of Ahmedabad ? Will the Honourable Minister consult the honourable member Mr. Pratt ?

Mr. H. B. SHIVDASANI : From what point is the distance of 2 miles calculated ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : I cannot tell you now.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : What is the rate of abolishing these tolls ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : If the Council gives the money, to-morrow.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : But the Council passed a resolution.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : Will the Honourable Minister consult the Commissioner, Mr. Pratt ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : It is not the business of the honourable member to suggest consultations. Will he put his question ?

TOLLS ON ROADS IN AHMEDABAD CITY.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that the tolls on Vaduj and Sarkhej roads are just on the outskirts of Ahmedabad city, acting prejudicially on the growth and development of the town ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether those tolls were abolished some time ago ? If so, will they state who reintroduced them and why ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : (a) The tolls on Vaduj and Sarkhej roads are on the outskirts of Ahmedabad city but they do not act prejudicially on the growth and development of the town both being at a distance of more than two miles.

(b) Yes. The toll on the former road was reimposed by the District Local Board, Ahmedabad, and on the latter by Government in the Public Works Department. The tolls were reimposed in order to prevent the deterioration of roads and to meet the heavy expenditure required for their upkeep.

RULES REGARDING BOUNDARY MARKS.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have revised the rules as regards the construction and repair of boundary marks and recovery of the cost from the cultivators ?

(b) If so, will they be pleased to place a copy of the revised rules on the Council table ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) and (b) The rules for the construction and repair of boundary marks were revised in 1921. But only slight changes were made in the then existing rules.

The revised rules were published in Government Notification No. B-205 dated 26th January 1921 printed at pages 377 to 423 of Part I of

the *Bombay Government Gazette* dated 17th December 1921 and are reproduced at pages 14 to 18 of the Land Revenue Rules, 1921, to which reference is invited. No rules for the recovery of the cost of repairing boundary marks through Government agency have been framed under Section 123 of the Land Revenue Code. But in order that cultivators may have an incentive to repair their own boundary marks Government had approved in the year 1909 the recovery of charges for such work at penal rates. These orders have now been cancelled and the charges are to be recovered in accordance with the actual cost to Government of carrying out the repairs.

TRANSFER OF CERTAIN VILLAGES IN DHANDHUKA TALUKA TO
THE LIMBDI DARBAR.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they contemplate to hand over the jurisdiction of villages of Barwara Chowishi of Dhandhuka taluka to the Darbar of Limbdi?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether the wishes of the people of those villages will be taken into account before such a transfer of jurisdiction is made?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: There is no such proposal at present before Government.

SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY TO BOMBAY SUBURBAN DISTRICT.

Mr. PUNJABHAI THAKERSI (Bombay City, North): Will Government be pleased to state what progress has been made in the supply of electricity to the residents of the Bombay Suburban District?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: The draft license for the supply of electrical energy in the Bombay suburban area, revised by Government, was sent to the applicants for their acceptance on 3rd December 1924. The license will be granted as soon as it has been accepted by the applicants.

GUJARAT TALUKDARS.

The THAKOR OF KERWADA (Gujarat Sardars and Inamdars): Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that the Honourable Mr. Reeves definitely stated at the time of the introduction of the Ahmedabad Talukdars Act in 1862, that the Talukdars would be restored to their former position and compared that position with the Talukdars under the Kathiawar Agency?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: The Honourable Member is referred to the reply given to his question on 26th February 1925. Government are aware that the Honourable Mr. Reeves compared the position of the Girassias in the Ahmedabad Collectorate with that of the Girassias in Kathiawar.

The THAKOR OF KERWADA: Are the Gujarat talukdars accorded the same treatment that is accorded to the Girassias in the Agency tract in every respect?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: I do not think so.

JAMA.

The THAKOR OF KERWADA (Gujarat Sardars and Inamdars): Will Government be pleased to state whether the Honourable Mr. Reeves gave an assurance to reconsider the principle on which the jama was calculated and that it would be reduced when the talukdars were free from debt?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: The Honourable Member is referred to the reply given to his Question on 26th February 1925. The Honourable Mr. Reeves said that it was contemplated, though not provided in the "Bill for the Restoration of Grassias in the Ahmedabad Collectorate and for their relief from debt," to concede more liberal terms to the recognised proprietor in the matter of taxation.

The THAKOR OF KERWADA: Do Government contemplate taking any action regarding giving the Gujarat talukdars any relief in the matter of taxation, as promised by the Honourable Mr. Reeves?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: I do not think there are any proposals before Government.

MAINTENANCE OF ROADS IN NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN DIVISIONS.

The THAKOR OF KERWADA (Gujarat Sardars and Inamdars): Will Government be pleased to place on the Council table a statement showing the mileage of roads in the Northern and Southern Divisions and the cost of maintaining them with any additional grant given in the last five years?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: The information has been called for.

FEEDER RAILWAY PROJECTS.

The THAKOR OF KERWADA (Gujarat Sardars and Inamdars): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether any action has been taken by them in connection with the feeder railway projects proposed by the district local board, Broach?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the stages which the four different projects submitted by the Broach district local board have reached?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) and (b) Proposals for the following four railway lines, in order of urgency, were submitted by the District Local Board, Broach, for the consideration of Government:—

(i) Luwara-Dehej-Wagra-Samni-Miyagam Railway.

(ii) Jambusar-Kavi Railway.

(iii) Ankleshwar-Hansot-Sahol Railway.

(iv) Broach-Shukaltirth-Jhanor-Koral Railway.

(i) *Luwara-Dehej-Wagra-Samni-Miyagam Railway*.—To enable the Government of Bombay to examine the proposals submitted by the District Local Board, Broach, for the construction and financing of this project and to decide whether a scheme was feasible or not a reliable estimate of the present cost of construction and traffic prospects of the

line was considered necessary. The Railway Board were accordingly requested to arrange with the B. B. & C. I. Railway Company to carry out a detailed survey of the proposed railway. The Railway Board sanctioned the carrying out of the engineering and traffic surveys of the line by the agency of the B. B. & C. I. Railway Company. The detailed survey has been carried out and the results of it are awaited.

(ii) *Jambusar-Kavi Railway*.—It has been decided that the present railway should form part of the B. B. & C. I. Railway Company's undertaking. A detailed survey of the line was carried out by the B. B. & C. I. Railway and a project report and estimate were forwarded by the Railway Board for the information of Government. The alignment, waterways, level crossings proposed for the railway were approved by Government and the Railway Board were requested last year to make the requisite arrangements to provide the necessary funds for its construction during the current year. The receipt of a further communication from the Railway Board is awaited.

(iii) *Ankleshwar-Hansot-Sahol Railway*.—The Railway Board were requested to ask the B. B. & C. I. Railway Company to examine the traffic prospects of the line. The traffic survey of the line was accordingly sanctioned by the Railway Board to be carried out by the agency of the B. B. & C. I. Railway Company. The Agent did not consider it advisable to carry out a detailed survey of the line since the results obtained from a traffic survey held out little hope of a suitable return being obtained on the outlay. He intimated that the question had been referred to his Home Board whose views in the matter would be reported to Government in due course. Subsequently, the Agent intimated that the Railway Board, to whom the matter had been referred by him, stated that no further action in the matter need be taken for the present.

(iv) *Broach-Shukaltirth-Jhanor-Koral Railway*.—The Railway Board were requested to carry out the traffic prospects of the railway and if not the whole of the project at least the Broach-Shukaltirth section. The Railway Board accordingly sanctioned the carrying out of a traffic survey by the agency of the B. B. & C. I. Railway Company of the Broach-Shukaltirth Railway. The results of the survey are awaited.

No further action can however be taken on the projects (i), (iii) and (iv) until the proposals which the Government of India have put forward in connection with the financing of feeder railways have been accepted by the Secretary of State and the necessary legislation enabling District Local Boards to give guarantees to make up the loss in working has been passed.

GOVERNMENT GRANTS TO LOCAL BOARDS.

The THAKOR OF KERWADA (Gujarat Sardars and Inamdars) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they have issued any orders regarding the principles on which Government grants for primary schools to local boards have been allotted for the years 1922-23 and 1923-24 ?

(b) whether any protest about this has been received from any of the district local boards, and if so, how it has been disposed of ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) Yes.
(b) Enquiries are being made.

STANDING COMMITTEES TO ASSIST AND ADVISE MINISTERS AND MEMBERS.

Dr. M. B. VELKAR (Bombay City, South) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have taken any steps to appoint standing committees to assist and advise the Ministers and Members of Government?

(b) Have they taken any steps to ascertain what other local Governments have done in the matter?

(c) If so, what has been the result of their enquiry?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Attention is invited to the reply given to the honourable member for Poona City on 26th February 1925.

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST THAR AND PARKAR OFFICIALS.

Mr. HOOSEINALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether their attention has been drawn to an editorial note under the heading of "Motor cars of zamindars" published on page 5 of the "Mussalman" of Mirpurkhas, dated the 29th December 1924, alleging that in the Thar and Parkar district of Sind some Government officials have been using the motor cars of zamindars under the threat of doing harm to them;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Collector of the Thar and Parkar district has received such a complaint from some zamindars;

(c) whether the Government propose to take any action in the matter?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Information has been called for.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

Mr. HOOSEINALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many villages there are with a population of five hundred and over in each taluka of Sind;

(b) how many of such villages in each taluka have no school buildings;

(c) which of such villages in each taluka have no local board primary schools at all, and which of them have only a *Mulla* school?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Information has been called for.

RATE OF INTEREST IN SIND.

Mr. HOOSEINALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City) : Will Government be pleased to state whether they have any information as regards the average rate of interest charged by *sawkars* (money-lenders) from their peasant debtors in the rural areas of Sind? If so, what is such average rate of interest?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Government have no information.

PROTECTED MONUMENTS IN SIND.

Mr. HOOSEINALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of HAJI ABDUL-LAH HAROON (Karachi City) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the names of the ancient monuments which have been declared by them to be protected monuments in Sind under the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act (No. VII of 1904) ;

(b) the names of those monuments, if any, in respect of which a declaration once made by them as stated in (a) was subsequently withdrawn ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Information has been called for.

SEPARATION OF JUDICIAL AND EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS.

Mr. HOOSEINALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of HAJI ABDUL-LAH HAROON (Karachi City) : In view of the Honourable the Home Member's statement (*vide* page 545 of the Bombay Legislative Council Debates, Vol. XIII) that the matter of separation of judicial and executive functions has been under the consideration of Government for twenty years, will Government be pleased to supply, in the form of a detailed statement, all particulars of the progress, which has been made, from time to time in considering this matter ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Government have collected statistics showing the additional staff which will be necessary and these are now under examination.

PURCHASES MADE IN ENGLAND BY THE KARACHI PORT TRUST.

Mr. HOOSEINALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of HAJI ABDUL-LAH HAROON (Karachi City) : (a) Will Government be pleased to furnish in a tabular form, a statement of purchases made, during the last two years, in England, by the Karachi Port Trust, showing the names of the articles, the names of suppliers, the prices at which they are purchased, and the country in which the goods were manufactured, and the reason why those articles were not purchased in India, if they were available ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether the Karachi Port Trust give instructions to their agents in England to invite tenders from all countries where the articles required by them are manufactured ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Information is being obtained.

KARACHI PORT TRUST APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. HOOSEINALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of HAJI ABDUL-LAH HAROON (Karachi City) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that on 31st March 1924, out of the total number of 27 posts carrying a salary of Rs. 500 and over in the Port Trust, Karachi, only one was held by an Indian and the remaining 26 by Europeans and Anglo-Indians ?

(b) If the answer is in the affirmative, what steps they intend taking to appoint a sufficiently large number of Indians in those higher grades of Karachi Port Trust service ?

(c) What the names and educational qualifications and salaries of the present European and Anglo-Indian employees of the Karachi Port Trust drawing a monthly salary of Rs. 500 or over are ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Information is being obtained.

SUPPLY OF GOVERNMENT GAZETTES TO NEWSPAPERS.

Mr. HOOSEINALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City): In view of the declared policy of Government to supply the Gazettes (*i.e.*, the *Bombay Government Gazette* and the *Sind Official Gazette*) to those newspapers only whose circulation is over 1,000 (*vide* last lines of footnote on page 526 of Bombay Legislative Council Debates, Vol. XIII), and in view of the statement made by Government (*vide* Appendix No. 43-A of Vol. XIII) that one or the other Government Gazette is supplied, free of cost, among others, to the *Sind Observer*, Karachi; the *Sind Sudhar*, Karachi; the *Sindvasi*, Hyderabad (Sind); and the *Al-haq*, Sukkur; and in view of further statement of Government (*vide* Appendix 46-A of Vol. XIII) that the circulation of the four above-mentioned newspapers is only 850, 850, 500 and 450 respectively, *i.e.*, much less than 1,000, in each case, will Government be pleased to state why copies of the Government Gazette are supplied to the said newspapers free of cost ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Enquiries are being made.

REPRESENTATION RE: PROVINCIAL CONTRIBUTION.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Mr. President, have I your permission to mention the question of the representation of the Legislative Council of Bombay to the Government of India regarding their financial proposals ? This Council passed a motion on the 2nd of March and we have prepared a statement to be sent to the Government of India, and we would like to know whether this statement meets with the approval of the House before we send it up. It is very urgent that it should be sent at once in order that it may be in the hands of the Government of India on Monday morning, for the discussion will take place next Wednesday. I should therefore like to know whether the House would accord its approval immediately to this despatch or whether they would like to have some time to consider it. The latest period at which it could be despatched in time to reach Delhi is to-morrow afternoon.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I should like to know what the wishes of the House are. The statement is being circulated now. To-morrow is the last day for demands for grants and it is my intention to call the meeting at 12, because at 5 o'clock all the remaining items on the agenda in regard to the budget will have to be put to the vote. It is open to honourable members to arrange with the Honourable the Finance Member whether they would consider this representation to-day.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Sir, it might be done immediately after tea.

(Discussion on Demands for Grants resumed).

Question again proposed :—

“Reduce the votable portion by four lakhs—Total demand of Rs. 29,60,000—Public Health (Civil Estimate page 186).”

Dr. M. B. VELKAR (Bombay City, South): Sir, I rise to support the motion moved by my honourable friend from West Khandesh, and in supporting it I want to submit to this House that in spite of whatever may have been stated by the honourable member, the Commissioner, Northern Division, about the ignorance and uncivilized condition of the masses of this country this House remains unconvinced as to the utility of spending a huge sum of money on giving fat salaries to the assistant directors of public health. To my mind if this money will be spent in inducing young men full of public spirit and the spirit of self-sacrifice to take up the work of village sanitation, the money will be well spent. For instance, if we appoint young men who have passed matric or men who have graduated recently on monthly salary of 50 or 60 rupees, men selected for this special service, I believe they would be organising this work of village sanitation in a most efficient manner. They will serve a twofold purpose. While they will be carrying on this work of village sanitation hand in hand with giving tuition in public hygiene, they will also form village co-operative societies and teach the people handicrafts and other cottage industries and will be able to organize other rural industries and all the masses will thus be benefitted by this sort of work. In this connection, I would like to bring to the notice of this Council the great work that is being carried on by Mr. Thakkar of the Servants of India Society among the Bhils and Dharalas of the talukas of Panch Mahals and Surat, a population of something like one lakh. Among them this work is carried on efficiently with the help of self-sacrificing young men. There ten or twelve centres are formed and a man who is an expert in this sort of work is appointed head and some ten young men specially chosen for this purpose for their public spirit are given under him to carry on this work. Now there not only the work of sanitation and education is carried on but they are also forming there co-operative societies and also organising cottage industries. Therefore, instead of spending huge sums of money in giving fat salaries to these officers, if you appoint young men to do this work you will duly open a field of work for them and this question of village sanitation will be solved.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: May I mention to the House, Sir, that this statement is marked confidential and it is desirable that it should not be communicated to the press at this moment?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I am sure honourable members will recognise the importance of keeping this statement strictly confidential for the reason that any premature publication may injure the cause for which the House stands. I take it that honourable members will go over it and try to give their considered opinion immediately after tea.

Dr. M. M. MEHTA (Surat City): Sir, I support the motion moved by my honourable friend from East Khandesh, Mr. Dev. There is already

[Dr. M. M. Mehta]

tabled a motion in my name in connection with this item and therefore I think it is my duty to express my views on the subject. As my honourable friend from Bombay City (South) Dr. Velkar said, instead of paying huge salaries to these assistant directors of public health, it will be better to employ more men of equal, if not better qualification, for the same amount. The duties of these assistant directors of public health are : one assistant director of public health has got a very large division to manage, and it is impossible for him to move in all the thousands of villages in his division and it is impossible for him to give real help to the people of the rural areas of the Presidency. As regards the qualifications I think the Indian gentlemen who may be appointed will not be less qualified than these gentlemen.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : They are also Indians. The assistant directors of public health are all Indians.

Dr. M. M. MEHTA : I know it, Sir. For one assistant director of public health on Rs. 1,000 we can get two graduates of the Bombay University with equal and often better qualifications. The duties of the assistant director of public health can very well be performed by those gentlemen. Again, Sir, their duties are mostly confined to collection of statistics, inspection of vaccination and advisory. The collection of statistics is more or less done by the department which in turn gets necessary information from other departments. As to the advisory functions the scope is very limited looking to the financial conditions of villages ; and if at all such advice is necessary, the civil surgeon of the district is much nearer for it. Therefore for this work also the appointments in question are superfluous.

The honourable member for Khandesh has already quoted examples of the nature of the work done by these assistant directors of public health. I shall add one more example. I quote from the report of the Director of Public Health. The port health officer once reported that a case of influenza was detected on a ship. This information was officially communicated to the Public Health Department. The offices of the latter department simply transmitted this information to the mamlatdars of the districts concerned. This shows conclusively that the nature of the work of these officials is more or less of a post office character for which such a heavy expenditure is not justified. It is no fault of these officers that their usefulness is not made fully available to the needy public. These officers cannot do the duties assigned to them efficiently, firstly because their jurisdiction extends over a wide area and secondly because their pay is very inadequate for the same. The pay of the assistant director of public health is Rs. 1,000. Being a superior officer in the division he has to live in a particular style and has therefore to incur heavy expenditure. Therefore, he gets discontented. A member of the B. M. S. is equally or perhaps more competent for this sort of work if he has qualified in Hygiene, and services of such men can very well be utilised. With better prospects, these latter gentlemen will remain content and work more efficiently as they are doing now. The

[Dr. M. M. Mehta]

honourable member the Commissioner for the Northern Division stated that we should have experts. But, Sir, we know how in India experts can be easily manufactured. Once a port health officer was appointed as an expert in midwifery; an ophthalmic surgeon was appointed Sanitary Commissioner to the Government of Bombay; and a deputy sanitary commissioner was appointed as Surgeon General to the Government of Bombay. These are the experts we are asked to depend upon. Many of the posts of the assistant directors of public health are at present held by gentlemen who failed to pass a higher examination of the Bombay University but were rich enough to go to England and get the D.P.H. diploma; and they are posted over the heads of the best graduates of the Bombay University.

The honourable member the Commissioner, Northern Division, put a question to the honourable member the leader of the Swaraj party as to what was the mortality in villages. He was under the impression, if I understood him right, that if these experts were not employed the figures of mortality would rise in the villages. I may point out to him that already the mortality in the rural areas is less than in the urban area of the presidency. This has been so for several years and nobody took any note of it. But it was left to a lay committee of Broach to bring to light this serious condition. Then, Sir, as to the malaria question referred to by the honourable member the Commissioner, Northern Division, I understand he was referring to the Collector of Surat, Mr. Macmillan's activities in this connection. I am of opinion, Sir, that such serious problems need not be allowed to be handled by amateur civilians; that would be mere waste of public money and sometimes may cause disastrous results. The problem of malaria cannot be tackled like that. It is a huge problem and it is no use wasting money over the solution of that problem by appointing a few high salaried men who cannot go over the wide area under their jurisdiction without adequate menial staff. Therefore, I say, Sir, that we should appoint a larger number of officers on a lower salary instead of a few highly paid ones. And we can get men with good university qualifications on a lower salary and that will be a saving to the department and it will also give more benefit to the people of the rural areas of the presidency. We can also get the assistant surgeons in the district hospitals to advise the non-officials in the villages and if that is done the districts will get better and speedier advice. Therefore, I support the motion of the honourable member Mr. Dev.

THE THAKOR OF KERWADA (Gujarat Sardars and Inamdars): Mr. President, I rise to make one or two observations on the question. Unfortunately, when the question was being discussed yesterday, I was not present, but I hear the honourable the Commissioner for the Northern Division made some reference to the health committee appointed by the Broach district local board to look after the health of the people. I also gather that the honourable the Commissioner said something not very pleasant about the intelligence and civilisation of Indians. I most strongly deprecate any reference of that kind. Coming to the

[The Thakor of Kerwada]

subject proper, I may state that the Brouch district board has appointed a committee to go round and visit different villages and arrange lectures and lantern slide shows, and thus explain to the ignorant people how they should take care of their health and protect themselves against infectious diseases. In this committee we have got certain doctors who have volunteered their services, and I think in course of time they will turn out useful work. They have only just begun. They have ample scope for work especially in places where big fairs are held and thousands of people gather from all parts of the country. It is from those places that infectious diseases are spread all over the country. Therefore, greater care should be taken by people who go to those places.

I am not here to bolster up the case of the director of public health but I would like to place before the House the facts as I find them. I could not visit place myself owing to sickness in my family, but I sent the chief officer of the district local board, who made a thorough investigation of the place regarding its water-supply, birth and death rate epidemics, extension of the village site, etc. He suggested the erection of model villages. The local board are contemplating to select two villages to be treated as model villages for the experiment according to the suggestions made by the deputy health officer, Mr. Pinto.

I personally refuse to judge the question from a racial standpoint. To-day there is an unanimity of opinion that the infant mortality in this country is much heavier than it is in the other civilised countries of the world. So, this matter has to be investigated. Whether it is an expert appointed by the Government or selected and approved by this House, the appointment of an expert is absolutely necessary to investigate into this vital question. As the village population is increasing and as there will be more chances for infant mortality, such an expert to advise the people and help the village panchayats wherever they have been formed will be absolutely essential, and most welcome.

An Honourable MEMBER: I move the closure.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I accept the closure.

Mr. S. S. DEV: Sir, when I heard the speech of the honourable member the Commissioner for the Northern Division, I simply wondered. I could then realise why the honourable member for Surat was persistent in giving notice of a resolution to abolish the posts of Commissioners. I simply contended that the department of Public Health was a top-heavy department and that there were officers in it more than necessary, some of the officers had not sufficient work and so I proposed that they might be removed. But the honourable member the Commissioner could not understand me. When I said that any assistant director of public health was not necessary, I never meant that in his stead a *bhangi* should be substituted. I never thought that immediately after the assistant director comes the *bhangi* in rank. I thought that there might be many more officials between the assistant director and the *bhangi*. When I maintained that there were more assistant directors than necessary, I could not see how a *bhangi* arose on the horizon of the Commissioner's

[Mr. S. S. Dev]

mind. If the honourable member for Surat moves a resolution that the posts of Commissionerships should be abolished would it mean that the *pattaiwallas* should be substituted in the places of Commissioners? Do *pattaiwallas* come next in rank to the Commissioners? The speech of the honourable member the Commissioner for the Northern Division was absolutely irrelevant. I could not see what was the temptation for him to introduce the *bhangi* in this debate.

Apart from his speech, even the Honourable Minister in charge had to admit in his first speech that there was not sufficient work of these officers: and secondly, he admitted that the department was topheavy, although he believed that it was bound to be under the circumstances. The expenditure over this department for the current year is Rs. 24,00,000 and we are going to budget 5 lakhs more for the next year. As the cut of 4 lakhs which I have proposed is not heavy, I hope the House will carry it.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Sir, I think the honourable mover of this motion is again pressing the point to which I have already given a reply. The department of Public Health is really made up of a number of activities under different Ministers. The department under the Director of Public Health is in my charge and I am responsible for it. The department of water-supply and sanitary engineering is under the control of my honourable friend the Minister for Local Self-Government. Besides these, there are the bacteriological and other laboratories. So, I submit the amount of 29 lakhs cannot bear a cut of 4 lakhs, simply for the reason that the deputy directors of health are shown to be not doing adequate work. A large portion of the amount budgetted for is for grants to local bodies; and if this House insists upon a cut of 4 lakhs, I am sure these grants will have to be heavily reduced in proportion. As a matter of fact, the amount spent upon the director and his deputies is not so large as is supposed to be by certain honourable members. Therefore, I wish to bring to the notice of this House that this department cannot bear such a severe cut as 4 lakhs.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: Then what cut can it bear?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: That is another thing. The present cut is rather too severe.

I am very much obliged to my honourable friends Dr. Velkar and Dr. M. M. Mehta for the views they have expressed from a sanitary and hygienic point of view that sanitary work in the villages is essential. I very much appreciate the suggestion of the honourable member Dr. Velkar that village organisers should be employed to look after sanitation and education in rural areas. It would be a proud day for this country when a large number of self-sacrificing people will come forward to undertake the work on a salary of Rs. 60 a month. I know there are enthusiastic workers mainly among the missionary people, among the Sadhus who are given to religious practices and who are self-sacrificing. Such persons in actual life can be found in very small numbers. The honourable member has quoted the instance of the Salvation Army.....

Dr. M. B. VELKAR : I mentioned the name of Mr. Thakkar of the Servants of India Society.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I have great admiration for him, but I am sorry to say that he has not got a sufficiently numerous following. He will not be able to offer any large number of persons who will undertake such service at a sacrifice.

Now, I turn to the suggestions of the honourable member Dr. Mehta. He wants to appoint two persons in place of one. In other words, he admits the necessity of doing this work and insists that it should be done on a larger scale. I therefore submit that the fact that these deputy directors of health are necessary has been admitted by my honourable friend Dr. Mehta.

What I wanted to bring to the notice of the House is that these deputy directors of public health are doing a certain amount of work. It cannot be said that they are fully worked under the present circumstances, and it must be conceded that their work has not been of very great importance to the village population because their number is so small. Government desire that every district should have a health officer and when every district is provided with health officers, these deputy directors can be withdrawn. I have already brought to the notice of the House the special work that has been done in connection with the checking of epidemics at pilgrim centres and other places and in that way the work of these officers is praiseworthy. I therefore hope that this House will reject this motion.

Question put and lost.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind) : Sir, I move :

Reduce one lakh from the total demand under 33, Public Health.

After the statement made by the Honourable Minister that a cut of 4 lakhs would be rather too heavy—that was the expression he used—I think it is but fair to expect that a cut of one lakh would suffice, and also after the very clear admission on the part of the Minister in his words that it cannot be said that the assistant directors of public health are fully worked, it is but fair that the number of assistant directors, etc., ought to be reduced. And the third point that I would place before the Honourable Minister is that, if he looks to the several duties of the Director and the assistant directors of public health and the Medical Department, and if he cares to go into the statements on this point by the Surgeon-General himself, he would be able to cut one lakh without any difficulty. Out of this one lakh about Rs. 30,000 could be saved by the abolition of the Karachi laboratory and it is only a question of Rs. 70,000 which I think he will be able to save further. Especially as he considers 4 lakhs too heavy, I have proposed a reduction of only 1 lakh.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, I have explained the position and I am glad to find that the honourable member the Deputy President recognises it. As for the appointment of the Director of Public Health, the matter is under the consideration of Government and I can assure the House that I shall devote my best attention to the necessary economies in that direction. And also about the curtailment that can be made in

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

the laboratory at Karachi, I have also promised this House that I shall see how much money can be saved from that source. So the House may rely upon me and not insist upon this cut this time.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind) : Sir, in view of the statement made by the Honourable Minister and in view of my expectation that before July next we will know certain facts about this cut, I beg permission to withdraw my motion.

Question put and leave granted.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I ask, Sir, now for a total demand of Rs. 26,00,000 for 33, Public Health.

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I beg to propose a total grant of Rs. 41,13,000 for 32, Medical.

Question proposed.

Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI (Bombay City, South) : Sir, I beg to move :

That the provision of Rs. 16,000 in item 150 (Blue Book) for orthopædic appliances to hospitals be reduced to Rs. 10,000 only.

Sir, we know that the post of Orthopædic expert was created last year and now he requires appliances. According to my enquiry, Rs. 10,000 will do for this purpose. Therefore, I propose a reduction of the grant to Rs. 10,000. For the reasons I have given already, I move that the grant be reduced from Rs. 16,000 to Rs. 10,000.

Question proposed.

Dr. M. M. MEHTA (Surat City) : Sir, it is stated that this officer is an expert in Orthopædics. I doubt very much whether he is an expert. All these things are imported from England, while they could be manufactured in India. There are several indigenous firms in India who manufacture these articles. Secondly, Sir, people in the mofussil do not make much use of these things. Perhaps, in Bombay proper, people make use of these things fully, but in the mofussil it is not a very great problem. It may be a great problem in Bombay, but then, one officer like this is absolutely useless and inadequate if meant for Bombay proper. In the mofussil the officers in charge of the hospital—the sub-assistant surgeons—are properly trained men and they know these things very much better. On the top of these officers, to appoint a so-called expert, who is not a real expert, is simply humiliating. I therefore propose that this item for this department be deleted.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, this post of orthopædic expert was sanctioned last year and this House has recognised that it is useful to engage his services. He has done very good work during the late war and there he has gained experience in making orthopædic appliances. In the hospitals in Bombay he gives advice for splints and other things ; and these are not ordered from England as the honourable member from Surat supposes, but they are made here by N. Powell and other firms. During the last year he has been doing very good work and the medical authorities of the various hospitals in Bombay speak highly

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

about him, and it is now found necessary to supply splints and other appliances according to his specifications to the various patients in the hospitals here as well as in other hospitals. It is, therefore, necessary that this amount of Rs. 16,000 be sanctioned. If the House thinks that it can be reduced by Rs. 6,000 as the honourable member Dr. Dadachanji proposes, then I leave this matter entirely in the hands of the House. If the grant is reduced by Rs. 6,000 only, Rs. 10,000 will be available for this sort of work and in the hospitals of Bombay there are many cases of injuries in the treatment of which these splints are absolutely necessary, and the reduced grant may not enable the department to supply the demands of all. But if the House wants this cut of Rs. 6,000 I leave the matter entirely in the hands of the House.

Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI (Bombay City, South) : Sir, it is very good of the honourable Minister to say frankly that he can do with Rs. 10,000. My information is that Rs. 10,000 will be quite sufficient. It is better to have a little more experience, and I think Rs. 10,000 is quite sufficient, considering that this is a deficit budget.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, I have nothing to say in reply.

Question put and carried.

Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI (Bombay City, South) : Sir, I move :

“ Reduce to Rs. 75,000, quinquennial revision of grant-in-aid to dispensaries and other medical institutions, Rs. 90,000.”

Sir, my reasons for moving this reduction are that this is only a quinquennial revision of the grants to dispensaries, etc. The first revision was made in 1915. After that, they made a revision in 1920-21, but this was not availed of, and it lapsed. Now Government want to revise it again. In these days of a deficit budget, I hope Rs. 75,000 will be enough for the year, because it is put down in the remarks column that the exact sum required will require scrutiny, and they proceed to say in the remarks column that only a lump amount of Rs. 90,000 will be necessary. I therefore think it would be as well to provide Rs. 75,000 in a deficit budget.

Question proposed.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, the grants-in-aid to mofussil municipalities are very inadequate, and complaints have been received from the various taluka towns and other places for an increase in the contributions. As a matter of fact, the grants made to certain dispensaries do not even cover the charges for medicines that are required to be paid by the district local boards and municipalities. Therefore, it has been found absolutely necessary to increase those grants. Now, I want to impress upon this House that this grant of Rs. 90,000 is intended for municipalities and district local boards for an increase in their grants, and if the House thinks that these municipalities and district local boards do not deserve any increase at all, then I leave the matter to the House. It is for them to decide.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Sir, I oppose the motion. It is necessary to revise the grants-in-aid to municipalities and other bodies for dispensaries. The dispensaries are a great burden on the municipalities, and they always clamour for more money. Unless Government give more grants, the municipalities will be obliged to close their dispensaries. This item of Rs. 90,000 is not enough, and if it could be increased, it would be all right; but we cannot do it, so at least there must be no reduction.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind): Sir, I rise to oppose this motion, but at the same time, I am glad that this opposition from the other side has been brought to the notice of the Honourable Minister, not for the purpose of carrying the item one way or the other, but for the purpose of enabling the non-official side to call upon the Honourable Minister to declare his policy so far as grants to the local bodies are concerned. I may inform this House that up to this time the policy of the Government so far as the grants to municipalities and local boards are concerned, for medical relief, has been an unsettled one. Before the salaries of the sub-assistant surgeons were revised, there were certain grants given to these local bodies, and a certain proportion of the grants was for the pay of the medical officers. Now, without the consent of the local bodies, the salaries of the sub-assistant surgeons have been revised; their maximum which was formerly Rs. 100 has now been revised to Rs. 230.

Mr. S. S. DEV: I rise to a point of order, and I hope the Deputy President will excuse me. The motion before the House is for the reduction of a particular item, and I want to know whether the Deputy President can discuss the whole policy on such a motion.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: He knows he cannot do so.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: I am not at all discussing the whole policy, Sir. In opposing my honourable friend Dr. Dadachanji's motion, I only wanted an expression of opinion whether this grant of Rs. 90,000 which is only a lump provision, was going to be distributed to the dispensaries according to certain rules, or whether it was going to be distributed according to the whims of a particular Secretary to Government. It is, therefore, that I am glad that objection has been raised to this provision, and I would request the Honourable Minister to tell us whether there are any definite rules by which this amount of Rs. 90,000 is going to be distributed among the local bodies.

Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI (Bombay City, South): Sir, I see that the general impression in the House is that this amount of Rs. 90,000 for grants-in-aid to local bodies for dispensaries is required. I therefore beg permission to withdraw my motion.

Question put and leave granted.

Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI (Bombay City, South): Sir, I beg to move:

"Omit the item of Rs. 3,932, for creation of a post of Assistant to the Dean, Grant Medical College."

[Dr. K. E. Dadachanji]

Sir, this provision is for the creation of a new post of Assistant to the Dean at the Grant Medical College. It is mentioned in the remarks against the item that the Dean has a lot of work to do. But, on enquiry, I find that he has got three clerks under him. That being the case, why should we create another post under him, in these days of financial stringency? I therefore propose that the item be omitted.

Question proposed.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind): Sir, I rise to join in the protest against the grant of this item, and I think the Honourable Minister will be well advised in accepting the motion. The facts are as they have been placed before the House by the honourable mover. The Dean has under him three clerks, and this House would be glad to know what the administrative duties of the Dean are in the College. Apart from the teaching work, I think the rest of the work is done by the three clerks, and I cannot understand why the Dean requires an assistant under him in the form of a M.B., B.S. man, as the proposal indicates. This is a new appointment, and I think the Council must put its foot down upon the creation of new appointments, because once these appointments are created, we can never afterwards set them aside.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Sir, at present the Dean is Capt. Bhatia, and he has to do the work of a professor as well. He is a full time officer, and in addition to his other duties as professor in the College, he has also to do the duty of the Dean. The number of students in the Medical College has increased very much lately, and as provision has been made for clinical tuition in the Gokuldas Tejpal Hospital, the number of admissions will be increased in after years. So the work is on the increase. There are 300 resident students at present and there is a big college to carry on and the higher duties of the Dean often take much of his time. If he is not given the assistance that is asked for here, he will have to spend an hour or two of his time every day in simply initialling routine papers and so much of his valuable time will be lost, and I think that is a very great matter for consideration. If this personal assistant is given, the routine work will be thrown on him and the Dean will be free to devote his attention to the other important matters.

The Grant Medical College requires a good deal of looking after and for the new college which the municipality is starting they have also appointed a full time officer. So I think this appointment of a personal assistant to the Dean is necessary.

I may however tell this House that on account of the deficit budget Government may have to take into consideration the various cuts and this department of medicine may also have to bear its proportionate cut and Government will have to see where to economise and where not to economise, and it would be advisable on the part of this House to leave the matter entirely to us. It does not mean that when these grants are sanctioned each and every pie of it will be spent. I fear that Government will not be in a position to afford to spend so much on this item.

Dr. K. E. DADACHANJI (Bombay City, South) : Sir, the Honourable Minister himself says that he is indifferent whether the cut is made or not, because he says that owing to the deficit budget Government will take into consideration the various cuts proposed in the different departments, and perhaps this will be one of them. And in that connection I think his hands will be strengthened by the opinion of this Council.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, I think the appointment is necessary and it will not be advisable for this House to insist upon this cut.

Question put and lost.

Dr. M. M. MEHTA (Surat City) : Sir, I move :

Omit total provision for Technical Adviser for Orthopædics Rs. 23,340,

Sir, in spite of the assurances of the Honourable Minister, I hold that this post is absolutely unnecessary. I do not see any reason for this additional appointment when the officer is not an expert and has less qualifications than the highly qualified officers in charge of the medical college and hospitals. I therefore move for the omission of this item.

Question proposed.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, this item of Rs. 23,340 which is proposed to be omitted is made up of pay of officers—orthopædic mechanic, Rs. 6,000, leave allowance Rs. 1,060 ; Contingencies—Appliances, Rs. 16,000 ; postage and telegraph charges, Rs. 50 ; telephone charges Rs. 225, for rounding Rs. 5, total Rs. 23,340. Out of this a sum of Rs. 6,000 has already been cut. So, now, there remains only Rs. 17,340. As this House, Sir, by a majority have sanctioned the appointment of this officer and as the work done by him during the last 12 months has been found very useful, the Surgeon-General recommends that he should be retained. I need not bring before this House the same arguments that I placed before it last time as to the necessity of his appointment. Rs. 7,060 are required to be sanctioned and also Rs. 10,000 for appliances, etc. I therefore oppose the omission of this item.

Dr. M. M. MEHTA : I have nothing more to add in reply.

Question put and lost.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western 'Sind) Sir, I move.

Reduce by Re. 1 total demand under *Medical* (Civil Estimates page 166.).

Sir, having given up all the items this is the item on which there are certain adverse remarks against the Medical Department that I want to bring to the notice of this Council and the Honourable Minister. I need not trouble the House with a long list of grievances. I can bring them directly to the attention of the Honourable Minister. But one matter especially which I want to bring to the notice of this House is the last resolution carried by this Council as regards the cancellation of fees to doctors practising in either civil hospitals or in the local board dispensaries or hospitals even for surgical operations and attendance. That was a resolution that was passed by this Council last time. That resolution was passed by an overwhelming majority. The Honourable Minister knew full well that the trend of non-official opinion on that point, except some members for Bombay City proper, was unanimous in condemning the orders of the Surgeon-General on the question of these fees. After that very distinct declaration of a certain policy to

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

be adopted on that point by the Honourable Minister, I agree that a committee had to be appointed to sit in judgment over the very express and definite opinion of this Council, a committee to whose constitution I objected then. I objected when I was offered to be on the committee, I object now when I stand before this Council. Now, Sir, on principle alone to start with the appointment of a committee over the deliberate opinion expressed by this House after a full and complete discussion of a resolution is to say the least unprecedented—at least it ought not to have been, and I think the Minister could have paid that respect to the opinion of the non-official side. Then, Sir, if it had been a question of taking evidence, collecting statistics or examining witnesses and cross-examining them, the appointment of a committee might be justified by the Honourable Minister. But the committee that was appointed received communications from the two medical unions, of Sind and Bombay, whose members are doctors engaged in private practice. Their opinions could have been obtained by the Honourable Minister through his department without having recourse to a committee. The committee also received the opinions of the presidents of local boards and municipalities; and those opinions too could have been easily obtained by the Minister through his department. The committee did not take any evidence; they resolved not to take evidence. Therefore I respectfully submit to this Council that the appointment of the committee was uncalled for and unjustified under the circumstances.

Not only was there no necessity for the appointment of a committee, but I go further and say that the constitution of that committee was also not one which would appeal to the non-official side of this Council. It consists of the Surgeon-General. I have very great respect for the Surgeon-General personally, but when his own order was under discussion it was hardly fair to appoint him as a judge in his own case. Proceeding further, the next member of the committee was a civil surgeon nominated by the Surgeon-General himself, that is to say, a subordinate of the officer whose order was under appeal. I am surprised that the officer whose order was under investigation should have been not only a member of the committee which conducted that investigation, but should also have nominated a subordinate of his on that committee. Then, Sir, the third was the president of the Bombay Medical Union, an union which is made up of almost all doctors that practise in Bombay city. Another member was a representative of the Sind Medical Union whose interests do not ordinarily agree with the interests of the poorer classes for whose benefit that resolution was moved. That resolution referred to local board dispensaries, municipal dispensaries, civil hospitals, etc., in fact, to all places wherever medicines were given and operations performed under Government control. Out of the eight members of the committee, four were these. The chairman had the casting vote. So far as these four were concerned, there was no doubt whatever that it was a committee which was, not to use a stronger word, a packed one. Then, Sir, the fifth member was the honourable member Mr. A. N. Surve. I have very great respect for Mr. Surve, but I respectfully submitted

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

to the Honourable Minister through the secretary that Mr. Surve belonged to the city of Bombay and could not have that realisation of our rural difficulties that must arise in the course of the investigation. Then the other members were Dr. Mansuri and myself. I refused to serve and Mr. Adwani was placed there. There was also Rao Bahadur Chitale, who was my colleague in the last Council. And being my colleague I was acquainted with the tendencies that he represented so far as fees for local board hospitals were concerned. And I gave a definite statement in my letter that knowing his tendencies already it was not fair to put him along with the other four who were of the same mind, on the committee.

Therefore, Sir, both on the ground of principle, that this Council cannot allow a committee to sit in judgment over its resolutions, or to set aside or interfere with its resolutions, and on the ground of personnel of the committee, I object to the appointment of this committee. The personnel of the committee should have been carefully scrutinised by the Honourable Minister himself, as he is responsible to this House for its constitution. It is a committee which has to determine a matter which is of general importance to the whole of this presidency, which affects the nook and corner of the whole presidency. Now, Sir, instead of this packed committee, it was better to have no committee at all. I do not want to pre-judge the conclusions of the committee, but so far as the procedure is concerned, I think it is an objectionable one, and I want to draw the attention of this House to this practice, so that we may determine once for all as to the advisability of such practice.

Question proposed.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North): Sir, the honourable member for Sukkur having drawn me into the controversy it has become my duty to make my position quite clear. He will remember that I was one of those who voted with him for that resolution. It is always necessary that one should not come to decisions on hearing one side of the question only. At that time all the material that was before the House was the Surgeon-General's rules, and having considered that as harsh on the agriculturist I went to the length of voting with the honourable member for Sukkur. But I had kept an open mind and after making further enquiries I came to the conclusion that the other side must have also a fair hearing. When the Surgeon-General wrote to me enquiring whether I could serve on the committee I very willingly gave him my consent. After going through all the papers that were submitted for my consideration I came to the conclusion that there was much truth on the other side of the question also. Because we had come to a certain decision at one time, therefore we should stick to that decision and consider them as unalterable as the laws of the Persians and the Medes, is a doctrine to which I shall never subscribe. If material that was not before me when I formed my opinion on the previous occasion is placed before me later, it becomes my duty to revise my judgment.

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

The second point is, the honourable member for Sukkur has challenged the committee as a packed one, and in proof of that he stated that Mr. Surve knows nothing about the mofussil conditions. Well, I quite admit that I am a Bombay man, but that does not preclude me from acquiring information and basing a decision on the information that is placed before the committee. Therefore, simply because a man happens to be living in a city, he should never serve on a committee is a dangerous proposition to lay down. Perhaps the honourable member does not know that there are some members who take a deep interest in questions not concerning their own interests. In that way, though I belong to the Bombay City, I take very great interest in two neighbouring districts and I always visit those districts and go into details of any matters brought to my notice by the inhabitants.

The next point raised was that the Surgeon-General was not the proper person, because he is the accused, to sit in judgment over that point. I would like to point out to the honourable member that it is a purely administrative matter and has to be examined from an administrative point of view. In such committees the chairman must of necessity be a man who is conversant with all the details of the question that is under investigation. If the Surgeon-General is not the person to be appointed as chairman, I do not know whether a stranger is to be appointed in that place.

As the matter is under the consideration of the committee, at this moment I am not going to say anything about the nature of the report that will be coming out. But, I am very sorry that the honourable member for Sukkur should have referred to the capacity of a man, simply because he is living in a city. We go to serve on committees with an open mind to find out the truth and not for the purpose of supporting our hobbies. I think the step taken by Government is the only sensible step that could be taken and I am sure it will have the support of every sensible man in this House.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Sir, I am afraid the honourable member the Deputy President has imported a large amount of prejudice against the poor servants of this House. I am very solicitous and very careful about the good opinion of this House and I do always realise that I stand here on the support and good-will of the members of this House. I shall try to exculpate myself from the serious charges that have been brought against me by the honourable member the Deputy President.

The resolution moved by him and approved by the House was:

“That in view of the very harsh nature of the Surgeon-General's draft rules as regards the fees and charges to be levied from indoor and out-door patients for attendance and operations at dispensaries and hospitals this Council recommends to Government to rescind the orders passed by them since August 1923 accepting such rules.”

The resolution asked that the orders passed by Government since 1923 should be rescinded. At that time, Sir, in the course of the debate, the then General Secretary, Mr. Thomas, brought to the notice of the Council:

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

" I am afraid that passionate devotion to accurate detail with which he has so often captivated both sides of the House failed him for once. For the orders referred to by him did nothing more than approve a draft notice which with one small modification nearly recapitulated rules which had been in existence for nearly 7 years. I have a certain quasiparental interest in these rules for although I was not the author of their being, I acted towards them in the capacity of a midwife and ushered them into the light of day on the 4th January 1917."

These orders were passed before the date mentioned by the honourable member the Deputy President in his resolution. After that resolution Government ordered to rescind all orders passed since August 1923. As the rules were made by an order passed in 1917, this resolution did not apply to them. In the course of the debate, I had to bring to the notice of the Council that the acceptance of the resolution by Government would not mean anything, and would not be of much use :

" As has been pointed out by the General Secretary there were no new orders passed and new rules framed by Government but to ask the Surgeon-General to issue orders that the whole rules should be placed on the notice-board so that people entering the hospitals may know what the rules are."

Still, I assure the House that the acceptance of the resolution will not be of any use and will not give relief to the patients that go to the hospitals and dispensaries. I then promised to the House to appoint a committee in order to take steps to see what sort of relief was necessary and should be given. It was not asked by the resolution. The committee has been appointed and it has worked. It would have finished its labours long ago and the new rules would have been framed even before this time, had it not been for the Deputy President himself who, when requested to serve on that committee, refused to do so. Another member had to be found in his place and the honourable member Mr. Adwani was good enough to accept a place on that committee and he has been trying to give his best advice to that committee. The honourable member the Deputy President even refused to give evidence before that committee. It pleased him to do so and I do not find fault with him for that.

I want to bring to the notice of the House that Government sees the necessity to reduce the fees and revise the rules. The honourable member the Deputy President thinks that all fees in the hospitals and dispensaries should be abolished. Is that so ?

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI : Yes ; except in the case of rich people.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Is it because they are rich ? He does not say that medicines and treatment should be given free of charge but says that the scale should be lowered. There is an independent medical profession which requires encouragement, and it has always been a complaint that graduates of medicine confine themselves to big cities and towns and do not go down to district and taluka towns. Later, they are going down to district and taluka towns where there are either civil hospitals or dispensaries carried on by municipalities or district local boards. If free medical aid is to be given in these dispensaries and civil hospitals, then these private medical men who have gone there will be faced with a serious competition. That will not be in the interest of the people themselves. People want medical help on a larger scale and the medical help which is available in Government civil hospitals and

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

dispensaries is not adequate. Complaints have been received that facilities for medical relief should be increased and in order to do that the independent medical profession should be encouraged to go to the district and taluka centres and settle there. If fees are totally abolished it will be a deathblow to the rising of the independent medical profession. Therefore it will not be in the interest of the people themselves to abolish all fees.

(After recess.)

Representation re Provincial Contribution.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order. The procedure to be followed will be the usual one, namely, the Honourable the Finance Member will move that the Council do approve of the representation* which has been circulated amongst honourable members. I will then ask whether any honourable member wishes to address the House—I hope there will not be long speeches—and then I will put it to the vote. If carried it will be sent on behalf of this Council.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Sir, I move that this representation be now considered by the House. I may mention that several proposals for slight verbal emendations have been made to me by certain honourable members and I shall make such changes as are still possible in the draft in accordance with those verbal emendations. But the matter is so urgent now that this must be printed off and despatched without delay and I hope the changes which the House will insist upon will be confined to very few verbal amendments. I move, Sir, that this Council recommends to Government to forward this representation to the Government of India.

Question proposed.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Sir, I wish to offer a few remarks upon this representation. Honourable members of the House will see that this is a representation to be sent to the Government of India not on behalf of the Government of Bombay, but on behalf of the Legislative Council of Bombay. We, members of the Legislative Council, feel very strongly that one evil consequence of the Meston Settlement has been that the development of the transferred departments has been very seriously arrested. If there is any one point on which we feel more keenly than another, it is this, that, at all events, the Meston Settlement is a factor, a very important factor, in the unsatisfactory progress, progress.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: May I draw the honourable member's attention to the fact that a considerable time allotted for the budget has already been taken up by adjournment motions and that the question of the Meston Settlement has already been debated at full length? I ask him, therefore, to consider—of course, the honourable member is quite in order, I am not ruling him out of order—whether such elaborate discussion of the Meston Settlement is desirable on the present occasion.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN: I don't intend to dwell at length, Sir, on the Meston Settlement, but having made my point clear, the specific

* *Vide Appendix C.*

[Mr. R. G. Pradhan]

suggestion that I wish to offer is this : In this representation a paragraph should be added dealing with the consequential effects of the Meston Settlement upon the transferred departments, and I would strongly suggest that it should be added after paragraph 18 and before paragraph 19 ; so that the point upon which we feel strongly will be made clear, as it ought to be made clear, in this representation, which, as I have said, we are sending not on behalf of the Government of Bombay, but on behalf of the Legislative Council.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities) : Sir, I rise to show our indignation against the Central Government for having meted out unjust and undignified treatment to this presidency so far as the Meston Settlement is concerned. Sir, this Presidency pays a great part of the revenue in the form of income tax and the Central Government has entirely disregarded this province in preference to their other pet children—the other provinces. Sir, when this Meston Settlement was settled, many points were not taken into consideration, such as the needs of a province, the revenue it paid, and so many other things. But I would not like to detain this House longer since we have got other urgent business of this House and I commend this motion to the entire support of this House.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD (Central Division) : Mr. President, I will be very brief. I have read the representation once, even twice, and very carefully too. I do not think that any more suggestion can be usefully made for addition. I am much struck by the moderation and sobriety of the representation as I think it might have been stronger. But the Honourable the Finance Member, who knows the pulse of this House and knows the pulse of the Government of India, has drafted the representation in a manner in which it should be drafted. I heartily support the motion.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North) : Sir, I do not wish to strike a discordant note, but the document appears to me to be very colourless. The privations that we have been suffering from are not at all given the due prominence that they deserve. The Honourable the Finance Member was kind enough to show the representation to me last evening and I have submitted my views to him. But he represents to me that those points cannot be included now as the representation has to be sent by this evening. So I do not insist that our views should be placed there. But I certainly must insist that, if such documents are again at any time to be sent in the name of the Council, it is but proper that the members of the Council are given due opportunity of expressing their views. At present, under this protest, I support the petition that is going to be sent.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI (Indian Merchants' Chamber) : Sir, this document of representation is so ably prepared by the Honourable the Finance Member that I do not want to go into details, except as to paragraph 20, which includes matters which are, I believe, not really relevant in the representation that we are making to the Government of India. They might go against us in this respect that we are suggesting to them certain other alternatives by which this province can get further

[Mr. Lalji Narajji]

money. That is on page 7, paragraph 20. I agree with the first three sentences in the paragraph, but the following sentences, I think, should be deleted :

"There are federal as well as state income taxes and the rates of the tax differ in different states. In Canada, where the income tax is federal, the provinces are allowed to tax Corporations. In the United States there are both federal and state income taxes. The war tax on profits and income in Switzerland was levied on the cantons who retained a share of the proceeds and paid the balance into the Federal treasury."

I want, Sir, that these sentences must be deleted, and I hope that the Honourable the Finance Member will agree with me, because we will be suggesting to the Government of India that this province may also impose a federal tax like the income tax, which is already existing. There is also another federal tax that is suggested, and therefore I hope that the Honourable the Finance Member will agree to my suggestion.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University): Sir, on behalf of the Swaraj party, I just want to state my position. I do not want to stand in the way of this representation going to the Government of India, especially as it is in accord with a resolution of this Council. By the courtesy of the Honourable the Finance Member, I had a chance of looking over this representation and he has also made a few alterations which I suggested. I do not object therefore to the representation going to the Government of India, but I do frankly say that I do not have any confidence that the Government of India will accede to the suggestion made in this representation. This is not the first time that representations on this question have been sent from this House to the Government of India. The House will remember that some time ago, this Council unanimously resolved against the Meston Settlement. What came out of it? Nothing. If the Honourable the Finance Member and other honourable members desire that this representation should go in the name of the Legislative Council, I have no objection, but I do think that we must not merely wait for our representation to be granted. We must adopt sterner measures. I do not want to place before this House for its acceptance the political philosophy of the Swaraj party, but I do hope that the Bombay Government will realise that making these representations alone will avail them nothing. Other provinces have not been content with merely sending representations, but they have refused to contribute their share to the Imperial exchequer, or tax their people more. Unless the people and the Government make a stern determination in this direction, and convey that determination to the Government of India, I do not think this excellently worded but colourless representation will have any effect. However, that is a matter for the Government of Bombay to decide. With these words, I accord my approval to this representation.

Mr. F. CLAYTON (Karachi Chamber of Commerce): Sir, I rise to express my complete approval of the statement which it is proposed to submit to the Government of India, expressing the views of the Bombay Council on the question of the annual contribution from this presidency to the Government of India. It appears to me that the statement fully proves an injustice has been done to Bombay and, through the reductions proposed to be granted to other provinces, is being continued. The

[Mr. F. Clayton]

statement shows our position and contention so plainly that in my opinion the Government of India must in equity decide upon a reconsideration of the question, and I feel sure, in the case of Bombay, a revision. I recommend that the statement as submitted be approved by this Council.

Mr. V. A. GRANTHAM (Bombay Chamber of Commerce): Sir, I should like to express my approval of the representation. I do not propose to speak at any length on the matter, but only to say that I entirely agree with it.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Sir, I take it then that this representation, with slight emendations may go forth as the deliberate and considered voice of this Council. I shall have much pleasure in meeting the suggestion made by the honourable member Mr. Lalji Naranji and omitting those sentences which, in his opinion, are dangerous as raising the spectre of a provincial income tax. However, I do not think it is a new suggestion to the Government of India, and I do not think we are putting into their minds anything that has not been there before. Nevertheless, I recognise that a suggestion that this House would consider a provincial income tax, would be a misrepresentation of the present feeling of this House. I shall be very glad to omit those words. For the rest, Sir, we have taken note of the views expressed by the honourable leader of the Swaraj party. I certainly cannot commit the Bombay Government to join the cry of non-co-operation. We have greater faith in the understanding and statesmanship of the Government of India, and we trust that this representation may be effective.

Question

"That this Council recommends to Government that the representation prepared be forwarded to the Government of India"

put and carried unanimously.

(Discussion on Demands for Grants resumed.)

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Sir, I have shown that the Bombay Government have not only not disregarded the resolution of this House passed last year, but that they have carried it out not only in the letter, but the Government have made up their mind to carry that resolution even in its spirit. The spirit of that resolution was that the burden upon the poorer subjects for medical treatment in hospitals and dispensaries should be lightened, and that the independent medical profession also should not be killed. The honourable member, the Deputy President, in his opening remarks, has conceded the point that very rich persons ought to be obliged to pay something, and the intentions of Government are also the same. I may point out that the deliberations of the committee appointed have not yet finished, but that they have reached certain conclusions, which I may with the courtesy of the Surgeon-General place before this House for their information. The committee is still sitting, and will probably conclude its work to-morrow. The general trend of the recommendations of the committee is as follows:

The income limit below which all patients are treated free to be raised. The maximum daily charges for in-patients to be considerably reduced. The fees for operations to be lowered. Full time Government medical officers not to participate in fees taken. That was one of the serious

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

grievances, and naturally led to many abuses. So Government are taking a very strong step in that direction. Full time Government medical officers not to participate in fees taken. All emergent cases to be treated free in the out-patients department, whether well-to-do or not. Income limit below which all persons are treated free in hospitals and dispensaries to be considerably raised. I may, therefore, assure this House that there was never any intention on the part of Government to flout the resolution of this Council, but that Government have been very solicitous to bring that resolution into operation, and to give considerable relief to the poorer classes of people. When the deliberations of the committee are over, and its report has been submitted to Government, I may assure the House that very serious consideration will be given to it, and the resolution that will be brought out by Government will, it is trusted, meet with the approval of this House.

Dr. M. B. VELKAR (Bombay City, South): Sir, I rise to support the motion moved by my honourable friend Mr. Pahalajani. In supporting it, apart from the question of general efficiency, I want to draw the pointed attention of the House to a matter which is known to the people of this presidency for the last two or three years, and which has agitated the public mind a great deal, namely, the Karachi Civil Hospital scandal. Here charges of extortion and misappropriation have been laid against an officer in the position of the Civil Surgeon of Karachi. The charges are something like this: That poor people who ought to have been charged no fees at all under the rules had been forced to pay money in the Karachi Civil Hospital to the Civil Surgeon, Lieut.-Colonel Stephen, that well-to-do patients who ought to have been charged fees according to the scale laid down in the hospital rules had been compelled to pay sums much in excess of those mentioned in the scale, that Government which ought to have got all the fees before 1921 and a certain percentage after 1921 of the fees so charged for operations performed within the hospital on non-nursing home patients had not been credited with its due and that the public had thus a legitimate grievance against the hospital authorities. These, Sir, are grave and serious charges and the matter has been.....

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Sir, I rise to a point of order. Is the honourable member in order in attacking particular officers while discussing the whole policy on this motion.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The motion before the House, which is for the reduction of one rupee is a motion of censure, and the honourable member therefore is in order in discussing the whole question of policy.

Dr. M. B. VELKAR: By bringing this question before this House I want a reply from the Honourable Minister in charge to the question whether the hospitals that are in the presidency are or are not intended for giving medical relief to the suffering poor or they are meant to be institutions for the enrichment of medical officers. That is the question, and that is why I have referred to these particular instances. These

[Dr. M. B. Velkar]

are very serious charges, Sir, that are laid against a person who occupies the position of the Civil Surgeon of Karachi in the Civil Hospital. I will just bring it to the notice of the House that this matter has been before this Council by interpellations for the last two or three years and last year I had submitted a resolution to this House to bring this matter before this House, but unfortunately we could not reach that particular resolution.

Now just for the information of the House I will read one or two affidavits that have been produced by Dr. Mulchand in a booklet form which has been in the hands of every honourable member of this House. In this particular document I find affidavits of different persons from whom money has been extorted, but I will only bring to the notice of the House one such affidavit by one Mr. Mulchand Tolaram. Here he tells us that his friend one Mulchand, a Bhatya, was admitted in the Civil Hospital and that there he learnt that a photo of his leg had been taken.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, I rise to a point of order. Is it in order for the honourable member to attack a particular officer when he is merely discussing the administration of that department ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I think under the ruling of the late Sir Narayan Chandavarkar individual officers of the department for which a grant is asked can be criticised though no criticism of any individual officer of any other department can be allowed.

Dr. M. B. VELKAR : Sir, I cannot help bringing in the name of the particular persons against whom serious charges have been made and here in the affidavit of one Mulchand who was in the hospital, something like Rs. 300 were first taken and then while the case was being treated Colonel Stephen said that he will have to take another photo examination and another fee will have to be given which had certainly to be paid. Then there is another instance of Colonel Stephen according to his own admission having taken fee from Mrs. Camberalli, and the Government resolution on that particular point says that Lieut.-Colonel Stephen had no right to accept a fee from a patient in the hospital. I therefore want to know from the Honourable Minister what he has done with regard to this particular thing.

Now, Sir, my point is that Indian Ministers are certainly expected to keep a great check over the foreign element that we meet with in each department at its head.

In the J. J. Hospital scandal, Dr. Paranjpye was charged for showing weakness and for not coming to the help of the people and in that case there was an instance of how the Ministers are dominated by their secretaries, and not the ministers dominating their secretaries, as is pointed out by Sir Chimanlal Setalvad in his evidence before the Muddiman Committee.

In this particular case which I am quoting I would request the Honourable Minister to set this grievance right by instituting a public inquiry by a non-official committee of this House which can go into this affair.

[Dr. M. B. Velkar]

So far, this particular affair has only been inquired into, as I find from the book in my hand, by the Surgeon-General who did not call all the witnesses or even the complainant but simply took a statement from Colonel Stephen, the man who was the accused. The Surgeon-General did not call all the witnesses but simply on the strength of certain statements made by Colonel Stephen, he submitted a report to Government and Government were satisfied that no such charges were proved. Therefore, I say the proper procedure would be to appoint a committee of inquiry consisting of the members of this House.

Then, Sir, I would take this opportunity to say a word regarding the medical needs of the villages. We find that this year a provision has been made to afford relief to villages and an amount of Rs. 3,000 has been budgetted for that purpose this year. Considering the enormity of the problem I think this is a meagre sum because according to Government there are something like 26,000 villages in the presidency and to start with the village medical system a grant of Rs. 3,000 is merely a meagre provision. I want to know from the Honourable Minister in charge what he has decided about giving medical aid to all the villages in the presidency. I want to bring to the notice of the Honourable Minister that in Madras they have gone ahead in this matter. They have got a definite system and they have decided to open 3,000 dispensaries in the course of 5 years. They will have during the first year opened 300 dispensaries. I would therefore ask the Honourable Minister if he has taken a definite stand on this particular point. In this connection I would like to bring to the notice of the House the medical aid given by the Baroda Government. As I have pointed out last year there are four districts and 40 talukas in Baroda and the Baroda Government have decided to have a hospital for every district town and one dispensary within a radius of five miles in the village area. Then so far as the scheme of medical relief is concerned, I do not know what encouragement is given to the Ayurvedic and Unani systems of medicine. There are so many *vaid*s and *hakims* and I know that there is a great mass of people in the country who have faith in these *vaid*s and *hakims* and who would prefer death rather than be treated by allopathic physicians, and therefore I do not know why we should not take advantage of the presence of these *vaid*s and *hakims* in the villages and give them a start by encouraging them to work out these particular systems of medicine. The Madras Government, for instance, have got a scheme to encourage this system of medicine. They have started a medical college there, and they are giving a great deal of help in that way to the indigenous systems of medicine. I hope the Honourable Minister will give due consideration to all that I have said. With these words I support the motion of my honourable friend from Sukkur.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District): Sir, my honourable friend Dr. Velkar has pressed the Karachi scandal on the attention of Government, in connection with the motion moved by the honourable member, the Deputy President, with a view to bring before the Government the enormity

[Mr. R. G. Soman]

of the sums that are extorted by medical practitioners by way of fees from poor patients. My honourable friend in the end of his speech referred to the necessity of encouraging the indigenous systems of medicine, and gave out as his opinion that the majority of the villagers have greater faith in the indigenous systems of medicine than in the allopathic system. Not only medical practitioners of the standing of Dr. Velkar are giving out this opinion, but honourable members of this House, if they refer to page 45 of the report submitted by a committee appointed by the Madras Government to go into the indigenous systems of medicine, will find that a member of that committee Mr. A. T. Palmer has said in his report :—

“At the same time the fact remains that the indigenous medicines are cheap and very efficacious in many of the ordinary diseases, and, what is more, are very popular especially in the villages. It is, therefore, but right that the Government should give some helping hand for the encouragement of the indigenous system of medicine seeing that it serves a good proportion of the population.”

That is the opinion of Mr. A. T. Palmer, a member of a committee which toured round in the whole of India and particularly in the presidency of Madras. It is on the recommendation of this committee that the Madras Government have established an Ayurvedic and Unani College for teaching the indigenous systems of medicine. If honourable members turn to to-day's list of questions and answers, they will find the scheme of the Madras Government in their letter to this Government given in appendix 67. Sir, from this it will be quite apparent that the principal thing to which the medical department of this province should pay attention is the popularization of the chief indigenous systems of medicine and the training of young persons as *vaid*s and *hakim*s so that medical relief might be taken nearer home to the village population. The indigenous system is certainly cheaper. The department has already expressed its intention by a recent press note to make medical relief available to the village population, but they propose to give that relief only by the allopathic system. The department will do well to at once take in hand the popularisation of the indigenous systems of medicine, and if they do that they will be able to give medical relief at less cost to the State. That is the suggestion I wish to make to the Honourable Minister in charge of the Medical Department. I am thankful to the Honourable Minister for having placed before the House the correspondence with the Madras Government, as this shows his inclination towards the popularization of the indigenous systems of medicine. At the same time, however, I find that certain high officers of Government, such as the Surgeon-General and others, are not still favourable to extend a helping hand to the indigenous systems of medicine, and they even go the length of saying that school teachers who have undergone 2½ months' training in the allopathic system would be more useful than *vaid*s and *hakim*s who have undergone training for years and years. I submit that these opinions of the advocates of the Western system of medicine should not weigh with the members of this House and particularly with an Indian Minister, who, it appears, is inclined to favour the indigenous systems of medicine. I may also submit that even the grievances mentioned by the honourable member the Deputy President about the

[Mr. R. G. Soman]

extortion of heavy fees will easily be remedied by adopting my suggestion and by helping the indigenous systems. With these remarks, Sir, I conclude.

Mr. C. W. A. TURNER : Sir, I rise to draw the very careful attention of the honourable members of the House to item 159 on page 208 of the Blue Book. That is a small item of Rs. 5,000, which is intended as the first step towards the expenditure which will be involved in the scheme of medical relief for the city of Bombay. Honourable members may remember that recently a press note was published laying down the details of the scheme. In this short note in the Blue Book full information has not been given, but only a summary. But honourable members will have in mind the details which have already been given in the press note. It may however be desirable to remind honourable members about the details of the scheme. The scheme entails a provision of more than 800 beds in the city of Bombay: it means the reconstruction and the re-organisation of the Government hospitals, and the J. J. Hospital; and it means the construction of new hospitals in the mill areas and on the Worli side. The total expenditure involved is 72 lakhs of rupees. It will be seen from this note that it is proposed to raise as much money as possible by public subscription and Government or the municipality undertake to subscribe a rupee for every rupee so subscribed. Therefore if the whole scheme costing 72 lakhs is to be completed and the public come forward with subscriptions to meet their share of the whole scheme the financial liability on the Government of Bombay can easily be calculated by honourable members. I may add that the Bombay Municipality has given its approval to the scheme and is willing to take its share. The Bombay Government was also willing to take its share on the assumption that the money bills submitted to this House would be passed. Although the money bills have not been passed, the Government of Bombay still support this item of Rs. 5,000 and they still support the scheme. But I must point out that without money the scheme is not likely to fructify.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD (Central Division) : Mr. President, it is not my intention to support the motion, but I rise to ask for information. I must in the beginning say that I cannot sympathise with severe attacks made on individual officers of Government. The practice should be for the House to leave those matters to the executive. The House should only take action in very severe scandals of a very widespread kind. Sir, with regard to the indigenous system of medicine I am a very great supporter of that system. But I do not think the time has yet come when *hakims* can be appointed in place of qualified doctors. You may appoint *nim hakims*, which means half doctors or quacks. In serious cases to suggest the appointment of *hakims* in place of qualified medical men is to fail to realise one's responsibility with regard to human life. The time may come later for *hakims*, but the first step towards it is to establish indigenous colleges of medicine both Ayurvedic and Unani. The degrees to them must be given not by committees or municipalities—because we know how these are secured and I am strongly against it—but

[Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad]

by qualified people. Sir, I think that some of these quacks should be prosecuted for practising medicine, the result of which is to ruin the life of the patient instead of curing his disease. With due respect to my honourable friend Mr. Soman, I would suggest to him that it is not a right thing to ask the Honourable Minister to appoint *hakims* and *vaids* in villages at present as they are merely agents of the Angel of Death.

I rise to speak on this occasion because I strongly supported this motion when it was last brought forward. On that occasion, the Honourable Minister had told us that the total income derived to the State from this source of fees in hospitals and dispensaries was Rs. 90,000. I had therefore strongly emphasised the point that, in view of the smallness of the amount compared with lakhs and crores we spend, it would not be right to charge poor people who resort to dispensaries for treatment. I had also emphasised the point that the Council would be prepared to forego this small amount if the Government adopted the policy of giving medicine free to poor people. I had also mentioned that in the pre-British Governments the practice was to give poor people free medicine. No reply was given to these points that were raised. I am strongly in favour of the view that Government should carry out the resolutions of this House. Although they may be mere recommendations at present, the Honourable Ministers should consider them as orders in the shape of recommendations. I was rather surprised to see that the Honourable Minister, instead of taking direct action as suggested by the resolution, had appointed a committee. I think that the remarks addressed by the honourable member the Deputy President against the personnel of that committee are not altogether without substance. I do not think it is right to appoint such a committee, because the Honourable Minister himself could have disposed of it. If there had been any insuperable difficulties he could have come forward before this Council and said: "I have given only partial effect as I could not give full effect to the resolution, as there are insuperable difficulties in the way. I place myself at the disposal of the House". The House would have supported him. But I do not like this procedure, because it will set a precedent in the case of other resolutions that may be passed by this House on future occasions. If these resolutions are to be white-washed like that, I think the House will lose its dignity and its importance. Therefore I would like the Honourable Minister to let me know what objections there were for foregoing the petty income of Rs. 90,000 from this source. The Honourable Minister explained to us that certain classes of people would be charged fees. For that we may be thankful to him; but I think it would be wise to carry out the wishes of the House and the wishes of the country and receive the blessings of the people who will be able to get free medical relief.

There is one more grievance and that is with regard to the Grant Medical College. Honourable members were complaining with regard to certain actions of the college authorities. I want to know whether they have been removed. There is no desire on the part of the House to hinder any action the Honourable Minister might take. Only let him apply his mind to particular defects.

[Moulvi Rafuiddin Ahmad]

It is a well-known fact that committees are not appointed for solving any question but for shelving it. That is creating suspicions in the minds of some honourable members. Not a single member who had strongly opposed this item has found place upon the committee. Therefore, I think that the suspicion that has been given expression to has much foundation. I do not sympathise with my honourable friend the Deputy President in insisting upon a vote of censure, because I think this is not such an important matter as to be dealt with by a vote of censure. I will still ask the Honourable Minister to answer the points that I have now placed before him. If the explanations are satisfactory, I will oppose the motion.

Mr. R. D. SHINDE (Nasik District): Sir, I submit that this motion of a bludgeon character which has been moved by the honourable member the Deputy President has been moved by him on one of the most flimsy grounds. I expected to hear from the honourable member the Deputy President a long list of sins of commissions and omissions against the Honourable Minister for Education, but the only matter about which he complained was the resolution he moved last time, to which the Honourable Minister has given a very satisfactory explanation. It will be seen that the resolution as passed by the House was really extremely ineffective to do the thing which the honourable the Deputy President wanted to do. From the explanation of the Honourable Minister for Education, the very thing which the honourable the Deputy President wanted to do, namely, the lowering of the fees or an inquiry into that question, has been undertaken by the Honourable Minister and a forecast of the decisions of the committee has been already placed before the House.

As regards the packing of the committee, my honourable friend to my right has already given a satisfactory explanation. In discussing motions of this character, Sir, we have to take into account also the achievements which the Honourable Minister has made. I think in fairness to him we must congratulate him upon the two recent appointments he has made—I mean the appointment of an Indian member of the I.M.S. as the Dean of the Grant Medical College. For the first time in its history of this presidency an Indian has been appointed to this post. I also refer to the recent appointment of the acting Surgeon-General to which also an Indian member of the I. M. S. has been appointed. I think that these two achievements are very great, and the honourable House will, I think, congratulate the Honourable the Education Minister on putting up the claims of Indians and getting Indian members appointed to these most important administrative posts in the Medical Department. My honourable friend the nominated member from Bombay says they are non-Brahmins. I say they are not. One is a Brahmir and one is a Gujarathi. With this explanation, Sir, I think the honourable House instead of passing this vote of non-confidence will reject it unanimously.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI (Ahmednagar District): I am sorry, Sir, I do not see my honourable friend from Poona, Moulvi Rafiuddin, in this House at this time. He advised us that it is not a salutary policy for this House to attack an individual officer. I am referring to the Karachi Hospital scandal, to which my honourable friend Dr. Velkar has referred. I expected, Sir, when the General Department Secretary Mr. Turner rose to address the House that he would refer to this scandal and offer some explanation to this House on behalf of Government. We should know what the position of Government is in this important matter. The Medical Department is a transferred department. It is a department presided over by a Minister who is fully responsible to this House. Therefore, the servants of the Medical Department, whatsoever their salaries may be and howsoever responsible and important posts they may be holding are fully responsible to this House, and I submit, Sir, that the allegations which are made against this officer are really of a very serious kind. The first allegation is....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Before the honourable member proceeds, as he is now discoursing upon the same subject against which the Honourable the Leader of the House has raised a point of order, I will proceed to give my ruling. The point of order was first dealt with in March 1921. The Honourable Sir George Curtis, who was then the Leader of the House, raised the point of order as follows:

"Mr. President, I rise to ask for your ruling on an important point of order, arising out of Rule No. 32. In the course of the debate on Saturday afternoon, when the efficacy of certain apparatus invented by a certain officer of the Medical Department was under discussion, one honourable member referred to the case of an officer of another department"—this was the phraseology of which I had some impression—"who, he said had invented a machine, the use of which he had encouraged in that department. I am on purpose, avoiding names. I wish to request the favour of your ruling as to whether it is in order for a member when discussing the omission or reduction of one budget grant in connection with which the efficiency of a certain officer is in issue, or may be in issue, to support his arguments by references to the efficiency or inefficiency of an officer in another department. As you, Sir, will understand, I represent a very large body of Government servants, and I ask for your ruling for their protection. If it is ordered that any member of this House, in discussing one budget grant, may refer to the efficiency or inefficiency of public servants, whose pay is debited to other budget heads, it is clear that extensive opportunities for breaking reputations become available."

The ruling goes further than that, and I will now read the ruling which the Honourable Sir Narayan Chandavarkar gave:

"With reference to the point of order which has been raised, and on which I am asked to give a ruling, I need hardly remind the Council that the other day, during the course of the debate on the budget relating to the C. I. D., I drew the attention of the House to the practice which has prevailed from olden times down to now in the Houses of Parliament, and I also stated that that practice ought to be followed here, that I was going to insist upon it and enforce it. When the grant with reference to the C. I. D. was being voted upon, one honourable member, in speaking on one of the items, referred to certain individuals by name, and made some reflections upon individual members of that department. Honourable members will remember that I got up then and stated that it is contrary to parliamentary practice,—and it is contrary to parliamentary practice because it is contrary to fairplay and reasonableness of debate for any honourable member to take advantage of the debate upon the budget or upon any other question, for the purpose of attacking any person, and especially one who is in the service of His Majesty. Censures are not allowed on the well known principle that when a subject is under debate, it is contrary to principles to allow the debate to drift into lines which amount to a censure upon any individual officer. If any honourable member wishes to ask the House to censure any officer, he must raise a debate upon it by a distinct resolution, either by way of a substantive motion or by way of amendment. The rule is given

[The President]

in *May's Parliamentary Practice*. After pointing out that the conduct of the Sovereign, the heir-apparent to the Throne, the Viceroy, the Governor and such other high officials will not be allowed to be debated, it is said for the same reason no charge of a personal character can be raised save upon a direct and substantive motion to that effect, because, if in the course of a debate upon the budget or upon any cognate subject, anything is said by way of censure on an individual officer, that individual officer has a right to reply to meet or to repel the charge. He can only reply through the members of Government, and the members of Government ought to have distinct notice of such a motion, because they have to reply to a charge brought against an officer who is not present in the Council. Now, after I had laid down the rule on those lines, the other day, one honourable member did not observe my ruling and made reflections upon the C. I. D. I confess I ought to have at once got up and asked him to respect the ruling of the Chair. But I did not do it, because I thought that some honourable member, bearing in mind my ruling, would rise to a point of order. Honourable members will, I hope, sympathise with the Chair because if the person occupying the Chair rises from time to time, and tries to defend any member of the Government, he is liable to be suspected of defending the Government. I had laid down the rule, and I thought some member of Government or any other honourable member would draw my attention to it and ask me to enforce it, but with reference to that I have already taken steps. When an insinuation was made against a certain officer on Saturday by one honourable member, I expected some member of Government to rise and draw my attention to it, but soon after that reflection was made, the member of Government concerned got up and explained it, and there the matter dropped. Now that the point of order had been distinctly raised I beg of the honourable members to bear my ruling in mind. I shall strictly enforce it, and not merely with reference to Government Officials but with reference to every person who is not in the Council to defend himself. It will be my duty to defend them by calling to order any honourable member who makes such charges of a personal character."

Then, there is another ruling in Vol. VIII, page 916, about budget demand—Reduction of a demand must be of a substantial and not a trifling amount, unless moved as a vote of censure.

"The Honourable the PRESIDENT: There is notice of a motion by the honourable member (nominated) from Satara, Mr. Jadhav, for reduction of one rupee from the total demand. The reduction of a grant or item must be of a substantial and not of a trifling amount (*May*, page 483), unless the reduction is moved as a vote of censure on the Department for some wrong action or inaction, in which case a nominal amount such as one rupee would be in order. Therefore, this motion would be out of order. As no motions for reduction have been moved, I propose the total demand."

Honourable members will observe that the present motion is for the reduction of one rupee. The next ruling also bears on the point; it is in Volume VIII, pages 868-869. It says:

"If an officer's pay is brought upon the vote, both his official conduct and the question of the amount can be discussed by the Council with regard to that item."

Honourable members will observe that the rulings give clear indications in regard to the following points:

Honourable members cannot attack individual officers personally on a budget demand. The ruling goes further and says that you cannot attack in that way not only individual officers but any person who is not present in the House. Secondly, if the pay of the officer is included in the demand you can criticise him both in regard to his official work as well as in regard to his emoluments. Both these cases do not apply to the present case. I have got a large number of other rulings, which clearly show that, while honourable members are entitled on these debates to severely criticise the department under discussion and all its officers generally, they cannot pick out one individual officer and apply to him any criticism of the kind which has been applied on the present

[The President]

occasion. I must therefore rule that the honourable member Dr. Velkar's remarks as affecting personally the Civil Surgeon of Karachi were out of order.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI : I will not refer to that particular officer.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The honourable member can make general remarks as regards the officers of the department ; that would be perfectly in order.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI : I will only say that in relation to the administration of the Karachi Civil Hospital and in relation to the officers who were concerned with the management of that hospital, certain allegations were made, and I understand, Sir, that the late Minister, Dr. Paranjpye, had issued certain orders to appoint a committee of enquiry into the conduct of these officers. We expected, after the nomination of the present Minister that the enquiry would be pursued. The public expect that the management and the administration of the transferred departments should be above suspicion. The representatives of the people have been looking to this House to see that the transferred departments at least are managed in such a way that their administration is absolutely honest and above suspicion. The poor people have a right to be treated free in the hospital. They have also a right to expect that no money will be extorted from them. Then again, the people who can afford to pay have a right to expect that they will have to pay only proper fees, and not be subjected to extortion. If such allegations are made against officers in general, it is the duty of the Honourable Minister who presides over the department to make enquiry into the matter, and not merely depend on the enquiry made by the departmental head, which enquiry was not a judicial enquiry and was not a proper enquiry in the sense that the statements of those persons who were responsible for the allegation were not taken down, and the statements of the witnesses in the case were not recorded. Only *ex-parte* enquiries were made, and Government should not rest content with those enquiries. I hope the honourable Minister will make a satisfactory statement, and convince the House that he will make all possible enquiries, and appoint a committee of this House to go into this matter.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind) : Mr. President, while giving my meed of praise to the Honourable Minister in charge for the appointment of two Indians in the highest places under his command, and while acknowledging with gratitude those efforts which this side of the House expected him to continue, I could not but propose this cut, in order to have a discussion upon the policy in those particulars in which it requires considerable improvement. And, certainly, I for one, being the proposer of the original resolution as regards the non-charging of fees in hospitals, could not rest content without getting an explanation from the Government upon a policy which, I think, many on this side disapprove.

Sir, I am not going to repeat one word of what I have said, but I must state that I have not the slightest intention of making any allegation or any deprecatory remarks against my honourable friend Mr. A. N. Surve,

[Mr. B. G. Phalajani]

so far as his part in the committee is concerned. The House knows and he knows that I have very great respect for him, that I have great respect for his knowledge even of the mofussil. But I only proposed to the Secretary of the General Department that any gentleman from the mofussil, who is in direct touch with the people, would be more suitable, as one of the three—five being on one side—members of the committee, and a little more useful in that committee. And, certainly, I would beg of the honourable members of the Government, I would beg of them most emphatically, that if they want to charge me or charge any member of the non-official side with having made any representation, and that in writing, or if they wish to charge any non-official member with any statement which he has made, let the whole of that statement be read out to the Council in order to remove misunderstanding. I would once more point out to the Honourable Member in charge that, if he wanted to carry conviction to this House that I refused to give evidence before the Surgeon-General on his asking me to do so, and that I refused to be a member of the committee, he should remember that I did so in the form of a letter, which this House was entitled to know the contents of. When informing this House that I refused to be a member of the committee, it would have been a far fairer way of prejudicing the House against any other brother member to give at the same time to the House the reasons on which the refusal was based. I must also state, Sir that I refused to give evidence before the Surgeon-General in response to his invitation, because I knew that the committee by a majority had decided that no evidence was going to be recorded. But apart from that, I wrote to the Surgeon-General at the very commencement that I could not allow myself to be estopped. The Honourable Minister himself is a pleader, and knows the meaning of estop. I did not want to be estopped by acquiescing to a committee against which I sent my objections in writing. That committee is a fact and the report of that committee is coming. I am not prepared to reply to any argument of the Honourable Minister except with the words that that committee need not have been appointed. The point was very simple. The point was whether fees should be done away with and the next point was, if not, to what extent. The Minister himself as the executive head, the Surgeon-General as the head of the Medical Department and the General Secretary as in charge of all the arrangements of the department and as one who is qualified to express an opinion on this point, with all these officers and the report of the medical union before them, the Minister could have easily come to a definite understanding and conclusion as regards the abolition of fees if he wanted to abolish them instead of taking shelter behind a committee consisting of four men interested in concocting the resolution—with due deference to their position,—the Surgeon-General with four members of that denomination and the honourable member from Ahmednagar whose tendencies were well known before to the members of Government, I am making that statement in writing, to have a majority of that kind with the full knowledge of what decision that majority would give, I say it was unfair to this House—I do not in any way challenge the possibility of its coming to a different conclusion

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

for any of these members, but odds are against it, and that is why I have objected to serve on the committee. I, Sir, would have easily done this were it not for the attack on the administration of the civil hospital at Karachi, and as that attack on the civil hospital of Karachi has as yet to be explained by the Honourable Minister to-day, I cannot withdraw until that answer is forthcoming and therefore I say, Sir, that the matter requires further elucidation.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Sir, I am sorry I was not explicit enough when I spoke of the resolution that was passed last year by this House, and there is misunderstanding still lurking in the minds of honourable members. The resolution that was passed here did not directly ask for the abolition of the fees and Government wanted to be just to both the sides. Government wanted to protect the poor from the exactions of the officers of the department as well as to see that in the interests of the subjects the independent medical profession was not killed. The total abolition of fees in every case would, Sir, amount to the killing of the independent medical profession, because they will have very serious competitors in the shape of the Government hospitals and municipal dispensaries. That will not be in the interests of the general public as the independent medical profession ought to rise and grow. It is necessary, Sir, to give help to the poor free of charge, and Government is going to substantially increase the limit of the income of patients who go to such hospitals and dispensaries and in that way a large number of poor people will be entitled to get treatment in hospitals free. I do not think I need take more time of the House on this point.

An honourable member from Bombay asked me to answer a simple question. Are hospitals for the enrichment of medical officers? Government never intended that hospitals should be for the enrichment of medical officers. Government have been giving adequate salaries to the officers that are serving in the medical as well as other departments, and at the same time Government will never connive at any illegal gains.

Some criticism was passed about the scheme to provide medical relief to villages. It was a tentative measure and only last year this House sanctioned the scheme and allotted a sum of money and if the small amount that has been proposed is passed this year for the scheme, Government will be prepared to carry it on. As has been explained in the press note another scheme is in contemplation, but that will be a little bit more expensive and until the finances of this presidency improve, Government is sorry that they cannot place that scheme before this House for its acceptance.

As to the small matter of Rs. 5,000 placed before this House by the honourable member, the General Secretary, I beg leave of this House to say a few words: Medical relief in the city of Bombay is very inadequate and the number of beds in proportion to the total population is very meagre when compared to the number of beds provided in other large cities in India and outside. It is the poor people, Sir, who suffer most for want of adequate hospital accommodation, and therefore in the

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

interests of the labouring classes and the poor people in general an expansion of the medical facilities is required. The attention of His Excellency the Governor has been drawn to this want and he has taken this subject under his special care. As it is in the interest of the general public, Government is confident that this House will support the scheme. It might be urged that it is for the city of Bombay alone to provide it and doubts might be raised as to why the general taxpayer should be taxed in support of hospital accommodation in the city. But the persons that come to this city for earning their bread are not the permanent residents of Bombay, as they always keep their connection with the mofussil and whenever they get ill, they generally return home and carry disease and infection there. A proper and timely treatment in the hospitals in Bombay in such cases will relieve the mofussil of many centres of infection and also will be very useful to them in other ways. Government have an intention of taxing big cities for such facilities and when occasion arises I am quite confident that this House will come to the help of Government in furthering medical aid to the poor and the needy. A scheme has been drafted in which the co-operation of the municipal corporation of Bombay and also of the charitably disposed persons has been invited. It is proposed that Government and the municipality should between themselves subscribe as much as would be subscribed by the liberal-minded persons and I have placed before this House the name of a great philanthropist, Mr. Wadia, who has subscribed 16 lakhs of rupees for constructing a maternity hospital of 120 beds, 60 out of which will be reserved for the mill population. It is a very splendid offer, Sir, and Government think that it ought to be accepted and in order to have the consent and the sanction of this House for this expenditure a little item of Rs. 5,000 was placed for acceptance by this House. As no objection was raised to that item Government is very thankful to this House for their silent acceptance of this scheme and Government with great confidence will go forward in this work of expanding hospital accommodation by the help of the municipality and by the help of the philanthropists for which this city is very well-known.

I think I ought to say a few words about a very regrettable affair which has been given vent to in this hall,—I mean the Karachi hospital scandal. I need not refer in detail to that incident, because the enquiry and the orders passed, which were so much criticised here, were I think, if my memory does not fail me, events which happened when I was not in office. I do not think any further explanation is required. It is a very sad affair indeed, but as the officer in that case is going to retire very shortly—within two weeks I think—and now I learn he has already left India, I think an enquiry will not be of any use.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA: I wish him *bon voyage*.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I am very much obliged to my *kaka* for wishing him *bon voyage*.

As for the Ayurvedic and Unani systems of medicine, I myself have a very high opinion about the utility of these systems, but in these days

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

regular education in these systems has become a very rare thing, and persons have been cropping up here, there and everywhere, styling themselves *vaid panchanans* or anything else and posing as the most learned in these sciences. There is a saying in Marathi that when you are quite unfit to gain your livelihood even by begging, you have simply to turn yourself into a physician and you can easily earn your bread. According to that saying, Sir, many persons who are unfit for anything else are posing as Ayurvedic physicians, and they are plying their trade especially in out of the way places, with the consequence that the mortality in those places is rather high. There are very efficient Ayurvedic physicians no doubt, and they are keeping up the reputation of their profession, and their learning and lore ought not to be lost to the society, and every effort ought to be made to preserve that ancient art of medicine. But the freedom which is now enjoyed by the so-called Ayurvedic physicians has created a sort of prejudice against the whole profession and the people do not know whom to trust and whom to go to. And therefore the systematic attempts of intelligent persons like those of Satara who have been conducting at great sacrifice, for the last four or five years, an institution in which Ayurvedic and allopathic medical science is taught, to selected youths and to whom certificates of proficiency are granted are to be encouraged on all sides, and that was the reason why when a graduate from that institution was employed by the district local board of Satara and placed in charge of the dispensary at Vaduj, Government thought it best to give their contribution to such an institution. If other district local boards or municipalities will start similar dispensaries and give medical relief through competent persons to the poor, I hope this Council will back me up when I ask for a grant for those institutions also.

An honourable MEMBER : Why not an Ayurvedic college ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I am glad that honourable members are not yet satisfied with the length of the speech.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : As for the starting of an Ayurvedic college, Government are not yet satisfied that a sufficient number of students will come forward. A want has to be created and brought to the notice of Government before a large amount of public money can be spent on such a college. When the public or charitable institutions like the institution at Satara are started in many centres and Government see that there is a demand for such sort of training, then I do not think Government will be lagging behind in starting an institution of their own. We are watching with very great interest the efforts of the sister presidency of Madras, and if we find that they are forging ahead and that they are doing very good work and that the facilities afforded for Ayurvedic training are taken advantage of by a large number of students, this Government will not lag behind but will come forward to start a college of their own. But the want of such an institution ought to be proved first before any step can be taken in that direction. I again say that institutions like the one at Satara ought to be started

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

in different centres, and graduates turned out of such institutions should gain the confidence of the people, and then a real want for such Ayurvedic and Unani institutions will be proved. We are ready to help. And for that purpose I have been watching with very great interest the attempt that is made at the National Medical College, Bombay. I paid a visit to it and saw that they were doing something in imparting instruction in Ayurvedic medicine, and I shall be very glad when they show that they are actually succeeding. I want to give an instance of how Government are trying to give their help in the same cause. In the Public Health Department, a laboratory is maintained at Parel, where Indian drugs are tested and experiments are made to find out what use can be made of them. As a result of the research there, two drugs have been found. The plantologist promises to find a cheap substitute for santonin, an expensive drug used for intestinal worms, derived from *Pallas*. Another drug from *Indra Jao* is likely to prove a useful specific for dysentery. Indian drugs are cheap and effective, and Government are trying in their own way to find out which of these drugs will be useful in important diseases and can be used economically in place of very highly priced foreign remedies.

As for the grievances of the Grant Medical College, I have been from the very first interesting myself in that college. I have not paid any visit to any arts colleges but I have made two visits to the Grant Medical College.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: As a private person?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I appeal to honourable members not to interrupt the Honourable Minister.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: He wants to be interrupted.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I am sorry my honourable friend Rao Saheb Desai has misunderstood me. I do not want to be interrupted. The visits were paid as Minister of Education. On the whole the college is going on very well and so far as I know the relations between the students and the staff are very cordial and I do not think there is any friction at present.

I want to bring to the notice of this House what the attitude of the Government is with regard to medical aid in general and certain institutions in particular. Government are very desirous to cheapen medical aid and to make it free for poor people. Government is very desirous of encouraging medical education not only in the medical colleges, not only in the allopathic system, but also in the Ayurvedic and Unani systems of medicine. The attitude of Government is not hostile to any of those other systems and I think there will be no misunderstanding on that point.....

Mr. S. T. KAMBLI: Is Government going to open a medical school in the Southern Division?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The opening of a medical school in the Southern Division will depend on the financial situation. If finances permit, the matter will be taken into consideration.

I trust that the honourable member the Deputy President will withdraw his motion.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI: Sir, in view of the request made by the Honourable Minister and in view of the explanation of the policy he wishes to follow, to elicit which I have brought this motion, I withdraw the motion.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Has the honourable member leave of the House to withdraw the motion?

An Honourable MEMBER: No.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The leave is not granted. I put the motion to the vote.

Question put and lost.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I move:

"That a grant of Rs 41,07,000 for medical services be sanctioned."

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Sir, I move:

"That a grant of Rs. 7,000 for medical services (reserved) be sanctioned."

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I move, Sir:

"That a grant of Rs. 1,15,70,000 for Education be sanctioned."

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind): Sir, I move:

"That item No. 140 (Budget page 202) provision of Rs. 5,000 for the encouragement of vernacular literature be omitted."

This item of Rs. 5,000 is the provision for encouragement of vernacular literature. This magnificent sum of Rs. 5,000 has been provided for that purpose. I emphasise the word 'magnificent', because the present Honourable Minister has belied all my expectations and the expectations of his predecessor. His predecessor informed us, when non-co-operation and national education was agitating the public mind, that he wanted to provide a lakh of rupees for the purpose of encouraging vernacular literature on more efficient lines and on more national basis. That was the resolve of the present Honourable Minister's predecessor, Dr. Paranjpye. When I found a provision of Rs. 5,000 for the first time in the budget after four years, my feelings were not of satisfaction or pleasure at the provision made but entire indignation. I took it as an attempt to put a slight on the non-official side of this Council by making a small provision of Rs. 5,000 for the encouragement of vernacular literature in four different divisions: Sind, Gujarat, Central Division and Southern Division. I put it to the Honourable Minister whether it is worth while to provide this Rs. 5,000 and insult us in this way. Let him take back this amount. If he is serious, let him give us a lakh. What is the good of giving Rs. 1,200 to each division? In deference to the respectability of the authors that come forward, in deference to the respect of this Council and in deference to the cause of vernacular literature of this

[Mr. B. G. Pahalajani]

country, let him withdraw this item. It is with a view to protest against the smallness of the amount, in order to raise an emphatic protest against this paltry provision, and to request him to insert a more respectable figure, that I have brought forward this motion.

Question proposed.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, I do admit that the amount provided is very meagre ; but a beginning has to be made. If we encourage original authors, not mere translators, to bring out original works, a beginning will have been made and the next year a larger amount will be necessary. I may say that we have to encourage literature not in four languages, as has been pointed out by the honourable member, but in five, as Urdu also has to be counted. On an average Rs. 1,000 will remain for each language. I think one or two books from each vernacular may be found worthy of encouragement. It had been the practice up to this time to get books written in English first and they were offered for translation in different languages. The result was not on the whole very satisfactory because these translations did not convey to the readers what the actual intention of the writers was. That system is now changed and offers are made to write books in original, and if this experiment succeeds, I shall be very happy to come to this House for a larger amount.

I do hope that this House will sanction this small amount.

MOULVI RAFI UDDIN AHMAD (Central Division) : Mr. President, the Honourable Minister is very unhappy in his phraseology. "Provision for the encouragement of vernacular literature"—that is not the proper expression. The note says : "for the production of sound and instructive literature in the vernacular, a non-recurring provision of Rs. 5,000 was made in the current year for the preparation of three series of readers of an elementary type in three different groups of subjects, viz. : (1) agriculture, etc., (2) administration, etc., and (3) domestic science". Now, Sir, in elementary subjects and readers what literature can you expect? Is this encouragement of literature? There are text-book committees. Recently Government had appointed a text-book committee for preparing readers in Urdu. That committee has prepared some readers. Do you want that kind of books? Do you want readers for your Government schools?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : No.

MOULVI RAFI UDDIN AHMAD : No; then for what purpose are these readers in elementary subjects?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : For the general public.

MOULVI RAFI UDDIN AHMAD : Then, your own readers for which you appoint your text-book committees, what are they for? What I want to point out is that this is altogether a misnomer and I think this use of money should not be encouraged. About five years ago the Government of Bombay gave Rs. 1,000 for each of the languages, for good books written by private authors for the general public. That I can understand. Government had also given a certain amount of encouragement by means of money contributions to

[Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad]

certain literary societies in Gujarati or in Marathi. I do not remember that Government has ever given any such encouragement to Urdu literary societies, but these were the societies to which Government used to give subscriptions. But that system, I understand, has been given up.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : That is a different thing altogether.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : The honourable member referred to a previous system by which the translations of English authors were allowed in certain vernaculars. But that, Sir, went on for nearly 100 years. It was Major Candy who obtained enormous sums from Government for the encouragement of Marathi literature by translating into Marathi from books in English, because in those days Marathi literature did not exist and he wanted to produce Marathi literature, and those who have read the history of the Deccan College, where he was appointed by Government, will bear me out. The Marathi literature was encouraged by Major Candy himself at Government expense. Hundreds of rupees were spent for that. Gujarati literature also received some amount of money, but never Urdu literature. Merely for the sake of lip-sympathy the Honourable Minister says Urdu also is to be included in his present scheme. I think it is a mockery. I should rather sympathise with my honourable friend the Deputy President who says that this sum which is provided is much too small. But I am not a man who would refuse anything. I would rather ask the Honourable Minister to devote this money for writing original good books either in Marathi or in Gujarati or some other language written by some scholars. But I do not like that this Rs. 5,000 should be spent in preparing readers. There are readers now which are being prepared by the text-book committees and others. I think, Sir, that the whole object of spending Rs. 5,000 in such matters is defeated. The object is defeated because the Honourable Minister's speech is inconsistent with the remarks in the Blue Book. I would request him to spend this money for original books, but not for the sake of merely encouraging elementary readers. I do not oppose the grant, but I would request him to spend this money for some other better purpose.

Mr. B. G. PAHALAJANI (Western Sind) : I have little to say, Sir, in reply. I have nothing to say except that the very suggestion made by the Honourable Minister is not to the credit of the commonsense of this House.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, I would refer honourable members to page 230 of the Blue Book, where an explanation of this item is given.

"Government have had under consideration for some time past the question of encouraging the production of vernacular literature suitable for the self-education of those people who know the vernacular only or whose knowledge of English is very slight. In the European languages there is a large number of suitable books written with this object in view and these afford everybody a chance of self-education"

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : Does the Honourable Minister think all this marvel is going to be achieved within Rs. 5,000 ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : No, Sir. But a beginning will be made.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : In how many years ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, I simply refer honourable members to page 230 of the Blue Book. The so-called readers are for the people in villages who cannot read English. It is one of the means of dealing with illiteracy and for this purpose these books have to be written in simple language. I think, therefore, that this little grant as an experiment should be allowed.

Question put and lost.

Mr. S. T. KAMBLI (Dharwar District) : Sir, I beg to move :

“That the provision of Rs 13,71,000 be reduced by Rs 12,00,000—Civil Estimate, page 146—provision under E—Inspection.”

Under the provisions of the Primary Education Act, the schools are going to be transferred to the control of the local authorities, that is to the district local boards and to the city and town municipalities. Under the rules framed under that Act, these local authorities are obliged to appoint their own administrative officers and their own supervisors to administer and control the schools under their jurisdiction. Under these circumstances, it appears to me, Sir, that so much money as is provided in the budget estimates for inspection is not required by Government for the inspection of schools, because the present inspecting staff will be relieved to a great extent of the duty of inspecting the primary schools, that duty being thrown on to the shoulders of the local authorities. So, on this broad ground, Sir, I beg to submit that this amount should be reduced by Rs. 12 lakhs.

Question proposed.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, the total grant for general inspection is Rs. 13,71,000, and the motion is to reduce it by Rs. 12 lakhs; which will leave only Rs. 1,71,000 for inspection. As a matter of fact, the reduction in the expenditure by the transfer of vernacular schools to local authorities will not be as large as the honourable member supposes. The Director, the Divisional Inspectors, and many of the deputy educational inspectors cannot be reduced at all, because English education will remain with Government, and only vernacular education will be transferred. The district local boards will have to make ample provision for the purpose of carrying on the work of inspection. Government expect that the present deputy educational inspectors and the assistant deputy educational inspectors will be taken over by the district local boards and the educational authorities in municipalities but even in that case Government will have to provide money for their pay and for other expenses, and I do not expect any saving under inspection on that account. If Government are not called upon to pay these officers directly under this head, some provision will have to be made by supplementary grants, by transfer from one head to another, and Government will have to provide for larger grants to municipalities and local boards for carrying on the inspection and administrative work of those educational bodies that will be created under the new Act. I therefore say that the grant of Rs. 13,71,000 is necessary.

Mr. S. T. KAMBLI : In view of the explanation given by the Honourable Minister, I beg leave to withdraw the motion.

Question put and leave refused.

Motion put and lost.

Mr. S. T. KAMBLI (Dharwar District) : Sir, I beg to move :

“ Reduce by one Rupee—provision for payment in support of Municipal schools—Rs. 16,97,076 ”

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Does the honourable member wish to move this as a vote of censure ?

Mr. S. T. KAMBLI : No, Sir.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Then he cannot move a reduction of one rupee. He can do so only if he wishes it to be a vote of censure.

Mr. S. T. KAMBLI : Then, I am not going to move it, Sir.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District) : Sir, I beg to move :

“ Reduce by Rs. 1,00,000 total votable demand under Education, Rs. 1,95,67,000.”

I am moving this reduction not with the view of bringing a vote of censure against the Minister, but with the view that the House should get an opportunity

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Before the honourable member proceeds, I should like to point out that there is another motion to reduce the demand by Rs. 10 lakhs by the honourable member Mr. Kampli.

Mr. S. T. KAMBLI : I am not going to move it.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : I am bringing this motion not with the view of passing a vote of censure, but with the view that this House should get an opportunity

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I am sorry to interrupt the honourable member, but there is another motion (No. 479) to reduce the total votable demand by Rs. 2,67,500 by the honourable member Mr. Dev.

Mr. S. S. DEV : I do not wish to move it.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : Sir, my object in moving this reduction was to get an opportunity of ventilating some of the grievances and to get an opportunity of criticising the educational policy of the Government. I am not going to be long.

I want to touch only on two points. The first point is that the educational policy of Government in respect of compulsory education is very disappointing. I think, Sir, that it is not going to be successful, because it is financially impossible. We all know that education in the districts has been transferred to the district local boards, and the district local boards have to bear one-third of the expenditure, the remaining two-thirds to be given to the district local boards by the Government. The district local boards will not be in a position to provide for this expenditure, unless they levy local rates, and I think, Sir, that the rates will never be popular, and no district local boards will be coming forward to take in hand the scheme of compulsory education as framed by Government. I therefore think that this scheme is only an eye-wash, and thrown

[Mr. P. G. Joshi]

at the faces of the honourable members, so that they should not clamour for compulsory education. The net result of the scheme will be that it will not concentrate any attention on increasing the number of schools. At present we find that in two-thirds of the villages of the presidency there is no school, and if we concentrate all our attention on this scheme which, as I say, is not going to be successful and is financially impossible, I think that no increase in the schools will be possible for some years to come.

The next point is in regard to the grievances of the primary teachers. I feel very strongly on this point. I am myself the son of a primary teacher. I have served as a primary teacher, and I know their difficulties, and I know the privations which they suffer. Honourable members are aware that a committee has been appointed on this question, but the report has not yet been published. The matter has been shelved, and the primary teachers are still in distress, which is very detrimental and prejudicial to the education of our boys. With these words, I move that the total demand be reduced by Rs. 1 lakh.

Question proposed.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): Sir, in this connection, I wish to make some suggestions to the Honourable Minister for Education. After referring to pages 163-164 of the Blue Book, I find that a sum of over Rs. 2 lakhs has been reserved for scholarships to be given to the backward classes. It would have been far better if the backward classes had been divided into the backward and the depressed classes. I do not know what part of the said sum will be allotted for scholarships to be given to the students of the depressed classes; and if the Honourable Minister will lay before the House a scheme in regard to the granting of scholarships to the depressed classes, certainly the House will be deeply obliged to him.

The second suggestion that I wish to make is that he should take immediate steps to establish boarding houses for the depressed classes in all the divisions excepting the Central Division. There is a boarding house for the children of the depressed classes at Poona, and it is very satisfactory to note that that boarding house is patronised by the students from the depressed classes. If similar boarding houses for the depressed classes are established in the Northern and Southern Divisions and in the province of Sind, then certainly the depressed classes will begin to take kindly to education. The third suggestion that I wish to make is that just as the Government now have published their scheme of appointing persons from the backward classes to the different posts of clerks and other posts, in the same way the Honourable Minister for Education at least, as I consider him to be one of the greatest champions of the depressed classes, and as I desire that he should justify his reputation, I would suggest that he should soon publish a scheme of reserving some posts of peons in the schools within his jurisdiction. The population of the depressed classes, when compared with the population of the Marathas and the allied castes, stands in the proportion of 1 to 2. So, whenever occasion arises to appoint peons in the Educational

[Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar]

Department—I do not go up to clerks and higher offices—but whenever occasion arises to appoint peons in the schools or other departments which are under the control of the Honourable the Minister—he should divide the appointments in the proportion of 1 to 2 between the depressed classes on the one side and the backward classes on the other.

There is one more suggestion which I have to make in regard to the industrial and technical schools. I looked up both the books that have been supplied to me and I hardly got any clue to understand the nature of the committee on the introduction of industrial and technical schools, the time when it was brought into existence and the functions that have been relegated to it. If he just informs us as to the nature and functions of this committee, certainly the House will feel itself to be under his great obligations.

The last suggestion that I wish to make is—and I shall be very frank in this behalf—that there is a growing feeling amongst the servants of the educational department drafted from the upper classes that their posts are most insecure. As a consequence, there is not that feeling of satisfaction and security which is absolutely necessary in order to get efficient work from the servants. There may or may not be reasons justifying this feeling but none the less the feeling is there and we should shut our eyes to that feeling. I would really like to ascertain either from the Honourable Minister for Education or from his Secretary as to whether the Educational Department is aware of this feeling on the part of the servants from the upper classes, and whether they have taken any steps to check it in time. Personally, I am very glad that the backward classes have begun to assert their rights. Even though I belong to that class which is most abused, I am very glad that the backward classes have come to recognise their proper place in the sphere of Government service. But I think that as a Brahmin I may legitimately claim that the interests of the servants from the upper classes who are already engaged do not suffer in the least. Whatever the future arrangements regarding appointments may be, I think that it is only just and proper that the servants from the upper classes already in service should not directly or indirectly be touched in the least. With these remarks, Sir, I support the cut.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA (Bombay City, North): Mr. President, it is with some reluctance that I rise to speak on this subject. Personally I am of opinion that it is not right to have a general discussion like this, unless it is intended as a vote of censure. It is not right to take up the time of the Council in the general discussion. I have myself given notice of a motion which would amount to a vote of censure upon the Minister of Education, but my Swarajist friends tell me that it will be quite unedifying on the part of a *kaka* to censure his *putani*. Therefore, Sir, I have resolved not to do so. But I shall use this occasion to call attention to one or two points. I am told the Minister of Education is a great champion of the depressed classes but I see that he has deprived the depressed classes of Rs. 10,000 which figured in the last budget. Again, I am told that he is a great champion of the backward classes, but I see

[Mr. J. Baptista]

that he has deprived the backward classes of Rs. 96,000 which figured in the last budget. This is a funny kind of a champion. It reminds me of the Irish method of promotion.

Now, Sir, I fancy I have got a very strong case against him for a vote of censure but as I am not going to move it, I shall not take up the time of the House but I shall only call his attention to one point here. Last year my Mahomedan friends asked him how many clerks there were in the Director's office, and he said there were two and he congratulated the Mahomedans that they had two, whereas the backward classes had not even one. Of course, we all know that a single swallow does not make a summer, but perhaps two do. I should like my Mahomedan friends not to confine their vision to two clerks in the Director's office or in any other office but to aspire to fill the office of the Minister of Education. What is the good of making a Mahomedan Minister of Excise? It is a *haram* department, and not the proper department for a Moslem. A Parsi would be the proper man to be in charge of the Excise Department, for the Parsis have got the practical monopoly of the liquor trade. I think there ought to be a transfer of the departments. Excise ought to be under Mr. Cowasji and Education under the present Minister of Excise. Now, Sir, as my friends, the Swarajists, are very anxious to propitiate my honourable friend I trust the Minister of Education will co-operate with them and thereby lead on to responsive co-operation sooner or later. Last year, Mr. Bhopatkar asked him to irrigate the minds of children by promoting education. I will now ask him not to irritate the Swarajists by repudiating the kindness of the Swarajists who have gone so far as to ask me not to move a vote of censure. I hope the Minister will appreciate that fact and he will not denounce the Brahmins but will make friends with them, because it is after all a Brahmin who has been a greatest champion of primary education, namely, the late Mr. Gokhale. There is no one here except, perhaps, yourself, Sir, who can be compared with that great champion of primary education.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: Don't forget us.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA: Oh, yes, Mr. Bole, of course (Loud laughter). These Boles are wonderful fellows.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University): Sir, I do hope the Honourable the Minister for Education will realise the full significance of the remarks of my honourable friend Mr. Baptista. On occasions, I have heard him say these words in the lobby, which I shall take this opportunity of stating publicly, "Anything is better than going into the same lobby with the Swarajists!" I do hope that he will realise that the Swaraj party, which he has lost no opportunity of vilifying and against which he has worked on every occasion, has stood to-day between him and his condemnation. I do hope he will realise this and will keep that realisation in his mind, during the whole time that he is the Minister of Education. He has lost no opportunity of vilifying and calling names to my party, and that party to-day has saved his reputation and has induced Mr. Baptista not to move the vote of censure. I have

[Mr M. R. Jayakar]

often said, not only in this House but outside, that my party will stand for his protection, because we believe that in that impotent office one man is as good as another. Not that we have any love for the methods of the Minister of Education, but we know that circumstanced as he is, he could not have done better. We hold the view, Sir, that our minister is in bad company. I was told the other day, Sir, that in our Government there are "Ministers" and "Bureaucrats". I make no distinction between a Minister and a bureaucrat. A man is known by the company he keeps, and this adage I think, Sir, is more true in political companionship than elsewhere. That is the reason why the Swaraj party to-day has held the restraining hand. Even up to this evening till 4 o'clock, we were most anxiously considering whether we should throw our weight against the Honourable Minister for Education and join Mr. Baptista, or remain neutral, and ultimately we decided, and I think, very wisely, to give the Honourable Minister for Education all the protection we could, by our neutrality. And I do hope that by his future behaviour at the time of divisions, he will show that he deserves that protection. I do hope, Sir, that he will imitate the comparative aloofness of his associates, for which I do congratulate them; I trust that he will follow their dignified example, and not demean the office to which he has been called, by acting as if he was a paid whip of the Government, specially hired for canvassing votes.

Now, I come to the merits of this question. I do want to call the attention of this House to a piece of vandalism which has been perpetrated by my honourable friend's department—I call it deliberately vandalism—and that is, a resolution recently issued by his department abolishing what is called freehand drawing. I do not want to weary my honourable friends with a long speech. They all know what "freehand" drawing means. It is copying from a flat pattern, the kind of drawing for excellence in which India has been noted for several centuries. Go to any caves of India, Ajanta, Ellora or elsewhere, and we find ornamental patterns, which are the admiration of the entire world. People from America and other distant countries come and learn the art. Just as I have seen in the Vatican gallery, and many other galleries in Europe like Milan, students coming from miles and miles away to copy the masters, similarly students have come from long distances, to copy the pattern drawing for which India has developed a tradition and a reputation. Yet, in spite of centuries of such inherited talent and culture in this particular department of art, it was left to the Vandal department of my honourable friend the Minister for Education, to pass a resolution by which this traditional method of drawing is abolished altogether from the intermediate art examination. My honourable friends will necessarily ask how was this resolution arrived at and after consulting whom. I hold in my hand a reply to a question which was asked in this House a few days ago. My honourable friend the Minister of Education was asked "Whether it is true that such a resolution has been passed." He says "Yes". The question proceeded—"Will you put on the table the orders issued in this connection

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

by your department?" Answer—I ask my honourable friends to note this with particular attention—"Government regret they cannot place on the table the orders issued by them in this matter." "Why," we asked further. This time it is not the stock answer "because they were treated as *confidential*"—a word we have almost learned to abhor on this side of the House. This time, it is another excuse because the orders were "intended only for the information and guidance of the officers". Can my honourable friends imagine anything like this secrecy in the Education Department? Here is an order of this far-reaching consequence. A style of drawing which has been perfected in India for several centuries is abolished by one stroke of the pen, and the Minister of Education, who depends on our votes in this House, is unwilling even to disclose the order abolishing the art. The heavens would not have fallen if this order had been disclosed. Am I then wrong in saying that my honourable friend has joined the bureaucracy and is in bad company. How aptly he inherits their peculiarity and imitates their answers. The question proceeds:—"Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Principal, School of Art, Bombay, was consulted in this matter?" I may mention here to my honourable friend opposite, that by a very fortunate accident he has got in the local School of Art a principal, I know him personally, who is one of those few men who occasionally by a fortunate coincidence gravitate to this country. Generally, our principals and others who are at the head of institutions, owing to the peculiar atmosphere of this country, lose all inspiration, initiative, sympathy and goodwill: they become rigid machines of red-tape, who follow the rule of "law and order" in their departments. But fortunately for our School of Art, it has got at its head a man who has ideas, imagination, sympathy and insight into the art and culture of the people of this country. My honourable friends must have read his work. "The Women of Ajanta", a work full of inspiration: they must have also read his articles on Indian art in the *British Empire Review*. If my honourable friend the Minister of Education is himself ignorant of art, here is one guide on whose inspiration and imagination he can personally repose confidence. But, curiously enough, this one man, who is, by a fortunate accident, at the head of the Art School is not consulted. Perhaps, my honourable friend has consulted his Director of Public Instruction. If so, may I know when the Director of Public Instruction became an art connoisseur? Your ruling, Sir, is that we may not discuss here the individual merits of officers. I bow to that ruling. Hence I will not make any personal remarks. But may I know from my honourable friend when his Director of Public Instruction became an authority on matters of art? That my honourable friend without consulting the Principal of the Art School should have ventured to abolish freehand drawing on the mere recommendation of the Director of Public Instruction, is a piece of vandalism for which this House will not easily excuse him. Further when we go, and ask him "Will you kindly place on the table the opinion of the Principal of the Art School, or the reasons why it was not taken?" He gives the

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

answer—the usual bureaucratic answer—“No. Government regret that a copy of the principal's opinion cannot be placed on the table for the reasons given in reply above”. I am asking, Sir, whether it is my honourable friend's intention to allow this vandalism to continue. I understand a little of art and I know what I am talking about; I am speaking of things to which I have devoted a part of my life. I warn my honourable friend that deep down in his department petty jealousies are going on; jealousies which are ruining the initiative and inspiration of the art department, over which he rules and which is responsible for the guidance and training of the youth of this country in art and culture. May I venture to hope that the next time when he finds such matters coming up before him, he will informally consult some men in Bombay, who will, I am sure, give voluntary advice without charging any fees for their trouble. Will he note that there is a society in Bombay called the Art Society of India, a non-official body of artists—perhaps the Honourable the Home Member knows of it—where the young artists of this town congregate and run an occasional exhibition of high class art? I have gone to that institution more than half a dozen times. I can tell my honourable friend that he will utilise his time very usefully if he goes and sees what that society is. He will be interested to learn that that society has passed a resolution condemning the abolition of freehand. The Principal of the Art School is against it. Several other art authorities have expressed condemnatory opinions challenging the wisdom of his decision. Yet my honourable friend sticks to his departmental decision and refuses to allow this side of the House to have any inspection of the correspondence and opinions relating to this order. That mysterious department, over which the Honourable the Home Member presides, I mean the Criminal Investigation Department, may have some justification for privacy. If my honourable friend the Home Member were to tell me that, in the interest of security, law and order, his department requires some sort of privacy, I can understand it (hear, hear), though, if I were in charge of it, I would certainly never encourage the feeling beyond a limit; but in the position in which a foreign Government is placed, he may perhaps be justified. But to talk of secrecy in the department of art and culture is a claim to which I will not easily submit. These secretive methods are of the honourable members sitting opposite, and their contagion my honourable friend has caught by a year's association with their rule. May I tell him that if he wants this House to respect him and if he wishes the Swaraj party to stand between him and his downfall, I trust that we will soon have the pleasure of hearing from him that the resolution abolishing freehand has been cancelled.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The House will now adjourn till 12 noon to-morrow, Saturday the 14th March 1925. Under the Rules and Standing Orders the debate on the budget closes at 5 o'clock to-morrow. In order to enable honourable members to get their full five hours I am calling the meeting on the 12th day at 12 noon. There will be half an hour's interval at 2-30 p.m.

14 MAR. 1925]

Saturday, the 14th March 1925.

The Council re-assembled at the Town Hall, Bombay, at 12 noon on Saturday, the 14th March 1925, the Honourable the President, Sir IBRAHIM RAHIMTOOLA, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
 ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
 ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
 AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
 ATHAVLE, Mr. S. N.
 BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
 BEDREKAR, Khan Bahadur I. M.
 BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
 BHURGRI, Mr. J. M.
 BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
 BIJARANI, Khan Saheb SHEER MAHOMED KHAN
 BOLE, Mr. S. K.
 CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
 CLAYTON, Mr. F.
 COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
 DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
 DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
 DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
 DELVES, Mr. R. H. A.
 DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
 DEV, Mr. S. S.
 DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
 FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
 FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
 GHOSAL, Mr. J.
 GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH
 GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
 GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
 HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
 HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
 HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
 HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
 JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
 JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
 JAHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
 JOG, Mr. V. N.
 JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
 KALBHOR, Mr. G. M.
 KAMBLI, Mr. S. T.
 KARKI, Mr. M. D.

KAY, Mr. J. A.
 KAZI INAITULLAKHAN
 KOKANI, Mr. G. J.
 KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
 LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
 LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.
 LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 MACKIE, Mr. A. W. W.
 MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO, Mr.
 MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
 MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
 NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
 NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
 NOOR MAHOMED, Mr.
 OWEN, Mr. A. C.
 PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
 PATEL, Mr. A. E.
 PATEL, Mr. D. N.
 PATEL, Mr. G. I.
 PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED KHAN
 PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
 PATIL, Mr. D. R.
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 PIR RASULBAKSH SHAH
 POWAR, Mr. M. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 PRATT, Mr. F. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOSENALLY M.
 SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
 SAPTARSHI, Mr. C. M.
 SARDESAL, Mr. S. A.
 SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH
 SAYED MUHAMMAD KAMIL SHAH
 SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
 SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO, Mr.
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 SHIVDASANI, Mr. H. B.
 SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
 SURVE, Mr. A. N.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.
 SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI

THAKOR OF AMOD, the
 THAKOR OF KERWADA, the
 THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
 TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
 VELKAR, Dr. M. B.
 WILES, Mr. G.
 WOODS, Mr. E. E.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order. From the remarks which the honourable the leader of the Swaraj Party made yesterday, in speaking on the motion before the House, I find that there is some misapprehension in regard to the ruling I gave yesterday on the issue whether individual officers of Government could be criticised on a general motion. I would draw the attention of honourable members to the following ruling, which will make the position perfectly clear:

Sardar V. N. Mutalik wanted to propose a reduction of the total Revenue demand by Rs. 1 lakh, and he said:

"In bringing this motion my object is to put before the House and Government briefly my views about the grievances in connection with this Department."

Then the Honourable the President interrupted him and said as follows:

"If the mere object of the honourable member is to bring to the notice of Government any grievance, then he can do it without moving any motion for reduction of the total demands....."

That is to say, he can oppose the total demand. Further:

"...but the grievance should relate generally to the whole Department and the demand in respect of it. If, on the other hand, he thinks the total demand is excessive, he can move its reduction by such amount as he thinks proper. The honourable member's motion now is 'reduce by Rs. 1 lakh'. That rather conveys the notion that he thinks the total demand is excessive, and not that he has any particular grievance in the nature of maladministration on the part of the department concerned to place before the Council by way of censure on that department or any of its officers. Well, what has the honourable member to say to that?"

Then there was some discussion, and this was what the President finally ruled:

"You may call attention to the grievances, but I hope the House understands that on a motion for any reduction of the demand for grant for a department, the mover must ask for reduction on relevant grounds, such as that the amount demanded is in excess of the requirements of the public service, or that there has been some act of maladministration on the part of the department or any of its officers. But the mover cannot refer to any large or general question of policy affecting the department or to any grievance arising out of such policy, for which the Government through its Member in charge as distinct from the department is primarily responsible, if it is intended to propose a vote of censure on Government by a motion for reduction unless the salary of the Member of Government who is responsible for that department is votable and is on the votes."

Honourable members will clearly realise that the ruling is that on a vote of censure, honourable members are entitled to criticise the department, and to point out the maladministration of that department in any direction or in regard to any of its officers. But what is barred is that no honourable member will be allowed to level any personal attack against an individual officer. Honourable members are perfectly entitled to address the House on the maladministration of the department or any of its officers, but no personal attack on an individual officer will be permitted.

Mr. A. W. W. Mackie made the prescribed oath of allegiance to His Majesty the King Emperor, and took his seat in the Council.

(Discussion on Demands for Grants resumed.)

Question again proposed :

"Reduce by Rs. 1,00,000—total votable demand—Rs. 1,95,67,000."

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, I want to bring to your notice that there were certain remarks made by the leader of the Swaraj party yesterday, to which I shall have to refer in my speech, and I would, therefore, prefer to defer my speech.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The Honourable Minister can content himself by making a final reply, when he will have ample opportunity of meeting all the criticism passed against his department. I do not see why on the last day he should make two speeches. Of course, the Honourable Minister is entitled to do so, but it would perhaps be preferable if he deals exhaustively with all the points raised in his final reply.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I shall have to say a few words now, and I shall reserve the rest of my remarks for my final reply.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The Minister can proceed ; he is in possession of the House.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, this is a motion for the reduction of a sum of Rs. 1 lakh, and in a grant of Rs. 1,95,00,000 a cut of Rs. 1 lakh is just like a flea-bite, and I would have gladly accepted it had it been a case of mere economy. This House is aware that this is a deficit year, and if Government do not decide to draw upon the balances, then Government will have to ask for a proportionate reduction of expenditure in all the departments, and the share of the Education Department will be considerably more than a lakh of rupees. However, Sir, this motion has been moved and in the spirit in which some of the speeches are made, and the way in which the honourable member from Bombay City, Mr. Baptista Kaka, made his speech showed that this motion may be looked upon as a vote of censure. (Honourable Members : "No, No.") I am very glad of the assurance of the House.....

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : I made it perfectly clear in moving my motion that I did not move it as a vote of censure, but to criticise the policy and to ventilate grievances.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I am very glad of the assurance from the other side of the House, and I am sorry I was rather misled by some of the expressions and words that fell from the lips of the honourable member for Bombay City. He said that he had a very good case against me and that, but for the intervention of the leader of the Swaraj party, he would have been very glad to move it. I am sorry, Sir, that this is the last day, and the honourable member has no time to move it. In justification of myself I must say that I am not afraid of such motions. (Honourable Members : Hear, hear). My conscience tells me that I am not a failure, and that when my administration comes to be reviewed in the proper light as it ought to be reviewed I shall find that the majority of the votes of the House will be on my side. I had last year the pleasure

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

of meeting such a motion, and although the leader of the Swaraj party gave his mandate that no division should be asked for, one of the over-enthusiastic members of that party called for a division, and the House knows the result of that division. The relative strength of the parties during the last twelve months has not, I am glad to say, improved for the opposition, and I am quite sure that the administration of the transferred departments has been such as generally to meet with the approval of the House.

I have to offer my very grateful thanks to the leader of the Swaraj party for the good opinion he holds about me. We have been friends of a very long standing. We have understood each other very well and we have been respecting each other very well and I am glad to anticipate that these relations will remain friendly to the last. He holds such a high opinion about me that he thinks that any failings that are to be found in my administration are not due to any inherent defect in myself but are due to my evil surroundings. I am at a loss to know, Sir, whether to take this as a compliment or otherwise. (Honourable Members: As you like.) Sir, I am not unaccustomed to such remarks. Our literature is full of it. The story of Krishna is full of it. Whenever a complaint was taken to Yashoda (Krishna's mother) she always excused her darling son that his being so bad was due to evil company and our fond Indian mothers are always accustomed to excuse the evil deeds of their children by consoling themselves that they are misled by evil company. When I had the honour of serving the late Maharajah of Kolhapur and his administration was not much relished amongst the advanced communities, whenever anything bad was said against his administration, the justifiers of the Prince, who was styled the Protector of the Brahmins and the Cow, always said that the Maharajah was all right but he was in very bad company, and I may bring to your notice that my humble self was one of the prominent members of that bad company. Sir, I took it at that time as a compliment. I never thought that I was a very bad man, in spite of the scurrilous and unjustifiable remarks that were published in the vernacular press of Kolhapur and outside, and that all the so-called evil things were due to my wicked advice. But then, as a matter of fact, I took it as a compliment and I think my friends on this side here (pointing to the Government benches) will not take the allegation of the leader of the Swaraj party as anything but a compliment. Sir, let me bring one thing to the notice of this House that, with all the evil influences, I am known to be sometimes rather as a wayward child and many a time do what will not please them. You know, Sir, from the report that has been circulated here, my opinion on the reforms was not exactly what the official side held. I have given my opinion and it is under print that the Ministers on this side voted for complete provincial autonomy (Hear, hear). If the evil influences of the official benches could not seduce me in that one particular from what I considered to be for the good of my country, then I think I may assure the opposition benches that I may be credited with some sense to use the little bit of intelligence that is left in me and not to be guided

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

by evil influences. If I have done anything bad, I am responsible for that. I do not want to hide myself behind any excuse of the evil influences of my surroundings.

Some remarks were made, Sir, about the politics of the non-Brahmin party, to which I have the honour to belong. There was a time, not a very distant one, when the non-Brahmin party politics were simply ridiculed and pooh-poohed. It was said that the non-Brahmins were a set of people who were instigated by some interested persons to create a quarrel in a harmonious and peaceful family. As long as the non-Brahmins and their friends the Mussalmans.....

Mr. H. B. SHIVDASANI: Is this in order?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The Honourable Minister is replying to the criticism that has been levelled against his department and himself personally.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I was saying, Sir, that as long as the non-Brahmins and their friends the Mussalmans did not know their rights and their own importance, and allowed the advanced communities in the Deccan to pose as their leaders and do in their name what they liked, so long there was peace and harmony. But as soon as there was a little awakening and people began to look for themselves and began to claim rights for themselves, then this split was attributed not to any inherent defect in the social system but to the instigations of evil advisers. But, Sir, those days are gone. The non-Brahmin politics are in these days better understood. I have simply to make a statement, Sir, that the non-Brahmins are as honest as the members of other parties are, that they are actuated by the same high motives by which the members of other parties are actuated, that the non-Brahmins want to see their country advance, and that they place the welfare of the country first and all other considerations afterwards. They do not subscribe to the policy of direct action. They do not subscribe to the policy of the Swaraj party of causing obstruction. But they believe in the forces of co-operation and they are ready to co-operate with Government or with any other party if that co-operation is likely to lead to the advancement of the country. In all cases in which they find that the advancement of the country as a whole will be retarded by a certain policy they are not slow to come forward to oppose it.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: I rise to a point of order, Sir. The policy of the non-Brahmins is not the issue and could not be relevant in this discussion. The policy of the Minister is the issue.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I have already pointed out that in the course of the debate criticism was levelled against the non-Brahmin party and the Honourable Minister is replying to that criticism. I cannot help remarking, however, that this is the last day of the budget discussion and such an elaborate essay on party politics is hardly appropriate on the present occasion.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I will not be long, Sir, on this point. But I am sorry to say that a pointed reference was made in the debate to party politics.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Therefore, I say a reply could be given briefly, but it is not necessary that an elaborate justification of the whole non-Brahmin party policy and activities need be gone into on the present occasion.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Well, Sir, I shall be as brief as possible and will finish my remarks as quickly as possible. But I say, Sir, that the non-Brahmin party as a whole has voted many a time against Government on such occasions when they thought by their voting against Government they would serve the interests of the masses. The non-Brahmin party has generally been taunted as being place hunters.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : That charge was never made in my speech to which the honourable member is replying. I understand, Sir, you have given a ruling on a point of order raised by some honourable member that my remarks related to the non-Brahmin party. Well, Sir, that ruling was given in my absence, but I must bow to it. I must, however, say, on a point of personal explanation, that I never said anything about the non-Brahmin party or their policy.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : About the policy ?

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : I merely spoke about the policy of the Minister.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I understand, Sir, the honourable member distinctly claimed that he was not only the leader of the Swaraj party, but of all the parties in the House.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I do not see that that arises. I do not remember that the leader of the Swaraj party ever claimed that he was a leader of all the parties in the House.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : I will frankly say that I have no ambitions in that direction at all.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : He is sometimes called the leader of the opposition in accordance with parliamentary practice : when there are more than two parties in the House of Commons, the leader of that party which commands the largest number of members in the House next to Government is called the leader of the opposition.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I understood him distinctly to say that there were only two parties, one was the party of the opposition, which was his own, and the other was the party of the executive Government.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : I never said that. The use of the expression "leader of the opposition" with reference to me began with my honourable friend himself this time last year.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I understood the honourable member distinctly to say that he took the Honourable Minister under the protection of his wing, and he took him under the protection of his party.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I do not think he ever said that, as far as I remember.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : He distinctly said he took him under the protection of his wing.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : I never used that expression.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The Honourable the Leader of the House has to accept the contradiction.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I accept it fully, Sir. I am glad to hear that the honourable member the leader of the Swaraj party did not intend anything of the sort.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : I have the report of my speech in my hand : I am just going through it to find out whether I used any such expression.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I am very sorry that the debate has been drifting into other channels, but this drifting I am not responsible for. I am very sorry to say that the non-Brahmin party is many a time misunderstood, and I hope to be given sufficient time to explain the position. But the time, Sir, is very limited and the clock is running against me, and I think I ought to be brief. I may simply say, Sir, that the non-Brahmin party is described as the ministerial party, because it allows its members to accept ministerial offices and to co-operate with Government in such matters in which co-operation is desirable. But this, it appears, does not appeal to those whose policy has been opposition pure and simple.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The Honourable Minister is simply repeating the same thing over and over again. I will not allow such repetitions especially on this day.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Then, Sir, without alluding to anything else, I would turn to the points that have been raised in the debate about the administration. The charge has been laid against me that I have perpetrated a piece of vandalism, by passing an order discontinuing free-hand drawing in the drawing classes in the presidency. There are generally always two sides to every question, and had it not been for the official etiquette of regarding current correspondence as confidential papers and not publishing them unnecessarily, I would have been very glad to place the whole correspondence on the table of this House. And if a demand is made in that respect, then I shall place the matter before Government, and I hope to be able to induce Government to place that correspondence in possession of the House. It will be found, Sir, that Government have given their best thought to the question. The subject of drawing is taught in the schools, middle and high schools, not to produce artists, because that is the duty and the business of the School of Art established in Bombay, but for a different purpose. In the opinion of the officers of Government that purpose would be served better not by copying out what is called free drawing, but by drawing from nature, from objects and from models. But now I find that the whole agitation that has been set on foot is engineered from a certain quarter. It is a very regrettable fact that in the department there are mutual jealousies, and one side wants to predominate over the other, and that has led to the agitation that is being carried on. I also notice, Sir, that

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

a good deal of Indian opinion is in favour of the retention of free-hand drawing. In the matter of the curriculum of Indian schools, Sir, the opinion of Indian experts ought to prevail, and since this matter was brought to my notice by the memorials quoted by my honourable friend I have called for the papers, and I may promise the House that I shall again go through them and reconsider the whole position. As I have just now stated to the House, I think it is my duty to pay more attention to Indian opinion in matters of Indian education. We have to encourage and foster Indian ideals and to see how Indian talent can be encouraged, and for that purpose I think it but right that the matter should again be taken into consideration. I think that will suffice for the present on this question.

I do not think, Sir, I have to say much about the suggestion of the honourable member from Khandesh. He criticised the present policy of Government of handing over primary education to district local boards as financially impossible. Khandesh is reputed to be one of the richest districts, and if Khandesh finds that it is not in a position to finance the primary education, not to the extent of the whole amount but only to one-third

Mr. S. S. DEV : I did not say that.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I correct myself and say the honourable member for East Khandesh (Mr. P. G. Joshi). The district local boards are very eager to have the control and direction of primary education in their hands. (The Thakor of Kerwada : Are they ?). I think, as far as Maharashtra is concerned, and as far as my meagre knowledge goes of the districts I have travelled in, I know that the district local boards are eager to have the direction of primary education in their hands. (Mr. P. G. Joshi : But financed by Government). It is a very good position in which one would be pleased to be. One would be very glad if the whole money is paid to him by another and he is asked to manage. If an individual is not willing to put his hand into his pocket and bring out something, I do not think it will lie in his mouth to say that he should be empowered to spend others' money. The district local boards will have to levy rates no doubt. If they raise only one-third of the additional expenditure, Government is bound to give the remaining two-thirds. In order to remove any injustice to the poorer districts which in the long run will not be able to finance the scheme, Government have taken the powers by inserting certain words in the Primary Education Act to increase the grants beyond the statutory limit of two-thirds. I may assure the House that whenever it is brought to the notice of the Government that a district has tried its best to levy rates and that it will not be possible to finance the scheme further from the resources of the particular district local board, Government will be glad to come to the assistance of such poorer districts and give larger contributions. In this connexion every precaution has been taken and no amendment of the Act is necessary for that purpose.

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

Another question was raised about the sum of Rs. 2,00,000 provided in the budget for scholarships to backward communities. It was asked what portion of that sum of two lakhs would be spared for the encouragement of education among the depressed classes. According to the announcement made to the House last year, the number of scholarships is determined by the number of population. For every 50,000 population there is one set of scholarship. My answer to that question, therefore is that the depressed classes will get their due share out of this provision in proportion to their numbers.

Another honourable member suggested the opening of hostels for the students of the depressed classes. Government themselves have been conducting one already and when funds permit they will open other hostels. In the meantime Government have provided liberal scholarships for the students of the depressed classes and it is expected that, for some years at all events it will be difficult to find competent students to take advantage of the full number of scholarships provided. These scholars may be kept together under one roof with very little additional cost.

I am very much obliged to the honourable member for Poona for making a very valuable suggestion to reserve some posts of peons for the members of the depressed classes. I must plead guilty to the charge that I have forgotten the depressed classes in respect of reserving the posts of peons for them. I may bring to the notice of the honourable gentleman that Government leave all these matters to the officers concerned and in the Educational Department the Government have got for themselves the question of making appointments to the B.E.S. and I.E.S. only. So, the honourable gentleman has to apply to other quarters for giving effect to his valuable suggestion.

Mr. H. B. SHIVDASANI : Government could lay down the policy.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Government, of course, can lay down the policy. In the first place I would ask the honourable member whether he himself in his private capacity employs any member of the depressed classes.

An explanation was asked with regard to the provision of Rs. 20,000 which is provided for the committee of technical education. Without going into any elaborate details on this matter, I should like briefly to inform the House that this committee carries on examinations and inspection of the industrial and technical classes and particularly the examination and supervision of the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute.

Much capital was sought to be made by an honourable gentleman about the position of subordinates in the Educational Department. With great seriousness the honourable gentleman announced to the House the fear of a large number of subordinates in the educational service who felt that their position was very insecure. I do not remember that Government have during the last 14 months dismissed any servant either in the B. E. S. or I. E. S. I do not remember any case in which a servant has been reduced except one. I do not know what proofs

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

the honourable gentleman has got for making such an assertion about the fear and insecurity of subordinates in the department. I can bring forward some witnesses who will vouch for the feeling of security they feel now. I am quoting the instance of the deputy educational inspector of Kolaba who would say that he feels more secure under the regime of a non-Brahmin Minister than under the regime of any one else. Questions and answers in this House are sometimes used to elicit information or to expose the action of certain parties. I may bring to the notice of this honourable House that a question was asked in this House by the honourable member for Bombay City, North :

"Will Government be pleased to state what new appointments have been made since January 1924 in the Government Law School, Bombay, and the Science Institute, Bombay?"

The reply was :

"(a) The following gentlemen have been appointed professors of Government Law School, Bombay : Pandurang"

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Why should the Honourable Minister read all the names ? What is the relevancy ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I want to show what the insinuation was and what the facts were.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The Honourable Minister need not read out all the names for that purpose.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The insinuation was that the non-Brahmin Minister was very partial to the non-Brahmin community ; and he was entertaining non-Brahmins for the new appointments. The names here mentioned are well-known names and I do not want to say anything about that. In the case of the non-gazetted appointments of the Royal Institute of Science, since the date referred to in the question, the names given in the list are these : The posts of assistant lecturerships for chemistry and physics have been given to Mahrattas. I may point out, Sir, that this Mr. Jadhav who has been appointed assistant lecturer in chemistry

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Has any criticism been made on that point during the present debate ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The honourable member from Poona said that some servants of the upper classes were feeling a sense of insecurity

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : That does not mean new appointments. No specific charge has been made as regards that matter. The Honourable Minister is going on for a considerable time on this, the last day of budget grants, and surely he must have some appreciation of the insufficiency of time on this day.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I am sorry, Sir, that I have to take a great portion of the time of the House but I must explain . . .

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : So long as the Honourable Minister is relevant I cannot stop him.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : A direct charge was made that posts were looked upon as very insecure in the services and I have to show that the new appointments that are made.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : That does not mean insecurity of the existing appointments.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : As I have explained, the existing incumbents are not.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : That would be relevant, but new appointments cannot come in.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I am sorry, Sir, I have to take considerable time of the House. I will only say that had there been more time at my disposal.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The Honourable Minister has another right of reply.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Then I shall resume my seat.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Sir, the question about local bodies is a serious one. Up till now the local boards have been paying only 10 or 11 per cent. out of the whole amount that is spent for education for local board schools, while Government are spending the remaining 89 or 90 per cent.; and when the new Act comes into operation Government propose to give only 66 per cent. and at the same time they want district local boards to incur additional expenditure on inspection staff; that is to say, the position just now is that the district local boards have to pay the teachers and then they have to pay the new inspecting staff also. Therefore they will have to provide for one-third of the expenditure while they have just now been providing for one-seventh of the whole amount. That means that the bargain is to be favourable to Government and to the detriment of the finances of the district local boards. I can give the illustration of my own district local board. We spend Rs. 3,50,000 for education and Rs. 3,00,000 is given as a grant by Government. Now what would happen after the transfer of education to the local boards? Even without the addition of a single school the expenditure will increase, that is to say, out of 3 lakhs 30 thousand, (A voice from Government benches: It is not correct) according to the new rules Government will supply only 1 lakh 23 thousand while the district local board will be out of pocket to that extent. And at the same time expenditure will be increased, because the district local boards will have to employ the inspecting staff as inspection will have to be done by them. That is to say the position of the district local boards, even if they do not increase their expenditure on education, will be much worse after taking over charge of the schools.

There is another important point which I wish to bring to the notice of the Honourable Minister. At page 161 of the White Book last year a grant of Rs. 10,000 was provided as grant-in-aid to industrial schools, while this year nothing is provided. Last year a grant of Rs. 2,620 was provided for educational defectives, nothing is provided on that account this year. I do not know why these industrial schools

[Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan]

for the defectives have been neglected during the current year. Perhaps there may be some satisfactory explanation forthcoming from the Honourable Minister and I shall be very glad to hear it.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Sir, I support the motion. As regards the question of handing over primary education to the district local boards, I must freely admit that I myself see the impossibility of taking over charge of the local board schools from Government, especially as the datum line in this matter which has been arrived at by the officers of Government has been arrived at in such a manner that in future it will be really hard to conduct even the existing schools when they are handed over to the district local boards by Government. For example, for the last six or seven years Government are not spending the required amount towards the repairs of the school buildings. They are not replacing the existing furniture, they are not supplying the necessary books and maps and such other things as are used in teaching boys, while in the new revised rules it has been stated that all the local boards will be compelled to provide all these things, and not only that but that they will be compelled to keep the school houses in repair. Most of the school houses are already out of repair, and some of them, I am sorry to say, are practically crumbling down and I will not be surprised if accidents happen to some of them and children are injured in consequence of such a neglect. I have been informed about this gross neglect on the part of the educational officers. Under these circumstances I think no district local board with a due sense of responsibility will take charge of such administration.

Then coming to the question of free-hand drawing in the elementary and secondary schools, I will say that Indian opinion on the subject was right and I am thankful to the Honourable Minister for saying that he will reconsider the whole question. Our Indian art is of special value from the point of view of bold curves and lines and you will never find such lines and curves in any other art and that is in my humble view the chief merit of the Indian Art. The free-hand drawing trains the hand to acquire this, and so it does require to be preserved and not abolished. As regards the remarks passed against the leader of the Swaraj party I may say that I was in the know and can state that the Honourable Minister has greatly misunderstood him. Had that party undertaken what it did last year I do not know whether that party would not have succeeded. And that party was conscious of their position and strength and it is for this reason that I say that the decision arrived at by that party was due not to any other consideration but to the consideration for the Honourable Minister himself and it was very unfair on the part of the Honourable Minister to have passed such remarks about the honourable member the leader of the Swaraj party.

The honourable member the leader of the Swaraj party has stated about the evil surroundings. Now, is it not a fact, Sir? Let the Honourable Minister examine his own mind. He did not produce the correspondence in response to a question put from this side of the House asking him

[Rao Saheb D. P. Desai]

to do so, when the Executive Council and even the Military Secretary who are not so responsible to this House did produce some correspondence on another subject. And when a Member of that Executive Council in fairness produces such correspondence as affects Government House, I cannot understand why a Minister in charge of a transferred subject should not do the same in regard to an ordinary matter. That itself proves that there must be something behind the scenes which must be guiding the Minister and preventing him from doing what is desired by this side of the House.

Again, take another instance. Take the Muddiman Reforms Committee's report. Out of seven, only the report of the two Members of the Government prevails as Government's report and the report of the five members is considered to be a minute of dissent! What does that show? That the majority of the members.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: What has that got to do with the Education portfolio? Honourable members do not seem to be content with the extent of discussion which has been going on for twelve days.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: Sir, I will not now take up further time of the Council.

Mr. NOOR MAHOMED (Hyderabad District): Sir, the Honourable Minister was speaking rather vehemently about the last year's division on a vote of censure that was proposed. I am very sorry to say that at that time certain things were promised to be done by the Honourable Minister. A year has passed, but many of those things have not been done. I know the Minister is in office because the Mussalmans of Sind particularly, had got very bitter experience of the previous Ministry of Education and we supported the present Minister in charge of education because we had got absolutely bitter experience of the previous Ministry. During the last Education Minister's time we Mahomedans had many grievances in regard to our educational needs and we expected some improvement during the present Minister's time. But, Sir, a year has passed and though the present Education Minister has done one or two things for which I am thankful to him, I am really sorry to say that he has done nothing substantial to promote the education of the Sind Mahomedans. What significant thing has he done, I ask, for the promotion of Mahomedan education in Sind? He said he cannot build hostels for the backward communities because he has got no funds. But I will give an instance of a building lying vacant at Hyderabad. I know it is not mostly his fault. I know some of his subordinate officials are responsible for it. But he has not got a sufficient grip over the whole department in these matters. Can we not, therefore, rightly accuse him of not having gone into the matter himself as fully and as exhaustively as he ought to have done?

Then, Sir, I said last year grants were needed for certain boarding houses. The Sind Mahomedans were running after him in this corner, in that corner, and in every corner. I do not like to go into corners, but I

[Mr. Noor Mahomed]

cannot help going into corners owing to the circumstances (Laughter). But, Sir, you will be surprised to learn that in spite of our doing all this, we did not succeed in getting the Minister to give us the grants. But those people who simply go through his subordinates—subordinate officials—do succeed in their efforts, namely, in getting grants. I am very sorry, Sir, that he should betray us who are his friends and not his foes, as we stand by him.

Mr. H. B. SHIVDASANI (Surat District): Sir, I rise to criticise one particular action of the Honourable Minister. In the budget session of last year a committee was appointed to consider the question of the revision of the pay of primary teachers. That committee held two or three meetings, the last of which was held in October 1924. Now it was expected that the report of the committee would be published at the latest before the end of December 1924, and though I myself and the honourable member from Thana wrote and asked for the draft report being sent to us, and even spoke orally to the Honourable Minister, the report was not sent to us for our signature. Now, I find that the report has been sent to us only a few days back, and even then the report is incomplete and not in the form approved by the committee. The result will be that the report will not be published till the present budget session is over. Moreover, there will be one more complication. The schools are to be handed over to the local boards from 1st April 1925 and Government will come forward and say that the expenditure due to the revision of the pay of teachers is new expenditure and that the local boards must find one-third of this additional expenditure. This is nothing short of a dodge and I say it even amounts to trickery, and it does not become a Government like the Bombay Government to have recourse to these tricks to do the primary teachers out of their well-deserved increase in pay. If the money is not forthcoming or if Government does not want to give anything to the primary teachers, an announcement to that effect must be made in a straightforward manner, and not by delaying the report, and having recourse to such dodges. The report does not cover even half a sheet and yet the Secretary has taken five full months to draft a report—a report which would not take more than five minutes to draft. I have to emphasise one more point. The schools are going to be handed over to local boards and several knotty points are sure to arise. The teachers are on time-scale of pay and will get their increments in due course. Will the expenditure resulting from this be considered new expenditure one-third of which will have to be provided by the local boards? Several of the schools are undermanned. Is the expenditure necessary for bringing the teachers in schools upto their full strength going to be regarded as new expenditure one-third of which has to be provided by the local boards? Several schools were closed owing to non-co-operation but now the people are demanding that the schools be brought back. Is the expenditure required for restoring these new schools going to be regarded as new expenditure, one-third of which has to be found by the local boards? Unless all these questions are satisfactorily settled, most of the local boards are not willing to take the schools

[Mr. H. B. Shivdasani]

under their administration and control. I may inform you, Sir, that the district local board, Surat, have passed a resolution in which they have clearly stated three or four demands which must be settled before the local board will agree to take over the schools and their teachers. What is more is that the local boards are supposed to take possession of the schools from the 1st of April next, and yet I find that Government have done nothing so far to define all those things which will lead to a number of disputes later on. When the provision for the inspecting staff was proposed to be reduced by 12 lakhs, the Honourable Minister told us that the entire amount provided for the inspecting staff will be required as grants to be made to the local boards for the maintenance of their inspecting staff. But I hope that the Honourable Minister will not make the giving of these grants conditional on their agreeing to take over each and every member of the present inspecting staff on his present pay. It is possible that the local boards may have very serious objections to taking over some particular members of the present inspecting staff. So, I hope that the Honourable Minister will give his early attention first to the question of the revision of the pay of primary teachers, and secondly, to the several questions outstanding between him and the district local boards as regards the taking over of the schools by the local boards.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD (Central Division): Sir, I had no desire to make any lengthened remarks on the present occasion, but certainly what fell from the lips of the Honourable the Education Minister has compelled me to stand and speak out my mind. Sir, as the whole House knows, there is no greater advocate of communal representation than myself. But as the honourable member occupies his position for communal reasons, we do not want to see him in any way acting in a manner which is not suitable to his position. Sir, everybody knows that the position of the present Ministry is not the same as the position of the Ministry three years ago. The Ministry suffered when my honourable friend the Revenue Member went to the reserved side. The quality of debate is also falling. We want our Ministers to be, if not first class, at least effective debaters. The poor kind of debate that we notice among the front Government Benches so far as Ministers are concerned is very disappointing. The Honourable Minister is not able to inspire confidence in any party. My honourable friend, Mr. Noor Mahomed, has just now complained of the Minister's indifference to Mahomedan education in Sind. I have also a similar complaint to make. Sir, some time ago we, the honourable Mahomedan members of this House, presented a representation to the Secretary to Government, Educational Department, (Mr. Thomas) which, we were told, would receive early attention. The Honourable Khan Bahadur Ghulam Hussain was the president of the committee that drew up the representation and he himself forwarded it. We have heard nothing about it. We have heard nothing about it, not a single word, in the speech of the Honourable Minister. Before the honourable member became our Minister, we had in the Central Division a Mahomedan Zilla

[Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad]

deputy educational inspector, but since he took charge of office, that officer has vanished. So, instead of receiving from him a just, not to speak of a favourable treatment, our position is gone down. When we support our ministers we want them to be just to all communities. When the Minister of Education was a Brahmin, the present Minister himself was frequently complaining about his prejudices and the non-Brahmins were not satisfied with his administration. When the Minister is a non-Brahmin, the Brahmins are complaining, they are not satisfied and it is sad that we Mahomedans are also complaining about him. He has not inspired sufficient confidence into this part of the House in his administration. The Honourable Minister of Education, by virtue of his departmental position, should be the Leader of the House. At any rate, the Education Minister should be the Prime Minister; he ought to be the ablest man in the House. What do we find? We find that the administration has suffered during his regime. I wish to be impartial; I have always voted according to my conscience, sometimes with the Swaraj party and sometimes with the Government. The whole House knows that. I do not belong to the Swaraj party, I do not agree with their creed, but there have been occasions when I sided with them. They, therefore, cannot accuse me of being partial. What I do maintain is that as far as the administration of the Educational Department is concerned, it has not progressed during the time of the present Minister. What I would like to point out is that he should pay more attention to the wants of all the communities. The Mahomedan community is suffering a great deal for want of education. If there is one thing more than another that we do desire it is help in education. There is hardly a single Mahomedan member that has spoken who has not complained about the Education Minister. If we, the friends of the Honourable Minister, are treated in this way, I leave you to imagine how his enemies are treated. Personally, I am not against him, and I should like to support him, but how can we do so? The worst enemy of the honourable gentleman is himself. We want our Ministers to lead us, to give us guidance, to give us original ideas, to form parties. (An Honourable Member: To form parties?) Certainly. Why not? We belong to a certain party. (Honourable Members: To the Ministerial party?) What harm is there? A Ministerial party should be formed, but they are not capable of doing it. The difficulty is that the leaders cannot lead; my point is that if communities are to be represented in Government service and on the front Government Bench, they must be able, competent, and impartial men, men who would be admired, and not men who would be despised by this House. That is my complaint. My honourable friend on my right said that the Honourable Minister was in exceedingly bad company. I do say it is exceedingly good company. I believe in the stuff of the man, independently of the company. You, Sir, were also in that company. What did you do? You moulded them, you influenced them, you brought them round to your view, but you did not temporise. Much depends upon the personality and capability of the man, not upon mere office.

[Moulvi Rafuiddin Ahmad]

I maintain, Sir, that the prestige of the present Ministry is *nil*. I would therefore request the Honourable Member, for the sake of his reputation and the reputation of his community—because we, Sir, belong to martial races, and the Marathas and Mahomedans are heirs to the military and administrative virtues of our forefathers—to do better than he is doing at present. Martial we were but we should also come forward and show that we are also equally intellectual, and can hold our own against the members of the Executive Government. The honourable member Rao Saheb Desai said that Mr. Jadhav was being continually led by his secretaries. I do not understand how it can be otherwise. The members of the Civil Service are the most intellectual people, and Englishmen are always admirers of genius, and they always like to have fairplay. How can they have respect for people who are not their equals in intellect? A Scotchman told me that, if you want an English man to respect you, beat him down intellectually. I am sure the members of the Indian Civil Service require Indian co-operation, but co-operation of strong and not of weak persons, of strong parties and not of weak parties. The administration should be conducted by people who are really able to administer. In all parliamentary assemblies there is always a duel between the leading members of the Government and the opposition. Our Ministers should be in a position to lead in debate, and should be able to hold their own against the leaders of the Swaraj party. The leaders of the Swaraj party have not come from heaven. They are men all the same. My honourable friend to my right belongs to the Bombay Bar where our people hold their own against him in the High Court. Why should not the same thing be done here? I want the Honourable Ministers to improve themselves and then they will enjoy the respect of the House.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North): Sir, the last speaker has introduced some communal considerations, and he has complained that Mahomedan education has suffered; he has referred also to the appointment of the deputy educational inspector. As to that, I have only one point to make. He will find that actually the total number of Mahomedans in this presidency is 19 per cent. and I think he will be surprised to know that the Mahomedan teachers are actually in service to the extent of 39 per cent. Really, therefore, they have no claim, if we are to judge by figures, to demand anything more than 20 per cent. Still, what do we find? We find that out of 2,603 teachers in local boards and municipalities, 1,033, or 39·5 per cent. are Mahomedans. That is one point.

Then another point. The honourable member for Bombay (North) stated yesterday that the Minister for Education should be a Mahomedan. I really do not know how far he was serious and how far he was light-hearted. I have the greatest admiration for him. I have always found that whenever he makes a statement he is very careful to examine its soundness. But unfortunately I found him napping yesterday. I am sorry he is not here now. He will see that the percentage of literacy among Mahomedans is 4, among intermediate caste Hindus 3, and among backward Hindus 1. This will show that the need of the intermediate

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

caste Hindus is certainly more pressing than that of the Mahomedans. I shall be very glad even if all the three Ministers are Mahomedans. But at the same time when it is going to be a democracy the rights of other parties must be respected very strictly.

Then the other point is about the remark made by the honourable member representing the Bombay University. He very kindly came forward and assured this House that it was through the intervention of his party that the downfall of the Minister was prevented. Sir, I say that kind of statement is very objectionable. It hurts the feelings of other non-Brahmins in this House. The implication of what he said is this: the Education Minister is undeserving of the office he holds. If that is so, I will just request him to state whether he is not guilty of continuing a fraudulent policy. He is here in the interest of the public funds. If an undeserving man is holding office and drawing a large sum of money every month, it is his duty and the duty of every member of this House to oust that man and see that the public money is not wasted. I very humbly submit to him that we non-Brahmins do not require any patronising favours, whether it be from Government or from any other party. We do not want the patronising airs of the donors here. We know that we are the poorest of the poor. We know that what is ours by right is denied to us. Though we stand in this position we will be the last persons to tell anybody "You deprive another man of his just share and give that share to us to compensate for the injury". What we are saying is "Give us only what is ours: do not give us anything more than what is our due." So, if the honourable House thinks that an undeserving person is occupying the Ministership of Education, I request this House to do away with him and stop the waste of public money.

Then, the other point raised was about free-hand drawing. The honourable member for Bombay University was at one time the principal of a school, and he knows its administrative branch. If a specialist comes and says to him that physical culture is a very good thing, and therefore he should give three hours every day for physical culture, would he as an administrator concede the demand of that specialist? The Director of Public Instruction, I admit, is not an artist, and he may not be an art connoisseur, but all the same the administrative function is vested in him and he has to co-ordinate all things pertaining to that. There are many classes and schools in Bombay where any student who requires to learn free-hand drawing can go and learn. Government schools are, however, institutions where education has to be given to the largest number at the smallest public expense. And if it is found that owing to change of circumstances, free-hand drawing cannot be retained in the curriculum I do not think that is a sufficient ground to pass a vote of censure on the Education Minister.

Sir, I do not think I need take more of the time of the Council. I can tell the honourable member representing the Swaraj party that the non-Brahmins are capable of taking care of themselves. He has been complaining that we do not join his party in their deliberations....

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : I have not said a word about it.

Mr. A. N. SURVE : I do not want to be interrupted.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The House seems to be in a peculiar mood to-day.

Mr. A. N. SURVE : I can only say on this point that we are capable of taking care of ourselves. We always find that whenever we co-operate with intellectual persons we always suffer. Therefore, whenever it is a question of co-operation, when we find that we are guided rightly and our interests and the safety of the masses are not in danger, we shall co-operate with any party, let it be the Swaraj party or any other party. But in other respects, we will rely on our own instincts and we will be guided by our own counsel.

Mr. MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHRO (Larkana District) : Sir, I would like to say a few words in this connection about Mahomedan Education in Sind. Sir, the education of Mahomedans is very backward when compared with that of non-Brahmans. The figures that are shown in the Director's report cannot be considered to be accurate. The figures that were shown by the Sind Mahomedan Educational Conference in Hyderabad clearly prove that only 72 Mahomedans are receiving higher education against about 1,000 Hindus, and in secondary education there are only 1,600 Mahomedan students as against about 10,000 Hindu students. This is in spite of the population of Mahomedans being 73 or 74 per cent. of the total population of Sind.

Sir, we asked last year that more facilities should be given to Mahomedans, but nothing has been done so far. I must remind the Honourable Minister that last year when a vote of censure was moved, the whole block of the Mahomedan members of Sind jointly supported him on the understanding that he would give better facilities for Mahomedan education in Sind. Sir, it is the duty of Government to provide more facilities to Mahomedans of Sind, in particular. There is only one High School for Mahomedans, the Sind Madressah, and that gets only Rs. 39,000 as a grant from Government. Representations have been made by Sind Mahomedans that this high school should be made an arts college and the grant should be considerably increased, but nothing has been done so far. Last year we put this point very clearly before the Honourable Minister, and we got an assurance from many Government members, including the honourable member Mr. Mountford himself, who was the Commissioner of Sind, that more money will be provided for this school. He (Mr. Mountford) had strongly recommended also to Government that the grant be increased, but the Honourable Minister has turned a deaf ear to it so far. We earnestly request and urge the Honourable Minister to help this institution as this is the central institution of the Sind Mahomedans and it has proved very useful and has turned out many students well educated. It is now high time that it should be improved and made an arts college for Mussalmans, that is, two years' course of arts should be added to it. May I hope that the Honourable Minister will take an early opportunity to oblige the Mahomedan public of Sind by doing the needful for this institution.

[Mr. Mahomed Ayub Shah Mahomed Khuhro]

Then as regards Mirpur Khas Madressah, it has been suggested by the district local board of Thar and Parkar that it should be taken over by Government, as they are not able to maintain it. The Honourable Minister for Education gave an assurance last year that it would be taken over by Government. In reply to a question last year the Honourable Minister stated further that it would be converted into a high school in the year 1925-26. But still the school remains where it was with only 5 classes. The districts of Thar and Parkar and Jacobabad consist of a very large proportion of Mahomedan population and the educational facilities for this vast Mahomedan population are very poor, in spite of the fact that it has been recognised by Government that it is necessary to afford ample facilities for Mahomedan education. These are the only two districts in the whole Presidency that have not got a high school so far as I remember. Sir, we had hoped that the Honourable Minister being a member of the backward community would help the Mahomedan community which is more backward than his community in education. But nothing has been done so far and we are no better than we were under the regime of his predecessor. The Honourable Minister has not come up to our expectations. The honourable member the leader of the Swaraj party said yesterday that they had stood between the vote of censure and the Minister and the Swaraj party had persuaded the honourable member Mr. Baptista not to move it. But, Sir, the fact is that the Sind members were ready to support the Honourable Minister even before the Swaraj party could think of it. So the credit is due to us. In spite of all this the Honourable Minister has not deemed it fit to give the educational facilities that we need so very badly. The figures that I have given in order to show the backward state of the Mahomedan community in Sind are quite correct and the Government may call for figures from the authorities concerned for verification. It is not the fault of Mahomedans in Sind that they are backward in education but they have lagged behind educationally because there is absolute dearth of facilities for education of their children. After finishing the primary education in the district local board and municipal schools, boys return home, because the parents do not like the idea of parting from their young children who have to go thirty or forty miles away from their homes, when they are hardly 11 or 12 years of age, if they want higher education in a high school, or a college, and it is really hard to send a young boy so far away where there is nobody to look after him. This is the main reason why the Mahomedans of Sind have lagged behind in education. So I would appeal to the Honourable Minister to consider the proposal of opening Anglo-Vernacular schools in all fairly well populated villages in each taluka of Sind just for the convenience of the mofussil boys and to raise the Sind Madressah into an arts college as soon as possible. Then these two districts of Jacobabad and Thar and Parkar must have one high school each, just as other districts have got. The members of our sister community, that is Hindus, have advanced so much in education because they are mostly inhabitants of towns and cities in Sind where their population is 70 and 80 per cent. and they have got every educational facility in these big

[Mr. Mahomed Ayub Shah Mahomed Khuhro]

towns and municipalities while the bulk of Mahomedan population in Sind is in the mofussil where as I have said, there are no institutions for teaching them English.

As regards the proportion of Mahomedans in the Educational Department there are very few Mahomedans occupying higher posts. So long as the present condition continues there will be no impetus for Mahomedan education. Out of so many head masters of high schools there is only one Mahomedan occupying the post and that also in Naushawro which has been recently made a high school and was a Madressah before. As regards the number of teachers it is very low in proportion to the strength of population. There are less than 10 per cent. Mahomedans in the posts of deputy and assistant deputy educational inspectors. Besides, up to now no Mahomedan deputy educational inspector has been given selection grade. Is not an injustice done to poor Mahomedans who are serving in this department? I must warn Government that Mahomedans will not like to enter this department where there are no adequate prospects for them, unless Government provides special attractions for deserving Mahomedan recruits still, *i.e.*, direct recruitment on high posts just as is being done in Revenue or Police Departments.

These are matters which ought to engage the serious attention of the Honourable Minister. I hope he will prove as sympathetic towards Mahomedans as he has proved himself to the non-Brahmins, because the condition of both these communities is alike.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, I am but a bad bureaucrat and am hardly entitled to give any opinion on so highly refined and technical a subject as free-hand drawing. But, as my honourable friend has appealed to my better instincts in another capacity upon this vandalism of abolishing free-hand drawing, I feel bound to state what really I know about it as President of the Bombay Art Society.

I am not an expert in the matter of drawing and painting, but I do know this : that copying from the flat, by which I understand free-hand drawing, has long ago been discounted in western countries, where latterly very much more emphasis has been laid upon the importance of drawing from life. Education in drawing when I was at school was usually free-hand drawing : we were given drawings on the flat and we were told to copy them. I understand that the modern idea is to put the student opposite some real existing objects—may be a box or table or any study you like from real life—and he is told to represent what he sees on his paper. Sometimes as a beginner he is told to draw the objects while he sees them before him. Sometimes he is encouraged to draw them from memory. He is given these objects to look at for quite a brief time—a few seconds or minutes—then these objects are removed and he is told to draw what he remembers. I believe that that method has been generally accepted in recent times. I speak not as an expert but believe this is generally accepted now as the better method of training young artists. I do not wish to say anything more about this subject as it is a highly technical question. But it seems to me that the abolition of free-hand drawing

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

hardly merits the use of so grave a word as vandalism ; nor does it appear to me to form so large a part of the duties of the Minister of Education as to form a proper subject of a vote of censure on the administration of the Educational Department. Any way, Sir, it is not free-hand drawing but rather studies from life which are most encouraged and welcomed at the exhibitions of the Bombay Art Society.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District) : Sir, I never expected the debate on this reduction of one lakh of rupees to take this bitter turn. Sir, I have made it perfectly clear that this motion of reduction is not a vote of censure. The Honourable the Leader of the House as well as the honourable member the leader of the non-Brahmin party, Mr. Surve, seem to think that this is a vote of censure, but I beg to correct that impression, and I beg to state that it is not a vote of censure, because the difference between a vote of censure and motion of reduction is that, if a vote of censure is passed, we expect the Honourable Minister to resign, and I for one as the Honourable Minister knows it, would not move a vote of censure against the present Minister. The way in which this elaborate discussion has proceeded regarding the policy of the non-Brahmin Minister will lead one to think that the British have retired from the House leaving the field to the non-Brahmins and Mahomedans to gain supremacy and fight the battle, but we cannot ignore the fact that the British are still here, and I for one deprecate the line of the discussion on which it has proceeded, and would like that all the parties should unite and give a united front to the bureaucracy.

Now, Sir, even after the explanation of the Honourable Minister, I still hold that the policy of introducing compulsory primary education will never be a success. The district local boards are really keen on introducing the scheme no doubt, but they are keen on it provided the scheme is financed by Government entirely. So far as my district is concerned, East Khandesh, the district local board have increased the land rates by half an anna, but now as the new elections have taken place and majority of the non-Brahmins have come in the district local boards, I am positive that it will be their first duty to see that this increase of rates by half an anna is done away with (Mr. R. D. Shinde : Question) no it is not a question, but I am positive about it, because I know the feeling in my district, I know the feeling of the agriculturists in my district. They are very much disappointed about this increase and I am sure that the first duty of the non-Brahmin people who have come into the district local boards will be to do away with this half anna increased cess and to demonstrate to Government their utter inability to accept the proposal. With these words I hope the House will carry this motion for reduction.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, I need not take much time of this House. And I shall confine myself to answering a few criticisms that were offered in the course of the debate. The honourable member from Ahmedabad has made out a case against Government that under the new Act Government not only want to increase the burden of the district local boards but at the same time they want to lighten the

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

responsibility they have been bearing up to this time. I am sorry to say, Sir, that the honourable member has not understood the sections properly. In the Act itself it is provided, Sir, that the burden of expenditure on education that is at present borne by Government will be maintained, and the proportion of one-third to two-thirds will be applicable only to the additional expenditure that will be incurred by the board in expanding primary education under the District Local Boards Act. So in the case of the district local board of Ahmedabad which has spent Rs. 50,000 on education while the remaining 3 lakhs are paid by Government, I may assure the honourable member that not a pie out of that three lakhs will be saved by Government. The whole amount of three lakhs will be handed over year after year to the district local board as a datum line and over and above that datum line, the expenditure that is required for the expansion of education will be shared by Government in the proportion of 2 to 1. I have also to explain that the little omissions he pointed out from the White Book are rather due to oversight on his part to refer to certain papers that were placed before the Council. The grants for the industrial schools, the Victoria Jubilee Technical School and normal classes is merged in the ordinary grant for normal technical and other classes. The excess over the current year's grant is thus merged. Government is conscious that larger amounts are required for technical schools and for industrial schools and for education of vocational training, and I think this House may rest assured that no saving has been effected in that respect.

I do not think, Sir, that much need be said about what has fallen from the honourable member from Kaira. He thinks that the datum line is very low. It is a matter for accounts and if the honourable member and his local board will convince the department that a larger amount ought to be taken as the datum line, the department will be only glad to acknowledge their mistake and give a larger amount. It is a simple matter of accounts.

Then, Sir, I have to say something about the criticisms that have been offered by the honourable Mahomedan members of this House. I am pleased to see, Sir, the Mahomedans are so very keen about education and about the rapid expansion of education among their community. I am disappointed in the apathy that is generally shown by the backward and intermediate communities of the Central and Southern Divisions; compared to them the Mahomedans are far keener and have done much better than their compeers of the Hindu backward community. I shall just point out the policy of this Government in respect of Mahomedan education and beg to place before this House the fact that the criticism that was levelled against me was due more to the neglect of my department in advertising their work. I am very sorry that the department is not advertising what they have been doing. We shall have to be more careful in future and take the earliest opportunity of informing our friends that Government is not only not negligent to promote Mahomedan interests, but on the whole that the Government have been more careful about affording facilities for Mahomedan education than they have been

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

in the case of other communities, including the backward and intermediate classes.

An Honourable MEMBER : Why this partiality ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : My honourable friend asks me : Why this partiality ? The only reply is that the Mahomedans carry on more agitation.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : I do not think so.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Well, I shall quote some figures to convince my honourable friend the Moulvi saheb. As a matter of fact, if the pages of the Director of Public Instruction's report are turned, it will be found that the number of Mahomedan teachers in the Urdu schools is very large. Urdu schools are wholly manned by Mahomedan teachers and at the same time vernacular schools have got a large percentage of Mahomedan teachers. The exact figures are given in that report. For encouragement of primary education and supply of more Urdu teachers, Government have been maintaining two central schools exclusively for Mahomedans, and this year provision has been made for two more schools. This is a provision made only for the Mahomedans and no other community has ever been given this concession.

An Honourable MEMBER : What about the depressed classes ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : There is only one for the depressed classes for students attending high schools.

Then, with respect to scholarships in high schools, the press note issued in August 1924 will show that for every 15,000 of Mahomedan population one set of scholarship has been provided throughout the presidency. But in the case of the intermediate classes and the backward communities one set for every 50,000 of the population has been provided. In that respect, Sir, the Mahomedans are treated more than three times more favourably, and still the Mahomedans are complaining that their interests are neglected. The third year training class has been abolished in all the training schools but has been specially conducted for training Mahomedan teachers in Urdu, and yet I am pained to see that Mahomedans are charging me with neglecting their interests.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Why was the third year class kept for the Mahomedans ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : At the request of the Mahomedans.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Is that so ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Yes. As for Sind, my honourable friends will admit that a lady has been appointed for aiding and encouraging education among Mahomedan girls. With regard to the Hyderabad boarding house, I may inform the House that the order for handing over the building has been passed and my honourable friends know that. They have not yet taken possession of it. They think that

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

the rooms that will be handed over to them will not suffice for their purpose, that the accommodation will be inadequate, and I have promised them to look into that question and to try my best to see what can be done. So in that respect, too, Government has not been neglectful. Government have issued their orders. But everything cannot be done from headquarters : It is the local officers who have to see how these orders are to be brought into effect, and if the local officers are not sufficiently sympathetic, then I think my honourable friends, the Sind members, are alert enough to bring their apathy to the notice of the Director of Public Instruction and, if necessary, of the Minister, and I may assure them that we are not neglecting their interests. I do not remember, Sir, that we have gone back on our promise at any time, or that I gave them any promises when they came to meet me and promised to do some things and simply forgot them until they came again to remind me of the promises I had made. As for a high school at Mirpurkhas, provision has been made for taking its control under Government and I have promised them that the 6th standard will be opened this year in that school. It is to be raised to the position of a high school no doubt, but a high school can be developed gradually, and when the 6th standard is added this year, I think the 7th standard can automatically be added next year and it will be a full high school. As for giving more grants to the Sind Madressah, the matter is under the consideration of Government. The Madressah is getting a regular grant under the Grant-in-aid Code, and if a strong case is made out for a special grant under the Grant-in-aid Code, Government will not be remiss in considering it carefully and sympathetically. The high school is doing very good work no doubt and deserves encouragement.

As for the number of Mahomedan teachers in the province of Sind, I must admit that they are suffering a great injustice in that respect. Provision is being made for appointing more deputy educational inspectors, and when the control of primary education is handed over to the district local boards, which in the ordinary course will have a Mahomedan majority, I think the president and the members of the school boards of the district local boards will be able to give more encouragement to Mahomedan education, because they know the facts and they will be in a position to decide how to accomplish it. Government on their part are ready and willing to give them every assistance and facility.

During the last year, Sir, certain resolutions were taken and the policy of the department had come under criticism of this House, but on the whole I may flatter myself that no serious defects have been pointed out. A good deal of complaint has been made about the Primary Education Act which was passed by this House and also about the rules made under it. No human effort is ever perfect and no piece of legislation or any body of rules is to be looked upon as final. It is for the district local boards to take over the management, to work the Act and the rules, and to see whether they are unworkable and find where amendment is necessary.

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

Government do not say that the rules that are framed and the Act that is passed are the best of their kind, and do not bear any correction or amendment. Government will be only too glad to meet the district local boards half way in improving the administration of vernacular education by the district local boards. Government do recognise the difficulties under which vernacular education lies. The education in five different languages is managed under a system which is the same for all districts and for all provinces, although there are vast differences in the ideals and civilisation and manners of the various communities residing in the various districts. If the district local boards will take over the management of the schools, they will be able to develop vernacular education according to their own ideals. With regard to the question of text-books, it may be said that they may be changed and better ones introduced by the district local boards themselves. The only condition is that the department's sanction for these books is to be taken. I may, in this connection, bring to the notice of the House that two text-books prepared by the National University of Gujarat have been sanctioned by the department for use in the vernacular schools. The department does not look to the persons who prepare the text-books, but to the subjectmatter of books themselves, and if there is nothing objectionable in it, the department is willing to allow their use. Great latitude has been provided for in the Act in this respect, and it is hoped that by this freedom, better authors will come forward to write books, and in this way vernacular literature will be encouraged.

As for the policy of Government, I may point out one thing. The friction that was experienced between the department and the national schools has wholly disappeared, and I think ere long the two branches will work harmoniously and in union. I do not think I need take up the time of the House any longer.

I stand here on the goodwill of the House, and the goodwill of this House I claim on the strength of my deeds. If the House thinks that I myself and my colleagues have not done well, and have betrayed our trust, we are ready to lay down our office. (Honourable Members: Hear, hear). We are here, Sir, to serve our country (Honourable Members: Hear, hear), and the advancement of the country as a whole is our goal. There may be differences of opinion. One person may think that a particular line of action will lead to the goal earlier than other methods, but at the same time, I am ready to acknowledge that every one of us here is actuated by the same motive, is actuated by honest motives for the advancement of the country. Differences there will be, differences there are, and differences there must be; without differences society cannot stand. I therefore leave my case in the hands of this House.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): Sir, in view of the sympathy shown by the honourable member towards national aspirations, and as my object to criticise the policy of the department and to ventilate grievances has been sufficiently served, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my motion.

Question put and leave granted.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, I beg to move for a grant of Rs. 1,95,70,000 for Education.

Question put and demand granted.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, I move for a grant of Rs. 6,84,000 for European Education (reserved).

Question proposed.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : Sir, I beg to move the motion that stands in my name, namely :—

“Reduce by Rs. 5,000 special provision for further building grant to Bishop's High School, Poona, Rs. 25,000.”

Sir, I propose this reduction for the very simple reason that according to the rules in this behalf I am told that the Bishop's High School, Poona, will not be entitled to a sum of more than Rs. 20,000.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, I accept the reduction, in accordance with the statement I made in the Finance Committee.

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, I now move for the reduced grant of Rs. 6,79,000.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South) : Mr. President, I rise to oppose this total grant ; not that I do not desire education for that particular community ; I should rather wish for more and more education in that community, so that our conditions may also improve. But I want to protest against what I consider to be the ill-treatment of the Honourable Minister in charge of Education. I stated in the general discussion last time that when Education is a subject in charge of an Indian Minister under the Reforms Act, I could not understand why the Honourable Minister could not be trusted with the education of Europeans in this presidency. I do not know if the position is the same in all other provinces. If it is, it shows the very sorry state of the Indian gentleman selected by the Government themselves.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I rise to a point of order. Is the honourable member in order in discussing whether this should be reserved or transferred.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : It is reserved under the Government of India Act.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : Yes, Sir, but.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : What I was pointing out was that European Education is reserved under the Devolution Rules under the Government of India Act. It is not a question of distrusting the Minister, but it is provided by law that it shall be reserved.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : I understand that the authors of that law are some Government, against whom I protest. My protest goes to the very root of the formation.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : It is so under the Government of India Act and the rules made thereunder.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : I can still find a way out. If the Honourable the Home Member says that it is not due to any distrust, why should it not have been in charge of an Indian Member of the Executive Council ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The honourable member ought to know that the distribution of reserved portfolios among the different members of the Governor's Executive Council is exclusively vested in the Governor himself.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : Sir, my only object was to protest either against the Devolution Rules or against the unequal distribution....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The honourable member cannot protest against the Act.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : I have already protested, and I have nothing more to say.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The question is :

That a provision of Rs. 6,79,000 be made for European Education, Education (Reserved).

Those in favour will say "Aye"; those against "No." (After a pause.) I find the Noes have it. If honourable members will not be sufficiently vocal, I cannot help it.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I call for a division, Sir.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The tellers are Mr. Nariman and Mr. Kothari for the Noes, and Mr. Woods and Mr. Montgomerie for the Ayes.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : I suggest, Sir, that it should be put again, in order to save time.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : It is suggested that I should take a division by asking honourable members to get up in their seats.

Those in favour of the motion will rise in their seats. (A large number of honourable members rose in their seats.) Those against will now rise. (No honourable member rose.) None is to be seen. I am very glad to find that wiser counsels have prevailed with those honourable members who shouted "No" with such vigour.

Motion carried.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, I beg to move :

That a provision of Rs. 77,000 be made for Scientific Departments (Transferred).

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Sir, I beg to move :

That a provision of Rs. 21,000 be made for Ports and Pilotage (Reserved).

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, I beg to move :

That a provision of Rs. 1,62,20,000 be made for Police (Reserved).

Question proposed.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South) : Sir, I beg to move :

Reduce by Rs. 50,000—Detailed Head 26A—City Police—Pay of 47 Sergeants—Rs. 1,21,168 (Civil Estimate, page 119).

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

Now, Sir, ever since I joined this honourable House, I have raised a protest against the invidious treatment which has been held out to the Indian members of the police, not only in this city, but all over the presidency. I began my protest by putting various interpellations in the Council, and I got several replies which went to show that in all other departments as well as in this department there has been a sort of preferential treatment based on the same hypothesis or theory against which we have been protesting, namely, the white man's supremacy. But in no other department is the invidiousness more apparent than in the Police Department in this city and in this presidency. The present motion refers to the sergeants in the city police only, but I find from the White Book the same distinction is made all over the presidency including the railways, the B. B. & C. I. Railway and the G. I. P. Railway and I have given notice of reductions in all places where there is such a distinction. Now, I rise to clear up this matter once for all. During the last budget discussion I drew the attention of the Honourable the Home Member to this inequity, which has been existing for a long time and causing just discontent amongst the Indian members of the force, and I expected, Sir, from the manner in which the replies were given—they appeared to me to be sympathetic—that at the earliest opportunity that inequity would be sought to be removed. I am really disappointed to find, Sir, that instead of making an attempt, even a beginning, to remove that inequity they have sought to perpetuate it for at least one year more. I think we ought not to have it any further if this House desires to do justice to their own countrymen. I may tell you clearly that so far as the iniquitous treatment between the two is concerned, I can understand it if it is on the question of merit. On their own admission, which I can prove from the reports, they are equally satisfied with the duties discharged by the Indian members as well as the European members of the staff. I can nowhere find in any of the reports, even an allegation or suggestion, that the Indians in the police staff are not fit or are not as fit as Europeans. If the differentiation is not based either on the question of merit or education or capacity, then we have to base it on the crime of colour. Simply because these gentlemen are sons of the soil, they are treated in a different manner from those who have been imported from a foreign land.

So far as education and merit are concerned, I can make it clear to the honourable House, if it has not already known it, that the Indian is required to pass at least the Matriculation examination. Then he has to undergo training for three years in the Nasik police training school at the sacrifice of time and labour and keeping himself away from his family for three years. If he passes his examination then he is appointed in the last grade and started on a salary of Rs. 125, so far as the city is concerned and in the mofussil on a salary of Rs. 80. What is the position of these lucky sergeants? Without any University qualification, most of them are recruited from ex-soldiers from the war. No qualification whatever, no training, no sacrifice of time or labour in the training school at Nasik or any other place. They are started on a salary of Rs. 200

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

with an annual increment of Rs. 5 up to Rs. 250, while in the case of the Indian staff his maximum salary is only Rs. 200. I have already stated that so far as the duties are concerned, the sub-inspector discharges the same duties as the sergeant and his responsibility is as heavy as that of a sergeant. So far as the qualification is concerned the Indians have better qualifications than the sergeants. In spite of this the distinction is allowed to exist. If it is merely a question of monetary loss, it would not affect so much. What is worse is the humiliation, the loss of self-respect. It is not only a humiliation on the members of the staff but it is a humiliation on their countrymen. It is a question of the rights and privileges of the citizens of this country. The result of this is that all their future prospects are blocked. Whenever there is a next vacancy, say the post of a deputy inspector or inspector, the vacancy is filled by the sergeant; because he draws a higher salary he is considered fit for that post. These sub-inspectors are to rot on Rs. 125 for years. These sergeants are promoted to post of inspectors, superintendents and so on. I have made a careful search of the Civil List and you will find there that in all the higher posts the white element is preponderating, superseding the Indian element, because they argue that the sergeants are started on a higher salary, and therefore they are entitled to promotion. Out of the total number of 38 inspectors, you will find that there are only 3 or 4 Indians. If Indians are considered fit to occupy posts like that of presidency magistrates and chief presidency magistrates and executive councillors and what not, why these poor gentlemen are not considered fit to be in charge of police stations? Out of 6 superintendents there is only one Indian. I ask the Honourable the Home Member to declare whether if this gentleman has been appointed as an experiment to a high post in an important division of the city, he has not proved his efficiency and whether the experiment has not been successful. If he has proved himself efficient and if the experiment has proved successful, why should you bring men from the lower grades for these posts, superseding the Indians? I have not a good word to say about the police as a whole; but when we have to make a distinction between one man and another, we have to say that one is worse than another. Therefore by comparison, if one Indian superintendent has discharged his duties more justly, why should you not throw open the door to the other Indian members of the police staff....

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Is the honourable member referring to Rao Bahadur Tawade.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : I see his name is Mr. Tawade.

If the Honourable the Home Member agrees, we agree that the experiment so far as this gentleman is concerned has been successful, why not give chances to other Indians also? I can say from what little knowledge I have of him that further experiment will equally prove successful.

From my point of view, an Indian officer is more fitted and better qualified for the policing of the city population than the other gentlemen,

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

because these gentlemen have got to deal with the illiterate Indian population. Most of the population in the north of the city are illiterate. Unfortunately these sergeants are not conversant with the language of the people with whom they have got to deal. Because he is not in a position to take down the complaint himself, he has to employ a havildar to translate to him the complaint. A muddle is created. While the complainant says one thing, the sergeant takes down quite a different thing. When these complainants come into court, they protest that they never said anything of that sort. So, no question of language or population with whom they have to deal is taken into consideration except the fact that they belong to the ruling nation, and I find no other justification for this differential treatment except that of the colour bar. When we are fighting for the rights and privileges of our countrymen in the colonies, I think it is our duty first to fight for equality in our city, in our province, in our country, before we clamour for the rights and privileges of our countrymen elsewhere. As we are at present, with what face can we fight for the rights and privileges of our countrymen outside? So far as this matter is concerned, it affects the non-Brahmins, the Mahomedans particularly. It does not affect a single gentleman of my community. It is only a question of principle. I hope the House will pass this motion.

Mr. A. MONTGOMERIE: Sir, I rise to oppose the motion. The honourable member who moved this motion referred to what he called the crime of colour. I think the colour he has referred to is the colour of the red herring he has drawn across the trail. I think there is no doubt whatever that the honourable member knows as we do, as well as the rest of the House knows why there is a difference between the pay of sub-inspectors and the pay of sergeants. It is based not on racial grounds, not on any ground about the ruling caste or anything of that sort, but simply on economic grounds. It is necessary to have in a force like the Bombay police force a considerable number of men who are accustomed to deal with Europeans, and who are men who have received proper training in the army. We have found that the best men we get for the purpose are ex-sergeants of the British army, men who are accustomed to deal with Europeans, men who are accustomed to handling a trained mass of men, men who are already made for us when they come to us; the least we can get them on is this Rs. 200 a month. Most of them, a very large number of them, come to us as already married. They could not live on anything less. We pay them the minimum that we can pay them in order to obtain their services. I have no objection whatever to seeing the pay of the sub-inspectors raised to the same amount, no objection in the world. In fact I will be quite prepared if the Finance Department would look at it for a moment. (An Honourable Member: Increase it). Increase it? I will certainly if the Council desires to give us a further grant in order to increase the pay of all sub-inspectors in the Bombay Presidency and I will be glad to do it. If the Council will give me the promise I will bring in the next Council a supplementary vote to increase the pay of the sub-inspectors of police. If I am assured

[Mr. A. Montgomerie]

that honourable members will pass that vote I will bring it up. (After a pause.) But I gather from the silence that the Council is not quite prepared to give me that grant for the increase of the pay of the whole police force. The point is that the pay has been fixed purely on an economic basis and not on racial basis at all. The honourable mover of this amendment said that this difference, this higher rate of pay, was used for determining future promotion. I entirely deny that. Promotion to the grade of deputy inspector or inspector is not based on the pay that a man was getting before promotion. If the honourable member were to look at the Bombay Civil List which gives the list of police inspectors in Bombay City, I think he will find that at the bottom of that list, (they are all on time scale) he will find in the lower rolls of that list an increasing predominance of Indian officers among the rank of inspectors who will in course of time rise to fill the post of superintendents. The honourable mover is aware that where we are satisfied with Indian officers we appoint them as superintendents. He said we had only one, but as a matter of fact we have two, the second of them, the senior one, is a gentleman of his own community. We are so very satisfied with that superintendent that on a recent vacancy in the post of deputy commissioner, he was put in to act as deputy commissioner in a highly responsible post. Unless the intention of the honourable member who moved this motion was to put the matter on a purely racial basis, I cannot see what his intentions can be. I do not think anybody will deny that these sergeants in Bombay, specially in the control of traffic, in the handling of masses of men when an occasion arises to deal with riotous mobs, are useful, necessary servants of the public. We pay them the least that they can live on. Their pay is not an extravagant pay. We find that we can get sub-inspectors on a lower rate of pay. Many of the sub-inspectors who are direct recruits are on the whole younger men than these sergeants. These sergeants who have put in a considerable time in the army, and some of them, many of them, are married in India. Their expenses are necessarily higher than those of younger men joining directly or even than those of the recruits from the lower subordinate ranks who have been promoted. I therefore strongly oppose this reduction.

An Honourable MEMBER: What about the knowledge of vernacular ?

Mr. A. MONTGOMERIE: I think you will find quite a number of police officers in the Bombay force who speak vernacular with considerable fluency. It is certainly true that there are difficulties about the vernacular, but we try to get men who do know something of the vernacular of the country. Most of them have spent some time in the country and picked up some part in the vernacular. I admit that this is the difficulty but at the same time their special qualifications do serve a particular purpose, and they form a very good element indeed in the force, and they are particularly useful in outbreaks of real trouble.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities) : Sir, I have followed with keen interest the speeches of my honourable friend Mr. Nariman and the honourable member Mr. Montgomerie, the

[Khan Saheb A. M. Mansuri]

Home Secretary. However, I feel that the real grievance does exist so far as the sub-inspectors and deputy inspectors of Indian police are concerned. They have been long in the service and whenever they are due for promotion, some European sergeant who has recently entered the service and has not even got the least training is put over their head. Sir, without any injustice to the sergeants I should say that they are also a deserving class of officers, but at the same time we are born sons of India and we must look to our own countrymen. Sir, there are enough instances where the claims of these deputy inspectors and sub-inspectors are set aside and they have been passed over although they rightly deserved promotion. But at the same time it would not be denied even by this House that we ourselves are responsible in helping Government in this act of injustice because whenever an occasion offers we do not stand up to the occasion, we do not stand by the side of our countrymen. When there is a riot, we try to put more trust in the sergeants than in our own countrymen. I think this is one of our own weaknesses and we are responsible for it but now time has come when Government should look into this matter.

(After recess.)

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD (Central Division) : Mr. President, I want to say a very few words respecting this motion. Personally I do not like, Sir, that motions of this kind which embitter racial feelings should be emphasized and discussed in this House. But, Sir, we as representatives of the people naturally cannot approve of anything which would go totally against the interests of Indians. Personally I do feel that these sergeants are doing very useful work for the city of Bombay. I do not deny that. I go further and say that human nature and Indian nature being as it is, I think that the presence of these people no doubt carries some weight with the masses. But in order that this matter should not be based merely on racial prejudice and feeling, I make, Sir, a suggestion to the Honourable the Home Member and that is this : The only point upon which the honourable mover feels very strongly and makes others feel strongly is that the sergeants are a species by themselves. I would request the Home Member to make one Indian at least a sergeant, put one Indian at least in the rank of the sergeants, so that it could not be said that it was reserved for Europeans. The honourable member the Home Secretary defends the sergeants upon two grounds, upon grounds of economy and upon the second ground that the sergeants have a military training. I would request him that an Indian military officer of some experience recommended by a General or some military officers, who possesses the necessary military qualifications, should be entered as a sergeant, so that there should be no ground for us to resent racial inferiority involved in the exclusive composition of that body. If this suggestion, Sir, is accepted, it will take away the sting of the opposition. It may be that later on, if one is found useful, some more may be taken, but in order to take away the sting from the opposition, I would respectfully request the Honourable the Home Member to allow such a

[Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad]

concession. With this expression of feeling and suggestion, Sir, I conclude my speech.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE (Bombay City) : I must say, Sir, that the case that has been put forward by my honourable friend, Mr. Nariman, with regard to the Indian inspectors and sub-inspectors has been very fairly and justly placed. I will, Sir, not say that the pay of the sergeants is big, because I do feel, Sir, that as these gentlemen come down from England and are married officers, this pay of Rs. 200 is not large. But the question is, Sir, whether we are in a position to give them such a pay. We have been told by the Home Secretary that he is willing to pay the Indian sub-inspectors the same pay as he is paying to the sergeants, but this House should provide the funds. Well, Sir, for my part I should consider that the pay that is being given to Indian sub-inspectors who serve in this city is really low. The cost of living in this city has gone up and I do feel that their pay ought to be increased. But the question is where to get the money from ?

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : From the reserve.

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE : I myself feel that the Government can effect economy in the various departments and if they do so, I am sure, Sir, that they will be able to find a little more money for the Indian sub-inspectors. I am glad, Sir, that the Home Secretary has admitted, and rightly admitted, that the sub-inspectors are capable and able to do their work satisfactorily, and I do admit, Sir, that the sergeants at present in the police grade and especially police officers that have been introduced into our city at present are much more civil than those whom we had before. I do feel, Sir, that this is the result of the military training or at least due to the fact that the Government have been more careful with regard to the treatment of Indians. Whatever it may be, Sir, my whole object in standing up is that the pay of the Indian sub-inspectors must be increased for their services in this city and that the Government must be able to find out, from the large funds at their disposal, money for increments to these people.

Sir, I do not agree with the views of my honourable friend from Poona (Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmed) when he says that the Indians may be styled as "Sergeants". As far as I have studied the question, the duty of the sub-inspector and that of the sergeant is one and the same, only the European gentleman is called the sergeant and the Indian gentleman is called the sub-inspector, and in fact I do not see that there is any dispute among them with regard to this name. Then, with regard to the suggestion that retired Indian military men should be recruited as sergeants, I say, Sir, that this is impracticable and not a wise step. A retired officer would certainly be above 50 or 55 and we cannot recruit an old officer for this kind of work. I do say that the sub-inspectors, knowing the conditions of the people, the customs of the people and the language of the people, would be and are likely to be more successful officers than the gentlemen from England, as far as police stations are concerned, and it would be really in the interest of the city and of the people that

[Mr. Hooseinbhoj A. Lalljee]

these sub-inspectors are placed in charge of police stations. I am really glad that Indian gentlemen have been given positions of superintendents and deputy commissioner, and I am also glad that the Home Secretary has frankly stated that they have deserved their promotion, and I do feel that such promotion ought to be given. If Government are not able to find funds for paying more to the Indian sub-inspectors who really deserve a little more pay in consideration of the hard economic conditions, then I should suggest to the Honourable the Home Member that he should reduce or stop recruiting from England, and the little saving which could be effected thereby should be paid to the sub-inspectors. He need not reduce the pay of the sergeants, as Rs. 200 is not a good salary for a man with a family, and therefore, in the interest of efficiency and fair play I should ask the Honourable the Home Member to decide to give something more to the Indian sub-inspectors from the reserves at the disposal of Government, or to curtail the recruiting of the sergeants and give that little saving to the Indian sub-inspectors. There is no use in keeping these people unsatisfied, and I do hope that the Honourable the Home Member will make his position clear in this respect.

Mr. V. A. DABHOLKAR : Sir, I rise to oppose the amendment moved by my honourable friend from Bombay (South) for the reduction of the grant by Rs. 50,000. The grounds that he has put before this House are that these sergeants should be put on the same level as regards pay with the Indian sub-inspectors. We have heard times out of mind (Mr. B. G. Pahalajani: Times out of number), I repeat, times out of mind from the honourable member for Bombay city, the mover of this amendment, that he did not like to see a large number of people in the city unemployed, and here now he is coming forward to move a motion for the reduction of the salaries of the sergeants. Sir, his grounds are that these salaries should be on the same basis as the salaries of the sub-inspectors. The first question I should like to put to the honourable member is whether the pay that is given to a police sergeant is more than what he deserves. If that is so, then his amendment would be quite in order. But as long as he has not been able to prove that the start that is given to a police sergeant is more than what he deserves, than the honourable mover of the amendment has no grounds to complain.

Coming to the question of the salaries of the sub-inspectors, my honourable friend must understand that these sub-inspectors are chosen from among those who have passed the matriculation examination, and they receive training for three years in the Nasik Training College. May I know from the honourable mover of this motion what is the starting salary of a matriculate in Bombay? I should put it at the modest figure of Rs. 60. Does he get in three years cent. per cent. promotion to Rs. 125, so that the honourable member could protest against the salary of the sub-inspector being fixed at Rs. 125 as being too low, because his qualifications are that he is a matriculate and then he gets three years' training in the Nasik Training College? In fact he gets a start of Rs. 125 at

[Mr. V. A. Dabholkar]

once, and that means a decent living wage. I should be certainly happy if the salaries of these sub-inspectors are increased, and if any resolution to that effect is brought forward by my honourable friend who has moved this motion, I shall be the first person to support it.

Now, the question is this: we all know that in the city of Bombay there have been very many motor accidents, and as such many of us had found fault in the past with the police for bad regulation of traffic. I know it for certain that ever since the appointments of sergeants at dangerous corners of the streets in Bombay for the regulation of traffic, the number of motor accidents is reduced. That is a fact which cannot be denied by the honourable mover of the amendment.

Then, Sir, coming to the question of the good work that the sergeants have done,—it is a bit superior to the work of the sub-inspectors, and I am not afraid to say so—I should like to refer to the question of the hawker nuisance. The honourable mover knows for certain that it was at the desire of the Bombay Corporation that all the hawkers in the city are licensed. (An Honourable Member: They are not.) If the honourable member is not aware of it, I am rather sorry. With regard to the question of hawker nuisance, certain areas or limits in the public streets have been allotted to these hawkers, and thereby much of the nuisance and obstruction in narrow streets, like that of Bhuleshwar, has been removed. What did we find in the old days, for instance, in a street like Bhuleshwar?

Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE: I rise to a point of order, Sir. What has the municipal licensing of hawkers got to do with the present question?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: What relevancy has that to the present question, unless the honourable member's contention is that this hawker nuisance could not have been removed by Indian sub-inspectors, but it was removed by European sergeants? If that is his argument, it would be relevant. Otherwise, what has the present question to do with the municipal licensing of hawkers?

Mr. V. A. DABHOLKAR: My submission is this: the question of the salaries of the sergeants and the sub-inspectors has been raised, and a comparison.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Does the honourable member want to make a comparison, and contend that the nuisance would not have been removed by the Indian sub-inspectors, but that it has been removed by the sergeants?

Mr. V. A. DABHOLKAR: That is what I was driving at.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Then say so; come to it direct.

Mr. V. A. DABHOLKAR: I cannot come to it all of a sudden. If I am interrupted, it is not my fault. I was not allowed even to complete my sentence. I do repeat that the work of sergeants in the matter of traffic regulation and the removal of the hawker nuisance in the city of Bombay has been better than before, when it was in charge of sub-inspectors in certain parts of the city.

[Mr. V. A. Dabholkar]

Take, again, the question of labour strikes. I hope that I shall be supported by the nominated member representing Labour from Bombay when I say that in the matter of labour strikes, these sergeants have been very useful, and they have been doing their work far more courageously than sub-inspectors. Even some of the honourable members who have supported the motion have admitted that on account of the military training that the sergeants receive, they have been doing better work. That itself is proof of what I have said and the comparison I have made.

Some anxiety was shown by the honourable mover of the amendment that the salaries of the sub-inspectors should also be increased, and they should be put on an equal basis with that of the sergeants. I think Government has not ignored the rights of Indians. The facts are before us. They show that superintendents have of late been appointed from among Indians, and an Indian has been appointed as deputy commissioner of police. As such, whenever there are any occasions for Government to promote Indians to higher appointments, I am quite sure Government will not fail to consider their claims. Not only that, but if this House would vote a large sum of money to increase the salary of sub-inspectors, I think Government would be the first to accept that resolution, and thereby my honourable friend the mover of the amendment will be fully satisfied. Under these circumstances, I oppose the amendment of the honourable mover.

Mr. HOOSEINALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA (Bombay City): Mr. President, so far as I understand, the nature of the work done by the sub-inspectors and the sergeants is the same. Therefore, in my opinion, the question is whether the sergeants do better and more efficient work than the sub-inspectors. If they do not, and if the work done by the sub-inspectors is quite as good as the work done by the sergeants, then, there is no necessity of maintaining the sergeants on a higher pay, and in the interest of economy and retrenchment it would be better to do away gradually with the higher paid sergeants and to replace them by Indian sub-inspectors.

Mr. G. I. PATEL (Ahmedabad Millowners' Association): Sir, I put certain questions in regard to the differences between the pay of sergeants and sub-inspectors in the last session of the Council, and from the replies which I received I have reasons to believe that there is great inequality. The sub-inspector at the end of his whole career gets less pay than what a sergeant is given at the very beginning of his career. As regards prospects also, from my personal knowledge and enquiry I understand that there is difference in equality. A sub-inspector with longer service is not promoted to a particular post to which a sergeant with shorter service is promoted. It is this difference which creates a feeling of dissatisfaction among the sub-inspectors. I shall be glad to hear from the Honourable the Home Member if these distinctions have been wiped out or corrected since he gave replies to my questions.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Mr. President, I should like to intervene at this stage and state briefly what is the position with

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

regard to the superior grades of the Bombay city police force. I think then we shall be in a better position to discuss the whole matter.

I must emphasize the fact that we are now discussing the Bombay city police force : we are not discussing the police force either of the city of Poona or of the city of Ahmedabād. We are discussing, Sir, the Bombay city police force; and I think it necessary to make that distinction, because the conditions in Bombay are very different in many respects from the conditions in the mofussil. It is conceded that in big towns like Poona and Ahmedabad, we have conditions somewhat similar to those in Bombay. But the differences which make it necessary for us to have a special city police force here are not so great in Poona and Ahmedabad as they are in Bombay. I suppose, Sir, it will be quite unnecessary for me to remind honourable members that this is a large city, continually increasing from day to day, with a very large industrial population, a great many millhands and a great many labourers in the various departments which are carrying on their developments in Bombay; that we have here a very large and important harbour with very extensive docks, employing very large quantities of labour brought from all parts not only of this country but of the world; that we have a large cosmopolitan population which includes not only Indians from all parts of India, but men from outside—it includes Arabs, Pathans and various European nationalities, who require rather particular treatment when their particular energies run counter to those of the police. It is therefore necessary, Sir, for this large city to maintain very special police force to deal with the peculiar problems which arise from day to day in Bombay. We have, apart from what I have indicated, the difficulty of dealing with those whom I might call predatory tribes who have caused so much loss in recent times in the city of Bombay, the difficulties of a city with a very large traffic which necessitates very constant control at all the important quarters of the town. We have also various other duties thrown upon the police in the city of Bombay which are not comparable to the duties which devolve on a policeman in the mofussil or in places outside this great city of Bombay.

Now, Sir, the superior staff which we have for controlling the very large police force, which I think totals some 4,000 men, consists of the Commissioner of Police, 4 deputy commissioners of police; under them a staff of superintendents; under them inspectors; under them deputy inspectors; and under them a class of sergeants who are Europeans and a class of sub-inspectors who are Indians, the classes of Europeans and Indians being on the same footing. The one are called sergeants, because that is the term usually applied to European policemen; the other are called sub-inspectors, because that is the term which is usually applied to Indian policemen. Now, Sir, we have in the past few years made every endeavour to give a fair proportion of these superior appointments to our Indian police officers, and I should like here to acknowledge the great services which have been rendered to this city by the Indian police officers in these superior posts. We have, as has already been pointed

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

out, only recently appointed an Indian to act as one of the deputy commissioners of police. We have at present two Indians who are in the grade of superintendents of police. One of them mentioned by the honourable mover, I believe, is doing very excellent work in his particular division. Superintendents are the officers who are in charge of what are called divisions. The city is divided into divisions and each division is divided up into police stations. The police stations are in charge of inspectors who work with the help of deputy inspectors, sergeants, sub-inspectors and a strong force of police constables. Now, out of the inspectors I understand that there are about half Indians. I have not the exact figures, but I have got the Civil List here and on glancing through that I am told the numbers are 15 Indians out of the 37. That is a large proportion; it is not quite half, but it is getting on. That shows that we are making progress in enlisting, or rather in promoting Indians to the very responsible posts of inspectors, that is officers in charge of police stations and other important departments. Then, under the inspector at a police station there is usually a deputy inspector—I think in some police stations there are two deputy inspectors. Unfortunately the deputy inspectors are not shown in this green book, so that I cannot give you the exact figures. I have not got them here, but I know that the deputy inspectorships were opened only a few years ago to promoted sub-inspectors, and that a proportion of these deputy inspectors are now promoted Indian sub-inspectors. The deputy inspectors are recruited from the grades next below them, namely the Indian sub-inspectors and the European sergeants. And we endeavour to recruit as many Indians as we find really suitable for the responsibilities of the post of deputy inspector. Below the deputy inspectors, as I have already said, come the separate grades of sergeants and sub-inspectors. Now, this particular vote refers to 47 sergeants shown in the general executive force of the city of Bombay. There are besides these, other sergeants in charge of other departments, such as conveyancing, motor licensing, traffic control and so forth. Altogether we have 58 sergeants. I believe the honourable mover has not missed any of these in the motions he has put in for reduction. I think his industry has noted down with unerring finger every item in which the term “sergeant” appears in the White Book. I think we can trust him not to have missed any one of them. Altogether there are 47 sergeants in the executive force and 11 elsewhere in the city of Bombay making altogether 58. Against these 58 sergeants, you have got on the other hand 73 inspectors. You have therefore already got a larger number of Indians particularly in this grade. In this grade, under the principal item under discussion, the number of sub-inspectors is 59; but there are other sub-inspectors employed in the other departments. There are altogether 73 sub-inspectors, that is to say, you have 58 sergeants and 73 sub-inspectors in this particular grade. You have already a larger number of Indians than you have Europeans in this particular grade of the Bombay City Police Force. I am glad that the question of the employment of officers in this particular grade has not been run on racial lines but purely on one of economy

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

and efficiency, because I feel that is the only line upon which a question of this sort can properly be discussed as it involves the question of the maintenance of law and order in this great city.

Let us now consider what are the reasons for which we require European sergeants to work for our police. I have already alluded to the particular circumstances of this large city. This city has got a cosmopolitan population which requires particular treatment. In this connection there are, as every member here is aware, particular duties for which these sergeants are particularly fitted. They are moreover not uneducated men as has been suggested. It is true that they have not passed the matriculation examination; but I submit they have gone through a training which is very much more effective for the particular work that has to be performed by the police. The training of a British sergeant now-a-days is a training which any man may be proud to undergo. I suppose honourable members here do not know the training in the army. It is not restricted merely to physical exercise and drill, but there are schools in which the soldiers are educated. They have to pass examinations and they are regularly trained intellectually for their various duties. Modern warfare requires a very much higher degree of intellectual education than was ever given to any soldier before. The training given to British soldiers now-a-days is very valuable and of a very rigorous kind, and that training eminently fits them for the duties which ordinarily fall upon policemen. From the point of view of training, I do not think anything can be said to the detriment of their training as compared with the training of young sub-inspectors. In fact these sergeants are specially selected men who have served with good character and efficiency for long periods in the army. They are selected men, whereas the young sub-inspector is a man newly recruited who has to learn his work from the beginning. The sergeant suffers, it is true, from the handicap of not being so familiar with the Indian languages as Indian sub-inspectors, but he is a man who has been in this country sufficiently long to obtain a passable knowledge of the vernaculars sufficient to carry him through the duties, which fall upon him. The duties which are required of him are in some respects different from those of ordinary sub-inspectors. Whereas the ordinary sub-inspector would devote his time more to the investigation and unravelling of crime, the European sergeant has to deal with matters of rather a rougher nature. He has in fact to undertake a larger part of the rough and tumble of the policeman's life. That a policeman's life in this big city is a life of rough and tumble, I suppose no one in this House is prepared to deny—certainly no one who remembers the riots which have unfortunately from time to time defaced this great city. I submit, Sir, that it is most important that we should have in Bombay a portion of our superior staff trained in military science so as to be able to deal effectively with tumults or riots. It is most important that we should have these sergeants who are accustomed to face the music and will do it and will not hesitate to take the responsibility, which may be necessary to quell tumults and riots and prevent their spread to the other parts of the town and prevent the resulting loss of

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

property and misery to the population of this city. On these sergeants falls the larger portion of the responsibility of protecting us during times of riots. These are the officers also who were particularly useful when we had to deal with such gentlemen as Arabs or Pathans or other gentlemen of that class of whom there were so many in this city. I am glad to say that their numbers have been very largely decreased by the drastic action taken, not many months ago, by our police. I suppose everybody here remembers the round up of Pathans and the number of these gentlemen who were politely requested to return to their homes in the north. Then, apart from this question of maintaining law and order and protecting the valuable property and lives of our citizens, there are other more peaceful duties for which they are particularly fitted. There is foremost the question of traffic control. That, Sir, is a peculiarly difficult business. I suppose anybody who has lived many days in Bombay can realise the difficulty of controlling this vehicular traffic which has so much increased during the last few years in Bombay, and I think they will also agree with me that the control of that traffic has very materially improved in the last few years, and I think great credit is due to the particular traffic department. I may mention here for the information of honourable members that we have formed a special traffic department for this particular purpose, and that officers have been sent home to England to specially learn the business of traffic control which is so well known to the police in London. It is essential that you should have these European sergeants to efficiently control the traffic and prevent street accidents in Bombay. I have dealt now with the question of retaining them in the interests of efficiency in these particular matters, and I hope honourable members will have followed me so far and will have agreed with me that it is necessary. It is also necessary in the interests of the general efficiency of this large police force that we should have a certain number of European sergeants. It is a large police force which now numbers nearly four thousand men, their duties include the disciplining of this large force and no one is better qualified to discipline a large body of men like this than the British sergeants who have been accustomed to the discipline of a British regiment.

I now turn, Sir, from the question of efficiency to the question of economy and it has been objected by several honourable members that we are not as economical in this matter as we should be. While on the other hand, Sir, some honourable members have accused us of not spending so much money as we ought to on these same grades of officers; some have asked us why our sergeants' pay is so much, others have asked us why sub-inspectors are paid so little. It is rather difficult for me therefore, Sir, to satisfy all sides of the House. But with regard to the pay of these officers I will first give figures. Then we shall be in a position to talk about it. I begin with the pay of inspectors, the officers in charge of the police station. The pay of an inspector is Rs. 300 rising by Rs. 10 to Rs. 400 a month. Now that pay is given whether the inspector is a European or whether he is an Indian. There is no difference. That is considered to be the pay which is required to obtain the necessary

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

officer for this very responsible post of charge of a police station. Then deputy inspectors, who are also equally European and Indian, get Rs. 275 a month. That is Rs. 25 less than an inspector and that again has been thought to be necessary in order to secure a man of the proper stamp for a deputy inspector, a man who might at any moment be called upon in the absence of the inspector to take charge of the police station. Then we have the grade below of sergeants and sub-inspectors. The sergeants of police are paid Rs. 200 rising by Rs. 5 to Rs. 250, while the sub-inspectors are paid Rs. 125 rising by Rs. 5 to Rs. 200. So there is, Sir, a difference between the pay of the sergeant and the pay of the sub-inspector. I have already referred to the fact, Sir, that the sergeants are generally men who have undergone a longer training than sub-inspectors. So that, quite apart from the question whether European or Indian should be paid the same, it is justifiable for me to argue that it is necessary to pay a higher trained man a higher salary than a man who is a recruit. For a sub-inspector who is newly recruited has to put in 18 months training at the cost of the State before he is a fully qualified sub-inspector. I think, Sir, that from the economic point of view it is a perfectly justifiable argument that the latter is a young man learning his work and therefore should not be paid so much as the other man who is a man who is practically already trained. Then, Sir, there is this other economical question which was referred to by the honourable member the Home Secretary and that is that you cannot get a British sergeant for a less pay. You won't get the selected men who have done good work as British soldiers to serve and remain out of their country on a lesser scale than Rs. 200 to Rs. 250. If you reduce it, you will not get the same kind of men, they will go home and seek for better employment there. If you want to get selected British sergeants you have to pay them a reasonable wage and that wage has been found by experience to be not less than Rs. 200 rising to Rs. 250 (An Honourable Member: What about house rent). The police get no house rent. They are all provided with free quarters, both Europeans and Indians. They get no house rent. They get free quarters. We have now, I am glad to say, built quarters for nearly all our police men. Where we have not got quarters, the Commissioner is allowed a capitation grant at so much per officer, out of which he has to find and pay for quarters for them. The capitation grant is paid to the Commissioner of Police, who has to find suitable quarters for these officers. Sometimes he will have to pay rather more for one officer in an important locality and on the other he will save in another locality where accommodation is rather cheaper. But none of these officers get any cash paid to them on account of their quarters.

Now then, Sir, let us examine further the pay which is fixed for the sub-inspector. If this House thinks that the pay is too low and if we are advised by our experts who are acquainted with recruitment that it is not sufficient to produce right men by recruitment, then we shall most certainly consider the matter, and we shall bring in a recommendation to this House for increasing this pay, and I trust that if we do so after full inquiry and being satisfied that it is necessary, that the increased

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

pay will be passed and the money provided by this House. But, Sir, let us look at the position. The sub-inspectors in Bombay are given Rs. 125 rising by Rs. 5 to Rs. 200. Now sub-inspectors in the district, in the mofussil, get Rs. 75 rising to Rs. 160.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : Sir, I move a closure. The Honourable Leader of the House has spoken for 25 minutes.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I cannot accept the closure at this stage.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Of course, if the honourable mover has heard enough to make him withdraw his motion, I have nothing more to say.

An Honourable MEMBER : Do you accept the closure ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I will accept the withdrawal of the motion. If the motion is going to be withdrawn, Sir, the closure may be accepted ; I have no objection to it.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I have not accepted the closure ; will the Honourable the Leader of the House go on with his speech ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I was dealing with this question of the pay of the sub-inspector, because it has been recommended in some quarters of the House that it should be increased. I merely want to place the facts before the honourable members. I should like to hear their opinions. In the districts, the sub-inspector is paid Rs. 75 rising to Rs. 160. Here in Bombay, he is paid Rs. 125 rising to Rs. 200. I believe that clerks in the Secretariat, first-class honours men, who are taken on in the Secretariat, start, I understand, on Rs. 120, and they get no free quarters. Now, Sir, if we get first class honours men on Rs. 120 to come and serve in our Secretariat without getting free quarters, are we to say that we are paying the sub-inspectors too little, when we start them on Rs. 125—Rs. 5 over your honours men—and we also give them free quarters ? Sir, I am not at all averse to give these men more pay if it is really thought necessary, because they do very valuable work and I recognise that the life of a clerk in the Secretariat is a much more peaceful one than that of a sub-inspector. I recognise that there are strong reasons for giving a different rate of pay to the sub-inspectors. I merely mention these things, so that honourable members may consider whether the rates of pay are really reasonable or not. There they are. If there is a decided opinion that they should be raised, then I should be the last to oppose any such increase if any extra money is voted by the honourable House.

Sir, after what I have said about the special necessities of the special police force of the city and my remarks on the scales of pay allotted to them, I hope that this motion will now be withdrawn by the honourable mover.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South) : I was waiting, Sir, very patiently for all these 30 minutes to find if I could get any argument from

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

the Honourable the Home Member's speech in opposition to my contention or in support of his case. Although he has spoken for nearly 30 minutes, Sir, I may frankly state I have not come across a single argument whereon he could urge this House to oppose my motion or to accept his suggestion. I have not disputed—if I get an opportunity later I will speak on the efficiency or inefficiency of the police force—I have not disputed either the efficiency or the necessity or the utility of the existing sergeants, although as a matter of fact, from the exaggerated picture which the Honourable the Home Member has drawn, of this city without the force of these sergeants, I do not know what would be the fate of this city if we had not these sergeants. It would seem we would be entirely at the mercy of the Pathans and robbers, and so forth ! I would ask the Honourable the Home Member since when this system of sergeants was started in this country. I think for centuries we had better peace, better security, so far as life and property is concerned, without the institution of the sergeants. The institution is of recent growth and we have done without that all these years. They are useful in their own way ; so are the sub-inspectors. What I was waiting to see was whether the Honourable the Home Member maintained or stated openly that sub-inspectors were not efficient enough, were not good enough, were not deserving of the salary for which I am asking. That he does not maintain. He winds up by saying that " I am the first man to admit the efficiency of the Indian force in the police ", that they are equally efficient. He also gives instances where the Indian officers were deserving men, that they have discharged their duties very creditably, and so on. All along his arguments have been in support of my contention. The Home Member has given the different grades rising from the Deputy Commissioner and down to the sub-inspectors. We shall on a reference to these figures find that in all the ranks, the salaries of the Indians and Europeans are the same. If an Indian happens to be lucky enough to go up to the post of Deputy Commissioner, he gets the same salary as a European would get. If an Indian sub-inspector happens to be lucky enough to be promoted to the rank of an inspector, he gets the same salary as the European inspector would get. It is only when we come down to the grade of sergeants—whether we call them sergeants or sub-inspectors, it is only a difference in name, they are doing exactly the same duties—that you see this difference in pay. Why should this difference be maintained in one cadre ? I could understand a policy that all through the police force, the Indians should get less than the Europeans, no matter what the post. But to make such a difference only in one cadre or in one grade alone, which is more invidious and which they feel much more than otherwise, is a thing which I cannot understand.

Now, coming to the Home Secretary, he said something about the red herring. I did not quite follow, because his voice was too low. But I think it is a case of jaundice. It is not the case of a red herring or a red rag to a bull on this side of the House ; it is the case of jaundice on the other side, if they will not see plain facts. There have been known instances where sub-inspectors have been superseded. I have also worked

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

out these points and worked up this question, and I find a number of instances where sub-inspectors have rotted since the year 1910, 1912, and 1914 onwards as sub-inspectors, whereas the sergeants who joined so late as 1919-20 have gone up to the grade of deputy inspectors and inspectors. If the Honourable the Home Member will not object, and if you, Sir, rule that names may be given, I will mention the names.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member can make a general statement. If it is contradicted, I will allow him to give the details.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: I have got in my hands a brief list which shows that since 1912 there have been three sub-inspectors who are still sub-inspectors, one joined in 1910, one joined in 1911, one joined in 1914, and so on. Now let us look at the other list, how the European gentlemen have fared. Five or six European gentlemen who joined in 1919 within these two or three years have risen to the rank of deputy superintendents or inspectors. One gentleman joined in 1919 and one joined in 1922. That is the way in which these promotions are managed. As I say, I am prepared to give the details if the figures are challenged. The natural argument goes that a gentleman with a salary of Rs. 200 is entitled to a promotion before a gentleman with a salary on Rs. 125.

Now, coming to the point of education, I do not say university education qualifies a gentleman for police service in the city. We have got instances where even very highly educated men are wanting in good manners. I do not say that education alone will make good officers in police. But when you are giving them a special training, between the sergeant who has qualified himself for war service or active service and a gentleman who has qualified himself for civil service in the city, I do maintain that the second man would be more suitable for service for civil population. I do not say the sub-inspector would be qualified in the field service, but for the policing of a civil population I certainly say that a gentleman who has been trained up with a normal education—university education—would be better than a gentleman without any educational qualification at all. The instance has been given of riots and abnormal times. But even there, I maintain that if an Indian sub-inspector or any Indian officer goes into the crowd which is infuriated and tries to explain the position, he may be able to put down the disturbance sooner and better, without any casualties, than a sergeant with his experience of war would be able to do. I do not wish to give here instances of what the results have been when a sergeant is on the scene of such troubles. Personally, I think a sub-inspector, by means of persuasion, may be able to get better results than a sergeant by means of force; the sergeant often makes matters worse, and from a little disturbance it becomes a riot.

I must say, Sir, that I was very much surprised and shocked and pained that even on a question of equality of treatment to Indians, I find at least one Indian gentleman who has the courage of his convictions in opposing this motion. I could understand the attitude of the honourable gentlemen on the other side. There is one position which they have taken up, and they have got to maintain it,

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

but I really cannot understand the attitude of an Indian gentleman who can have the hardihood to oppose my motion when I am fighting for rights of equality for his own countrymen. I am glad that there was only one such honourable member, and I hope that in voting, as a matter of principle, there will not be even one member who would not allow this principle to stand that so far as treatment in this country is concerned, there shall be equality of treatment to Europeans and Indians alike.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Mr. President, I am sorry there was not even one single argument which the honourable member would admit as being intelligible. I did my best to make them intelligible to him ; I am sorry I have entirely failed. The honourable member is entirely beyond my powers of persuasion. I will not, therefore, say very much more. But I do not know what the honourable member was referring to when he said that for centuries we have got on in this city very well without any European sergeants. I suppose he goes back to the year 1660 or so, when Bombay was just beginning to rise from the little fishing village it was into a town of some importance. I do not suppose in those early days there was any such thing as a police force. In fact, Sir, the police force was not then invented ; it was only introduced very much later into England. So that, Sir, comparison from a state existing two to three centuries ago seems to me to be a very poor comparison and a very insulting one to the present magnificent city of Bombay.

I understand that the honourable member would be pleased to do without any British sergeants at all in the police force in Bombay. He would be glad if there were none at all. He does not even admit that a single one is necessary for the adequate protection of life and property in this city. Well, Sir, if honourable members opposite agree with that, let them vote out this sum altogether ; get rid of all the sergeants, get rid of the European Superintendents and all European officers. I submit however that we shall then receive very piteous petitions regarding such things as the Pathan menace, tumults and riots, seriously prejudicing the present prosperity and further progress of this great city.

I could not follow exactly the figures which the honourable member quoted from his paper of supersessions, nor would it be possible for me to go into the merits at such short notice. I do not know where he got his figures from. I do however maintain that the questions of promotion are gone into upon their merits and that in no case is a deserving Indian officer superseded by a European sergeant. I submit, Sir, that our Commissioner is very careful to see that justice is done to all ranks of this large police force. It would be quite impossible to control so large a force of 4,000 men, a force more in number than our battalions of troops, unless the head of that force was strictly just in his treatment of the men. I submit, Sir, that our present Commissioner of Police is essentially just in the treatment of his men, and he has, I am perfectly satisfied, the absolute confidence of all men of the force, both European and Indian.

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

I submit, Sir, that the honourable mover has not made out any case for interfering with the constitution of our police in this great city. I submit, Sir, that it is essential that we should continue to maintain a police force of the nature that we now maintain, if we are to give due protection to life and property in the city of Bombay.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : As a matter of personal explanation, may I say, Sir, that it is sought to be made out that I have moved for the total abolition of the sergeants, and the Honourable the Home Member has been arguing the motion from that point ? My motion is only for a reduction.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I am going to put it to the House.

Question put. House divided. Ayes 26 ; Noes 50.* Motion lost.

Division No. 12.

Ayes

BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
KARKI, Mr. M. D.
LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.
MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.

NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
PATEL, Mr. D. N.
PATEL, Mr. G. I.
POWAR, Mr. M. B.
PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSENALLY M.
SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
SAPTARSHI, Mr. C. M.
SOMAN, Mr. R. G.
SURVE, Mr. V. A.
SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
VELKAR, Dr. M. B.

Tellers for the Ayes : Mr. K. F. NARIMAN and Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLEE.

Noes

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
ATHAYLE, Mr. S. N.
BEDREKAR, Khan Bahadur I. M.
BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
BIJARANI, Khan Saheb SHER MAHOMED
KHAN
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
CLAYTON, Mr. F.
COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
FRANJI, Mr. K. S.
GHOSAL, Mr. J.
GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan
Bahadur SHAIKH
HARRISON, Mr. C. S. C.
HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
JEHWANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
KALBHOR, Mr. G. M.
KAY, Mr. J. A.

KAZI INAITULLAKHAN
LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
MACKIE, Mr. A. W. W.
MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUHHO,
Mr.
MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
OWEN, Mr. A. C.
PATHAN, Khan Bahadur JAN MAHOMED
KHAN
PATIL, Mr. D. R.
PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
PIR RASULBAKSH SHAH
PRATT, Mr. F. G.
SARDESAI, Mr. S. A.
SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH
SAYED MUHAMMAD KAMIL SHAH
SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
THAKOR OF AMOD, the
THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
WILES, Mr. G.
WOODS, Mr. E. E.

Tellers for the Noes : Mr. V. A. DABHOLKAR and Mr. J. ADDYMAN.

*This figure has subsequently been modified and declared as 49. (*Vide* page 1155.)

Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District) : Sir, I beg to move :

Reduce by Rs. 7,000 the item of Rs. 12,050 provided for Secret Service Money (Civil Estimates, page 142).

Honourable members of this House will find from the White Book that in the coming year Rs. 12,050 has been budgetted. In the current year the provision is Rs. 11,500, and the account for 1923-24 is Rs. 2,350. It appears to me that this secret service money is a sort of demoralising bribe to be paid to the informants, and it is on that account mainly that I object to this amount being increased in any way. If it had not been retained in the budget at all, I would have been very glad ; but now that it has been budgetted I only move for a reduction of Rs. 7,000 from the item.

Question proposed.

Mr. A. MONTGOMERIE : Sir, I rise to oppose this motion for reduction, on the ground that so long as some men are rogues and so long as the police are called on to protect the public against criminals, so long they must resort to the methods which the honourable member deprecates. It may be, Sir, very distasteful, and I have no doubt very often it is distasteful, to the police to have to induce one rogue by offers of money to tell them what he knows about some other rogue. But unless some proper provision for that purpose is made in the budget, the work of the police will be practically paralysed. The honourable member said that he would like to see it entirely omitted from the budget. I dare say that there are budgets of many States in which no provision is made for secret service money, but I am perfectly sure that in those States the money which is paid for secret service appears in the budget under some other head. It may be shown as milk for the Royal household, or travelling allowance, or it may be anything else. But no police could possibly carry on without it. We require the money for paying informers. Informers have to be dealt with. If the honourable member were to lose a large amount of his property, I do not think he will be particularly annoyed with the police if they discover his property for him by means of the expenditure of a little secret service money. There are all sorts of occasions on which it is absolutely necessary for the police to make enquiries involving expenditure which must be kept absolutely secret, and some provision must be made for that. I therefore suggest, Sir, that this provision is absolutely necessary and should be retained.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City) : Sir, I have listened very carefully to the remarks passed by the honourable member the Home Secretary, and I may say that they have not convinced me about the necessity of this provision. I think the honourable member the Home Secretary missed the point that has been urged by the honourable mover, namely, that out of Rs. 12,050 he wants to effect only a saving of Rs. 7,000. The honourable mover has not moved for the total omission of this item : he only wants a reduction of Rs. 7,000. From the figures that appear on page 144 of the White Book we find that the amount spent on secret service in 1923-24 was only Rs. 2,350 and for the year 1924-25 the figure jumped to Rs. 11,000, which is five times the amount spent during 1923-24. The

[Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar]

honourable member the Home Secretary has not given us any reason for this sudden leap in the expenditure. He has not shown why the expenditure mounted up from Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 11,000 during the space of one year. We want to know whether the whole of this amount was spent on the detection of ordinary crime or for engaging secret agents in connection with the political agitation. There is a suspicion on this side of the House that most of this money must have been spent on suppressing political agitation. If he gives us an idea as to the purpose for which the budgetted money was spent during the current year, the House will be in a position to determine whether the sum demanded for the next year is to be granted or not.

Mr. R. G. SOMAN (Satara District) : Sir, the honourable member the Home Secretary stated that this sum is required for setting one rogue against another. As my honourable friend from Poona pointed out there is a suspicion on this side of the House that the secret service money is mainly intended to engage agents to work against political agitators. The honourable member the Home Secretary has given us no idea as to the purpose for which this money will be spent. Even the instances he has given are not appropriate objects on which this money should be spent. Honourable members of this House may have heard of this secret service in connection with the agitation that is going on in Bengal. In view of the fact that the non-co-operation movement is not so much in vogue as it was said to be in 1921-22 and 1923-24, when the money that was spent was only Rs. 2,350, this House will not be convinced by any argument to sanction five or six times the amount that was spent in 1923-24 on secret service.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University) : On a point of information, I just want to ask my honourable friend opposite whether it is possible for him to inform this House as to how much of this amount was spent on political spies and how much on the detection of crimes of the nature stated by the honourable member the Home Secretary.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Mr. President, I am surprised that this small sum should have received the honour of attention of the honourable members of this House. The sum spent in 1923-24 was Rs. 2,350, which is not a very large sum. The estimate for the current year was Rs. 11,500 and for the coming year it is Rs. 12,050. The estimate is not for the city of Bombay only but it includes the presidency proper and Sind. I am afraid I could not give the details required by my honourable friend opposite, even if I knew them. If I did, the money would cease to be secret service money.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : I want only the amount.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I cannot give the amounts, because I do not know them. But it would not be possible to spend much out of this Rs. 2,350 on political agitators. I entirely agree that political agitation in the past years has been very small and that fact is reflected in the actuals for 1923-24. The whole of the amount

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

provided for that year must have been spent in ordinary investigation of crimes, in cases of burglaries, theft, dacoities, fraud and cases of that sort. I think that the small figure for 1923-24 shows further that due economy is exercised in the expenditure of this money. An estimate has to be made because the expenditure necessarily varies very much from year to year owing to variations in crimes. It is quite impossible to say at the beginning of the year whether there are going to be serious offences in which it will be necessary to spend money in order to get information which will lead to the detection of the offenders and the recovery, in cases of offences against property, of the property. The figures given are the estimates by the various departments which have been accepted on the past actuals including not only 1923-24 but previous years. Of course, if we are fortunate and if there are no serious offences requiring expenditure from this grant then the expenditure will not be made and there will be a corresponding saving. This item of Rs. 12,050 should be left as accepted by the Accountant General on the estimates of the responsible departments.

The cases on which we have had to spend money in the past are such as the dacoities which occurred in Kaira and Gujarat. We have to spend a great deal to get information in regard to such outbreaks. Other cases are frauds where money has to be spent in order to get information leading to the detection of the frauds and the recovery of the misappropriated property. Others are like the recent conspiracy to kidnap—I will not refer to it in detail, because it is practically *sub judice*—which caused so much stir and excitement in Bombay. In these and other cases it is necessary to spend considerable sums in order to obtain information which will lead to the detection of the offenders. I should therefore recommend to the House to leave this small sum as it is and trust that, if it is not necessary to spend it, economies as in 1923-24 so also in the year 1925-26 will be exercised by the responsible departments.

Question put and lost.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South): Sir, I beg to move:

Reduce by Rs. 10 lakhs—total demand under Police (Budget page 76).

I know, Sir, that it is at the fag end of the last day for the demands for grants that this item has come to be moved, and it will not therefore be possible for me to carry this motion to a division, but even in this short time which is available to discuss the policy of such an important department as the police department the House might avail itself of the opportunity, and I will therefore lay before the House what we consider to be the legitimate grievances and irregularities with regard to this important department. During the last debate on the reduction of the salaries of sergeants we were given a very vivid picture by the Honourable the Home Member about the so called efficiency and perfection of the police. Of course, the Honourable the Home Member on that occasion spoke only about the city police force, but I take it, Sir, his remarks applied equally to the whole police force in the presidency. Now, Sir, I may frankly admit that my experience so far as the police force is concerned is confined only to the city of Bombay, but I take it that so far as the police force

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

is concerned it is the same all over, whether in this city or province or any part of this country, and therefore the criticisms which commonly apply to the city police force will necessarily apply to the whole force in the province. First and foremost I wish to ask the honourable members on the other side whether, notwithstanding an increase in the force, and notwithstanding the exaggerated picture of the efficiency and perfection of the police that we have had in the last debate, the safety and security of the citizens, the lives of the citizens or their property are not neglected in any appreciable manner within the last three or four years. That is the real point at issue : the crux of the whole question. Considering the circumstances in this very city I would say, and say with a certain amount of regret that so far as personal safety and security are concerned it certainly has not improved in any appreciable degree. The position is just as bad and as insecure as it was during the last three or four years. In the budget discussion last year I said that in the Northern part of the city there is neither British Raj nor Police Raj, but Pathan Raj. The only difference that I could see is that so far as this year is concerned that kind of Raj is not now confined to the Northern part of the city but has spread all over the city. The most recent incident, if I may be permitted to refer to it as giving a vivid illustration of the insecurity of the Bombay City, a vivid illustration of the protection given to the citizens is the incident called the 'Malabar Hill outrage' which has unhinged not only this city or province but the whole country, the most shocking outrage in which the life of a useful young citizen has been lost. Sir, it is not in a dark part of Parel or Dadar or Mahim. It is not in a bye-way or a lane ; almost shortly after sunset, a few yards from the Commissioner's bungalow—the Commissioner of Police is the protector of the citizens of this City—not very far from Government House, a few minutes after sunset, we have the life of a valuable promising young citizen chopped off like that of a gutter rat in the streets of Bombay and not a policeman or a sergeant or a sub-inspector or even a constable could prevent it.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I should like to draw the honourable member's attention to the fact that that case is *sub judice*, that as soon as police inquiry is completed it will come before a magistrate and probably will go to the Sessions Court, and I cannot allow any discussion with regard to a case which is *sub judice*.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : I am quite aware of that, Sir, and knowing that, I do not wish to refer to the merits or demerits.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Whether the police was in default or not in this case will be investigated in the course of the trial when it comes up. I do not think the honourable member can attack the police on this vote in regard to a case which is *sub judice*. You can deal with the police in any other way you like.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : Very well, Sir. Apart from the particular case, I will refer to the general instances which have occurred in the city. As I said whereas the danger was confined at the time of the last budget discussion to one part of the city, now it has spread all over the city.

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

I do not wish to give this or that instance, but the citizens of this city are aware and no fresh facts are needed which are merely shocking, that even in broad daylight citizens' lives have been chopped off, their properties looted and their houses trespassed and broken into, and if you look at the police report you will find that nearly five thousand cognizable crimes have not yet been detected in spite of the large force of well trained European sergeants in the force. This is a very very edifying record. I would ask honourable members who have voted for the retention of this vote to read this report. My honourable friend the nominated member from Bombay City South gave a vivid description of how those sergeants have to go on detecting hawkers, troubling the citizens and arresting a great number of crippled beggars wandering about the streets interfering with the traffic in the city. I do not know what other crimes besides these the sergeants of the city police are engaged in preventing and detecting. I admit that these sergeants are very competent in arresting a number of hawkers and molesting them—long live the sergeants—and that they are also very competent in detecting very effectively blind and crippled beggars who could not move. These are very creditable actions for the appreciation of which the sergeants ought to be very thankful to my honourable friend.

Now coming to vehicular traffic and motor accidents, if you study this record you will find that this year there have been about 15 more accidents than the last year. Now, is the real and only function of the police to look after the hawkers and crippled beggars and the direction of street traffic? Is that the real function for which they are to be rewarded? I submit, Sir, that is not the real test of the police force. The real test is the safety and security of citizens and the safety and security of persons and property. In that, Sir, I maintain that inefficiency—I won't call it efficiency—inefficiency is maintained to the same standard.

MOULVI RAFI UDDIN AHMED : I rise to a point of order. The honourable member moves a motion for the reduction of 10 lakhs. According to the rules, he ought to justify it and point out where 10 lakhs ought to be cut, but, as far as the sergeants are concerned, we had already a motion and we disposed of it and is the honourable gentleman to take time now only about the sergeants ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I am afraid on a motion of a general cut there is considerable latitude in regard to the discussion as regards the whole police. The honourable member can deal with the whole policy underlying protection and the various measures adopted by Government for purposes of protection. Rulings have been given so frequently on the subject that I need not dilate upon them. This is a general discussion on the whole police force.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : I am thankful, Sir, for the little indulgence. The House is always thankful, Sir, for these little indulgences from the Chair—with a view to give fair opportunities to all sides—and appreciates them very much. I am reading, Sir, now from the Commissioner's

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

report quite within the purview of the present criticism. Page 18 of the Commissioner's report contains the following :

“Warnings to Editors, etc.—During the year, under the orders of Government, warnings were given to 20 editors, proprietors, publishers or press-keepers for non-compliance with the requirements of the law relating to presses, books and newspapers.”

That is another important function of the police, Sir. Giving warnings to editors, to help the Government to stop agitation not by having prosecutions in courts of law, but having the Commissioner of Police to send for these unfortunate timid gentlemen and to warn them. Twenty unfortunate editors, proprietors and publishers of newspapers, etc., were sent for and warned! I ask the honourable House whether this is a legitimate activity of the police. I could understand the activity of the police if the editors had transgressed the bounds of law or published anything seditious. Certainly it is the duty of the Government to prosecute them openly and in the courts of law. But is it the duty of the Police Commissioner secretly to send for them and warn them? These are the functions which we find, Sir, in the report. Similarly, I take it that in all the districts, in the mofussil, these are the activities of the police, and the real functions of the police, namely, protection of property and protection of life, are therefore naturally disregarded because they are busy with work which is not ordinarily the function of the police force.

Another point that I find, Sir, is that on one occasion the Honourable the Home Member himself visited a police station in this city. I remember an instance and mention it to show how things come to light and how things are arranged. On one occasion when I happened to be at a police station, I found that in the police station everything was being arranged to make it appear up-to-date, even the under-trial prisoners were made to appear to have been well-fed, well-clad and so on. I was informed that the *Chhota Governorsab* was going to visit, hence all those preparations. I waited in a corner and soon after saw the Honourable the Home Member step into the police station in right earnest and he inspected. He came, he saw, he conquered. After that, if we come and complain in this House about the unsatisfactory state of affairs in the police stations, the Honourable the Home Member will be ready to tell us : “I personally visited the place; I can say from personal experience there is no truth in this complaint, the police stations are as good as Government Houses, if not better; and the prisoners are all properly fed and looked after.” I say, Sir, that is not the way to look at our complaints. If you really want to know the truth about the police stations, how things are carried on there, if the Home Member really wants to know the inner working of it, let him go to a police station even as a complainant if not as an accused but not as a Home Member, with all things prepared, all the requisite preparations made to receive him. That is not the way he will know the real truth about the police station. I still suggest, if he could manage to conceal his identity, he should on a particular day or a particular night visit a police station and see for himself whether the complaints of the public with regard to some of the police stations are true or not. I know some instances where people actually dread a

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

police officer next only to the Pathan or a robber. Very often people prefer to suffer loss of property rather than complain about it to a police station, because, in addition to the loss of property there is loss of valuable time and a lot of worry. I say, Sir, if the Honourable the Home Member really desires to know the inner working of a police station, I should certainly advise him to visit incognito and not after giving full opportunity and previous warning to the gentlemen at the police station. I do not wish to take up the time of the House and therefore conclude.

Question proposed.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North): Sir, I am going to refer to the grievances of the people of the district of Kolaba in respect of the notification issued by that District Magistrate in reference to issuing licenses for music. Sir, the matter that I am going to bring to the notice of this House is a very fine instance of red tape carried to a very great extent. There is also some element of misunderstanding. How small misunderstandings lead to tragic consequences is very well illustrated by the case that I am going to narrate. Sir, in that happy district of Kolaba, up to the 9th of September 1924 it appears that there were no rules whatsoever—rules, I mean, of a written nature—in existence, and one fine morning the District Superintendent of Police discovers this very serious error and approaches the Collector, and both put their heads together and one notification is issued out. That notification referred to the whole district and it was a conglomeration of rules, good, bad and indifferent. About the rules, I may just point out one instance. No funeral was to be taken out without obtaining the permission from the police authority and the men had to apply for the license two days before the event occurred. That means that the rule if literally followed, would make the people keep their dead in the house for two days if they wanted music or the man had to give two days' notice that he would die, (Laughter). However, that is not the rule now; it has been changed. The rule was actually in the notification issued on the 9th of September. Then there was no exception made for leading religious processions. The president of the Pen municipality went out of his way, and drew the attention of the District Magistrate of Kolaba that the rules which were brought into force all at once were very harsh, and he should reconsider them. To the president they appeared so very harsh that they could be enforced only in times of martial law. That is the word which is the root cause of the whole misunderstanding. The president had not the slightest idea of casting reflections upon anybody, but the District Magistrate considered that a slight was cast on him, and he at once writes a letter to the president "Instead of writing to me officially, why did you not write to me demi-officially?". Here the ceremony and red tape began. Then ensued a good deal of correspondence, and both parties began to maintain that they were right. First of all, the Collector in his letter of the 7th says that the proclamation adds nothing new to the existing rules. That is the sentence I have taken out from the letter written by the Collector to the president of the municipality. Its implication

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

is quite plain. It says that it adds nothing new to the existing rules. Then the president says "Please furnish me with a copy of the rules to which you refer". Then the Collector says "The new rules are an attempt to make clear the existing position and practice which had not been inadvertently regularised by regular rules". That means that till that date there were absolutely no rules whatever in the district of Kolaba, and when the president of the municipality brought it to the notice of the District Magistrate, he tried to explain it away somehow. First of all, the Collector was under the impression that there were rules and he wanted to do nothing more than codify them. When the president scrutinises the matter, it comes to this that there were no rules, but he was referring to practice. Here you will see how the whole trouble originated. Then came the point of honour and recrimination. The Collector came to be under the misapprehension that the president had with some ulterior motives concealed from the knowledge of the municipality the letters which he had written to the president of the municipality. As a matter of fact, the letter was written by the Collector of Kolaba from his headquarters town, namely, Alibag, on the 7th, and in the ordinary course that letter reached the president on the 10th, and the municipal meeting was held on the 8th of December. Please note these dates. The Collector writes the letter on the 7th, it was received by the president on the 10th, and the municipal meeting was held on the 8th and yet, the Collector, under some misapprehension, charges the president of the municipality with deliberately withholding the correspondence from the knowledge of the members of the municipality, and his object was to create agitation. Of course, the president of that municipality appears to be a very spirited gentleman, and there was exchange of amenities. I will not take this House through all those amenities. But I must bring to the notice of the House the attitude and temper of the municipality. He says in his letter of the 15th "Let us forget and forgive the past, and strive to do good to the people with whole-hearted co-operation with one another". That is his attitude.

Now, let me draw the attention of this House to the form of the notification. I have in my hand the notification of the 9th, and you will see that this notification has at its foot the signature of the District Superintendent of Police. That shows that the whole thing was drafted by the District Superintendent of Police, and at the end you have the stamp "Approved" and signed, . . . "District Magistrate, Kolaba." Now, it will be seen that the first form of this notification contained some harsh rules, but by mutual exchange of opinions, the rules have been undergoing changes very often. The changes are all marked in the papers I have in my possession. But what I want to draw the attention of the House to is the fact that even if Government, in its administrative capacity, has to issue a notification, it has to pass through several stages. First of all, it must publish the draft notification in the Government Gazette. It must call for opinions of the public, and then those rules must be republished, and then only they come into force. Here you will see that an officer of the district issues the orders. No opinions are called for, and no public

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

body is consulted. Events have shown that the notification contained several very harsh rules, and yet that notification was brought into operation all at once, by pasting the rules on the *chavdi* of every town. Then, let me draw attention to the fact that at first rules were applicable to the whole district, but now they are applied to towns within the municipality. You will see what was the scope of the rules in the beginning, and to what narrow limits they have been dwindled down in the course of exchange of opinions.

Now, let me bring to notice one small point, as to how Government officers are not actually in the know. People inquired of the Director of Information whether these rules are in force, and that gentleman told them that those rules were not at all in force. I have got the letter of the Director in my hand, but I do not want to go through it. Therefore, the people there enquired of the sub-inspector of police on the spot whether the rules were in force, and he told them that they were in force, and they would have to obey them. Then came several complications: people enquired whether they would have to obtain permission for their religious processions, and they were told, 'yes.' Up to that time, no permission of whatever nature was required for religious processions, and to-day, by this innovation, they are all at once called upon to submit to the police notification. So, the people feel that they have a grievance: if any of the privileges which the people have been enjoying are to be retrenched, they should be retrenched at least with the consent of the people.

Now, I am speaking of only two rules that are in the notification as it stands to-day. I do not want to waste the time of the Council.

(It being 5 p.m., the last hour for budget grants, the Honourable the President applied the closure.)

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Sir, I ask for a grant of Rs. 1,62,20,000 for Police (Reserved).

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Sir, I ask for a grant of Rs. 26,49,000 for Jails and Convict Settlements (Reserved).

Question put and carried.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: If honourable members think that my declaration is not correct, they can ask for a poll.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Sir, I ask for a grant of Rs. 63,92,000 for Administration of Justice (Reserved).

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Sir, I ask for a grant of Rs. 1,54,000 for General Administration (Transferred).

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Sir, I ask for a grant of Rs. 1,03,73,000 for General Administration (Reserved).

Question put and carried.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Honourable members are entitled to ask for a division if they so desire. I want them to understand the

[The President]

constitutional position clearly. If on any question the House is dissatisfied with the declaration of the President, they are entitled to ask for a division.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Sir, I ask for a grant of Rs. 10,00,000 for Interest on Irrigation Capital (Reserved).

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Sir, I ask for a grant of Rs. 65,64,000 for Irrigation (including working expenses) Reserved.

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Sir, I ask for a grant of Rs. 26,000 for Scheduled Taxes (Reserved).

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Sir, I ask for a grant of Rs. 7,35,000 for Registration (Transferred).

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Sir, I ask for a grant of Rs. 41,49,000 for Forest (Transferred).

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Sir, I ask for a grant of Rs. 7,34,000 for Stamps (Reserved).

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Sir, I ask for a grant of Rs. 47,11,000 for Excise (Transferred).

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Sir, I ask for a grant of Rs. 58,86,000 for Land Revenue (Reserved).

Question put and carried.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Before the House adjourns I should like to draw the attention of honourable members to the occurrence of a mistake in the division which was recently taken. These mistakes are becoming so common that I must appeal to the tellers to be a little more careful in the manner in which they submit their report. The report shows that Mr. Punjabhai Thakersi has voted on both sides of the House. I call upon Mr. Punjabhai to state whether he voted for the Ayes or for the Noes.

Mr. PUNJABHAI THAKERSI : I voted for the Ayes.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Then the result will be modified. Correct records have to be kept. The motion will be noted as having been negatived, 26 votes for the Ayes and 49 instead of 50 for the Noes.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI : Sir, I wish to make a request that this House should meet on the 17th instant at 12 noon and adjourn at 3, to attend the ceremony of opening the Cattle Breeding Farm at Kandivli. It is a Government day and I have requested the Honourable the Home Member who raises no objection to it.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The honourable member Mr. Lalji Naranji desires that as a special case the House should meet at 12 noon on Tuesday the 17th instant and adjourn at 3 p.m. in order to enable honourable members to go to the function to which they have been invited. It is a Government day. Though I do not very much like the idea of changing the hours of meeting, I have repeatedly stated that if there was a consensus of opinion in the House I would accept it as far as possible. I should therefore like to know what the wishes of the House are, whether they desire to meet on Tuesday from 2 to 7 as usual, or whether they wish to comply with the honourable member's request to meet at 12 noon and adjourn at 3.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, I have no objection to raise on behalf of the official benches, if that is the general wish of the House.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : Sir, I wish only to speak on behalf of the Swaraj party, because my honourable friend opposite (the Honourable Sir Maurice Hayward) will be very angry if I claim to speak on behalf of the non-official benches as a whole. Speaking on behalf of the Swaraj party, I say that we have no objection.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The decision must largely remain with the House, and I will ask those honourable members who are in favour of meeting at 12 and adjourning at 3 on the 17th instant to rise in their seats. (*A large number of honourable members stood up.*) The condition I have laid down is satisfied. The House will meet at 12 noon on Tuesday the 17th instant and adjourn at 3 o'clock.

We shall now adjourn till 2 o'clock on Monday, the 16th March 1925.

Monday, the 16th March 1925.

The Council re-assembled at the Town Hall, Bombay, at 2 p.m. on Monday, the 16th March 1925, the Honourable the President, Sir IBRAHIM RAHIMTOOLA, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
ATHAVLE, Mr. S. N.
BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
BEDREKAR, Khan Bahadur I. M.
BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
BHUTTO, Khan Bahadur S. N.
BIJARANI, Khan Saheb SHER MAHOMED KHAN
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
BRANDER, Mr. J. P.
CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
GHOSAL, Mr. J.
GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH
GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
HARRISON, Mr. R. T.
HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
HUDSON, Mr. L. S.
JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
KALBHOR, Mr. G. M.
KARKI, Mr. M. D.
KAY, Mr. J. A.
KAZI INAITULLAKHAN

KOKANI, Mr. G. J.
 KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
 LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
 LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.
 LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 LINFORD, Mr. J. W.
 MACKIE, Mr. A. W. W.
 MAHOMED AYUB SHAH MAHOMED KHUERO, Mr.
 MANSURI, Khan Saheb A. M.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
 MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
 NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
 NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 OWEN, Mr. A. C.
 PAHALAJANI, Mr. B. G.
 PATEL, Mr. A. E.
 PATEL, Mr. D. N.
 PATEL, Mr. G. I.
 PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
 PATIL, Mr. D. R.
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 POWAR, Mr. M. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 PRATT, Mr. F. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSENALLY M.
 SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
 SAPTARSHI, Mr. C. M.
 SARDESAI, Mr. S. A.
 SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 SHIVDASANI, Mr. H. B.
 SURVE, Mr. A. N.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.
 SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
 THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
 TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
 VELKAR, Dr. M. B.
 WILES, Mr. G.
 WOODS, Mr. E. E.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order. Swearing in of new members.

The following members made the prescribed oath of allegiance to the Crown and took their seats:

Mr. R. T. HARRISON and

Mr. J. P. BRANDER.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Government Bills. Further consideration of the Court-fees Bill.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: It will be remembered that the Court-fees Bill was introduced into the Council some days ago. Government propose to withdraw that bill and postpone its consideration for the present.

*** BILL No. I OF 1925. A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND
THE BOMBAY RENT (WAR RESTRICTIONS)
ACT, 1918, AND THE BOMBAY RENT
(WAR RESTRICTIONS No. 2)
ACT, 1918.**

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Bill No. I of 1925.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Mr. President, I rise to move the first reading of *Bill No. I of 1925, [A Bill further to amend the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions) Act, 1918, and the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions No. 2) Act, 1918].

The honourable House is aware that certain provisions of this bill lapsed on the 31st August 1924 and that the whole bill will lapse on the 31st of December 1925. Government, after mature consideration, have come to the conclusion that the Acts should be extended by 3 years only for residential purposes and for a certain class of premises. They feel that the labouring and the lower middle classes should continue to live in controlled premises for another three years. But they see no reason to extend the Act for the better classes. In my humble opinion there is only one issue that has to be considered by the House to-day, namely, whether this Act should be extended or not; and if they come to the conclusion that this Act should be extended, I presume they will desire to appoint a select committee to consider the provisions of this bill. The select committee will then have to consider whether the bill should extend to all residential premises or to only a certain class. They will also have to consider whether the landlord is justified in asking for any increase in rent. Therefore, Mr. President, as far as I can see, the only issue which just now arises is whether the Act should be extended or not. The other provisions will naturally be considered very carefully in the select committee and the select committee's report will be before this honourable House, I trust at the next session of the Council.

I think the easiest method of procedure will be to take certain clauses, to explain them and to give the reasons that have led Government to include them in this bill. Clause 2 of the Act provides that all tenements the rents of which on the 1st January 1916 were Rs. 50 or less in Karachi

*Vide Appendix E.

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

or Rs. 85 or less in Bombay, its suburbs, and Poona should continue to be controlled. I am sure this honourable House would like to know the reasons which led Government to decide on their limits of Rs. 85 and Rs. 50. The figure 85 was the rent on the 1st January of 1916 and on account of the amendment of the Act in 1923, that figure to-day is Rs. 102. Therefore, in Bombay, its suburbs and Poona all tenements up to Rs. 102 will remain under control. In Karachi, all tenements up to Rs. 57½ will remain under control. Now, Sir, there are three material factors which this honourable House, or at any rate, the select committee will have to consider most carefully before they come to any conclusion.

The first factor they will have to consider is whether there has been any decrease in rents within the last year or two and if so in what class of tenements and to what extent. Secondly, they will have to consider whether there have been any vacancies in the city of Bombay and in Karachi and if so in what class of tenements and to what extent; and thirdly they will have to consider the amount of residential accommodation constructed in the cities concerned, since the Act was introduced in 1918. I do not propose to weary this House with a large number of figures and statistics, but I have chosen just a few to give an idea to this honourable House why these figures of 102 and 57½ have been provided in this bill as the limit for control. Honourable members who have taken an interest in this question will realise that it is no easy matter to get absolutely accurate figures for the whole of Bombay. Figures dealing with particular selected areas in each ward and prepared from a very careful examination of individual streets are a much better test to get at the truth. My figures have been obtained from all the resources that Government have at their command; but do not come from any analysis of the figures of the whole of Bombay. It is impossible to obtain them, but they come from selected areas in every ward of the city, and a very large number of tenements have been examined to obtain these figures. Mr. President from the facts and figures obtained by Government, they find that for premises rented at Rs. 300 and above, there has been a decrease in rents and they think it is by about 50 per cent. For tenements between Rs. 100 and Rs. 300, there is about a 25 per cent. decrease, while for tenements under Rs. 100 rent to-day, they have come to the conclusion that there has been no decrease, after examination of such facts as were available. It is possible that honourable members opposite may be able to point to exceptions within their knowledge. I could also point to a certain number of exceptions to the figures that I have given, but, after all, these exceptions prove the rule, and we cannot be led away by a few exceptions. These figures that I have given you are after a close examination of certain records that were at the disposal of Government.

Then, Sir, coming to vacancies, to put it very shortly, we have found that for premises above Rs. 100 rent, the vacancies are about 12·40 per cent., while for tenements the rents of which are below Rs. 100, the vacancies are 3·03 per cent. This is generally the result of an examination of a large number of tenements.

Mr. V. A. DABHOLKAR : Sir, may I rise to a point of order ? My submission is that, as the bill is defective, it is out of order. I should first like to point out that in the preamble to this bill it is stated :

“Whereas it is expedient further to amend the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions) Act, 1918, and the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions No. 2) Act, 1918, in manner hereinafter appearing ;”

Sir, this Act of 1918 has been amended twice, and that fact has not been included in this preamble. It was amended in 1923 and 1924. When this Act was amended in the year 1924, the preamble of the bill was as follows :

“Whereas it is expedient to extend the period of operation of the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions) Act, 1918, and the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions No. 2) Act, 1918, as amended by the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions) Amendment Act, 1923 as regards dwelling-houses in the Municipal district and Cantonment of Karachi....”

So, the preamble clearly shows that the bill was amended in the year 1923. But the present bill which is being introduced by the Honourable the General Member has a preamble, which says :

“Whereas it is expedient further to amend the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions) Act, 1918, and the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions No. 2) Act, 1918....”

That shows that we are discussing a bill to amend an Act the provisions of which do not exist, because there have been two amendments to that Act. I will take some time to show authorities that when a bill to amend an Act is brought before the House, all the amendments which have been made in the Act should be shown in the preamble of the bill which has not been done in the present case by the Honourable the General Member. Now, in the Act of 1918, there was no schedule, there was only the question of 10 per cent. increase dealt with. In the Act of 1918 there were some other words instead of “the percentage shown in the schedule hereto”. The schedule was introduced when the Act was amended in 1923, and in the Act of 1924 that schedule was touched. There was no schedule attached to the Act of 1918 which the Honourable the General Member now wants to amend. Furthermore, in clause 2 of the bill, it is stated “In sub-section (4) of section 1 of the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions) Act, 1918”. If that is so, the original Act was to be in force during the continuance “during the present war and for such period thereafter, not being less than 6 months and not exceeding two years”. If 1918 is brought up, as has been brought up in this bill, then my submission is that the bill is out of order. Furthermore, in the statement of objects and reasons it is stated that the bill deals with both the original Acts of 1918, but it is not stated that it deals with the Act as amended by the Acts of 1923 and 1924. I do not understand what the bill means. The bill deals with both the original Acts of 1918, whereby it follows that the Act of 1918 means Act No. VII and Act No. II. So, if the word ‘further’ is put before the words “to amend the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions) Act, 1918” in the preamble of the bill under discussion, then the Acts of 1923 and 1924 must also be mentioned, because in the statement of objects and reasons it is stated, as I pointed out, that the bill deals with both the original Acts of 1918.

[Mr. V. A. Dabholkar]

Sir, I have raised this point of order now, because, after the Honourable the General Member has resumed his seat, I may not be allowed to do so. I want to show the authorities which will prove that where a bill to amend an Act is brought forward for discussion before the House, all the previous amendments of the Act should be included in that bill. I will take some time to show that authority, and then, Sir, you can give your ruling.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I do not wish to prejudice the issue, if the honourable member wishes to produce any authority in support of his contention. I will give him a little time to produce his authority, and then I will consider his point of order.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: I should have thought that the honourable member would have had his authority ready.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I am prepared to make some allowance.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: I will proceed, Sir, and await your decision. I was just explaining, when my honourable friend interrupted me, that the vacancies for tenements with rents above Rs. 100 are about 12·40 per cent., while the vacancies for tenements with rents below Rs. 100 are 3·03 per cent. Further, Sir, the third factor I mentioned that this House should consider is the amount of residential accommodation constructed since the passing of the Act of 1918. We find, Sir, that for one room tenements something like 376,878 square yards of accommodation has been provided between the years 1918-19 and 1923-24. (Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad: Provided where?) In the city of Bombay. For two room tenements 160,345 square yards of accommodation has been provided, for bigger than two room tenements 418,192 square yards, while servants' accommodation provided is about 24,236 square yards.

I put all these facts before this House to enable them to come to a fair and equitable conclusion in this matter. (Mr. G. B. Pradhan: What about Salsette?) I have not got any figures about Salsette at present. Now, Sir, we find that for three room tenements the average rent in the city of Bombay—I will come to Karachi later on—in the city of Bombay the average rent for three room tenements is about 60 rupees, while the maximum rent is 100 rupees, and therefore if this bill is accepted all three room tenements, practically every three room tenement will remain under control, 66 per cent. of the population of Bombay, live in one room tenements, 14 per cent. live in two room tenements and 8 per cent. live in three room tenements, that is to say 88 per cent. of the population of this city will continue to live in controlled premises if these limits are accepted; 88 per cent. of the population of Bombay, Sir, it is a well known fact that in Bombay many wage-earners have to pay something like 20 per cent. of their earnings for residential accommodation. Let us take 25 per cent. to be on the safe side. That means that wage-earners of Rs. 400 per month will continue to live in controlled premises. The object of Government is to protect the

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

labouring classes and the lower middle classes. As I have said before they see no reason to continue to protect the better classes and I contend, Mr. President, that this bill does give that protection to the labouring and to the lower middle classes; for it protects wage-earners up to Rs. 400 a month.

Then for Karachi we find that the maximum rent for a three room tenement is 50 rupees. I will remind this House that the limit under the bill is 57½ rupees. About 58 per cent. of the population in Karachi live in one room tenements, 23 per cent. live in two room tenements, 7 per cent. live in three room tenements; and by a pure coincidence we also get the figure of 88 per cent. of the population protected under this bill for Karachi. (Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad: What about Poona?) I will deal with that later on. Now, Sir, I think I have justified the inclusion in this bill of these two limits of 85 and 50. Now, Sir, there are a few more words included in this clause which require explanation and those are; "In respect of any premises used wholly or principally" which have been added. The object is to properly define residential premises. As this House is aware non-residential premises are not included in this bill and there is nothing in.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I am allowing the honourable member Mr. Dabholkar to interrupt the honourable mover because it is a point of order and if it is allowed then there will be no further discussion.

Mr. V. A. DABHOLKAR: Sir, I am going to point out a paragraph to you from "Legislative Methods and Forms" by Sir Courtenay Ilbert. There it is said:

"An amending Bill which has to refer to some half dozen previous enactments on the same subject can hardly be simple in form or easy to understand. But if the task of consolidating Acts is neglected or deferred, this is the form which many amending Bills must inevitably assume."

What I find in this case is that the task of embodying all the amendments is neglected and my proof is Bombay Rent Act III of 1924. There they have put all amending bills of 1923 and so on, while there has been a gross neglect in drafting this bill as well as some matters are deferred, and this is the form which many amending bills must inevitably assume: Then it is stated here:

"And Parliament is not likely to make effective progress with consolidation unless it devises some standing machinery for the purpose, delegates the task to a Committee or some similar body, and accepts reasonable assurance from competent and responsible authorities that the work of that body is properly done."

My submission is that the work of that body is not properly done because consolidating Acts have been neglected and deferred and not put in the Acts of 1923 and 1924.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I have considered the point which the honourable member Mr. Dabholkar has raised and I am thankful to him for having brought it to my notice before the meeting began. I am sure honourable members will agree with me in thinking that the authority on which the honourable member relies does not apply to this

[The Honourable the President]

case. I will read out to the honourable House the whole paragraph in which the quotation which he read out appears :

“Complaint is often made that a modern Bill is too technical to be intelligible. For one cause of unintelligibility, the complexity of modern administration is to a great extent responsible. It is easier to understand or mend a spindle than the machinery of a cotton mill. But there is another obstacle in the way of drawing Acts in a simple form, which is removable, and which it rests with the legislature to remove.”

In the first place I should like to point out that this is not a quotation of any parliamentary procedure. It is merely the expression of views on drafting in order to provide greater facilities in the consideration of bills by the House. It is the view of an eminent jurist who desires to secure simplification in drafting legislation for the benefit of honourable members. So far as parliamentary procedure is concerned the authority quoted is not of any help. The object is merely to suggest the drafting of Acts in a better form to help the legislature. Then the quotation goes on :

“An amending Bill which has to refer to some half-dozen previous enactments on the same subject can hardly be simple in form or easy to understand.”

This is a grievance he makes and suggests that some easier method should be found which would simplify the drafting of amendments. I cannot help remarking that this is exactly what the Government appear to have done in this case. Instead of quoting the several amendments which were made to the Act subsequent to the year 1918, they have simplified the matter by stating that the present bill represents further amendments of the Acts. The word “further” used by them instead of quoting the various amendments which have been subsequently made seems to comply with the suggestion made by the authority quoted and goes against the contention put forward by the honourable member.

There is another point to which I should like to draw attention, and that is, that, as I have repeatedly pointed out to this House, purely technical objections do not much appeal to me. The objection raised by the honourable member is merely a technical one. Honourable members are fully aware of the whole history of the Rent Act. The public have taken very good care to keep them fully informed in regard to the details of this measure, and therefore it cannot be urged that the House is unaware of all the amendments that have taken place in this measure.

The honourable member has quoted no authority to show that the mere non-insertion of all the subsequent amendments of the Act in the preamble should invalidate the motion ; nor has he shown that the word “further” is not adequate for the honourable members to understand the measure and to consider it. For all these reasons, I rule that the bill is quite in order.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, I should like to mention in further support of your ruling that there is definite legal provision in your favour. It is provided by section 29 of the General Clauses Act, Bombay, that in any Bombay Act any enactment may be cited by reference to the short title or the number and the year thereof.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Well, Sir, I was explaining the insertion of the words "wholly or principally" in clause 2 of the bill. That has been done in order to give a clearer definition of the words "residential tenements" and to obviate in future any tenant trying to convert business premises into a residential one by putting in a cot, a table or a chair.

Sir, I will now come to clause 4 of the bill. Honourable members will recollect that there was a considerable amount of feeling in this city because certain tenants took advantage of the legislation of 1918 and began to profiteer. This was recognised by this honourable House in 1923, when my predecessor moved an amending bill to prevent such profiteering. But unfortunately the amendment had not the desired effect and last year I had to move another amendment to try and give effect to the wishes of this honourable House. But in amending sub-clause 3 of clause 9 of the bill we retained the provision that if any tenant had sublet his premises before 1922 he could do so and profiteer with impunity. The attention of Government has now been drawn to the fact that profiteering still continues and advantage is taken of these words "before the 21st day of August 1922". For myself I can see no reason why a tenant who sublet his premises before 1922 should be allowed to profiteer while a tenant who sublet after 1922 is stopped from doing so. Sir, we therefore propose to delete the words "after the 21st day of August 1922" from sub-clause (3) of section 9. We also provide that a tenant should not be allowed to profiteer by letting any part of his tenement. It might be contended that the Act as it stands now will allow a tenant to profiteer provided he does not let the whole of his tenements. To make that perfectly clear we have inserted the words "or any part thereof" after the word "premises".

Then, Sir, it has been found necessary to add two more sub-clauses to section 9. The first one provides that if a tenant is in possession of a tenement, because he is an employee, and as such has come into possession, he should no longer continue in possession if he either leaves the service of his employer or is dismissed. Well, Sir, as this honourable House is aware, private individuals, companies and public bodies have constructed tenements for their employees. There is no reason why an employee should continue to live in those tenements if he chooses to leave the services of the employer who has provided him with those tenements or if he is dismissed. This new clause provides that when a tenant obtains accommodation by virtue of his employment, he shall not continue to occupy the premises after leaving his employment and will thus not deprive the new employee of residential accommodation.

The next provision is one which pertains to the Municipal Act. Under the Municipal Act, the Commissioner can give notice to a landlord to compel his tenants to vacate, if in the opinion of the Commissioner the building is unsafe and unsound and there is a danger to life and property. At present, although the Municipal Commissioner serves this notice on landlords, the tenants can delay vacating those dangerous premises at the risk of their lives and property. I do not think any honourable member desires that a tenant should continue to live in unsafe and

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

dangerous premises at the risk of his life and property. We hope to provide by the sub-clause facilities whereby the Municipal Commissioner and the landlord can make the tenant vacate such premises.

Now, Sir, I come to the schedule where increases in rent are provided. Mr. President, it is a well known fact that wages have gone up, the cost of materials has gone up, and consequently the cost of repairs has gone up. I do not think any honourable member will contend that a landlord should not have an increase in the earning capacity of his property. The point for consideration is what that increase should be. That will be for the select committee to consider. But the main principle I do not think can be objected to by anybody in this honourable House. Therefore, Government came to the conclusion that if this Act was to be extended, the owners of properties which will remain under control, should have some increase of rent. In the original Act of 1918, the basic rent was the rent on the 1st January 1916, plus an increase of 10 per cent. In 1923 that 10 per cent. increase was substituted by an increase of 15 per cent. for premises the rents of which were from Re. 1 to Rs. 50, and by 20 per cent. for premises yielding rents from Rs. 50 to Rs. 85. This Act provides that for the first year of the extension, that is for the year 1926, for premises under Rs. 50 there should be an increase of 15 per cent. on the basic rent, that is an increase of 15 per cent. on the rent that prevailed on the 1st January 1916. In the second year, that is, in 1927 there should be an increase of 10 per cent. on the basic rent, that is, 10 per cent. on the rent that prevailed on the 1st of January 1916—an increase not on the total but on the basic rent. And in the third year there should also be an increase of 10 per cent. on the basic rent. For tenements between Rs. 50 and Rs. 85 the bill provides that there should be an increase of 20 per cent. in the first year on the basic rent, a 10 per cent. increase in the second year, and a third increase of 10 per cent. in the third year, all increases to be calculated on the basic rent, that is, rent that prevailed on the 1st January 1916. The simplest way of explaining the effect of these increases would be to give a specific instance of each. Suppose we have a case of a tenement with a rental of Rs. 50. If the rental was Rs. 50 on the 1st January 1916, it rose to Rs. 57½ in 1923 on account of the amendment of the Act in that year. It will rise to Rs. 65 on the 1st January 1926; it will rise to Rs. 70 on the 1st January 1927; it will rise to Rs. 75 on 1st January 1928. Now, take the case of a tenement with a rental of Rs. 85. If the rental was Rs. 85 in January 1916, it rose to Rs. 102 in 1923, and will rise to Rs. 119 in 1926, to Rs. 127½ in 1927, and to Rs. 136 in 1928.

Personally, I do not consider that these increases are in any way liberal. I consider the landlord deserves these increases if the tenements are to be under control for the next three years. It will be a question for the select committee to consider whether these are too high or too low, and the honourable House will have the benefit of the select committee's advice at the next session.

There is only one more point that I will explain with regard to the second Act. All these amendments will be embodied in both Acts,

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

but there is one extra amendment in the second Act—the small premises Act. It has been found that in certain one-room tenements the tenants lock their doors, leave the country, pay no rent, and still remain in possession. I do not think any honourable member opposite will contend that a tenant should be allowed to do that any longer. He locks his door, he leaves the city and he pays no rent, and the landlord's remedy is really one which is a hardship to him. This bill proposes that if the tenant has locked the tenement and has paid no rent then after three months the Rent Controller should be authorised to break open the tenement—it will practically be always a one-room tenement—and give possession to the landlord. That is the only extra provision in Act VII of 1918. Now, Sir, I have nothing further to add to what I have said. I feel confident that all impartial critics of this bill will come to the conclusion that this measure is a fair and equitable one. I am not attaching any weight to the opinions of honourable members in this House or people outside this House who look at this question either entirely from the landlord's or entirely from the tenant's point of view. They are justified in their own opinion, and I have no complaint against one side or the other. But I appeal to this honourable House to consider this measure impartially, neither from the point of view of the tenants nor of the landlords, but from the point of view of those who are the most deserving of protection, I mean the labouring classes and the lower middle classes.

Question proposed that the bill be read a first time.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South): Sir.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I notice that the honourable member has given notice of amendments of principle on the first reading of this bill. I have considered these amendments and they appear to me to be beyond the scope of the measure which is now under the consideration of the House. I should like to know what the honourable member or any other honourable member has got to say in regard to this point which has been brought to my notice and which is governed by Standing Order 8 of Chapter V, which says that an amendment must be relevant to and within the scope of the motion to which it is proposed. The object of the bill is to extend further protection to residential buildings and the honourable member wishes to extend the scope by applying it to non-residential buildings. I should like any honourable member to point out how that can be in order, in view of the Standing Order to which I have drawn attention.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: My submission, Sir, is that the principle of this bill is to extend protection to the tenements and I would point out that the original Act as framed in 1918 and subsequently amended remained in force up to August 1924 and the principle of the Act was protection of the tenements, whether residential or non-residential. But the question is one of details as regards the arrangement of the sections, whether the protection should extend to particular class of premises and to what extent it should extend. But my submission,

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

Sir, is that the principle is the protection to the tenements and that principle has been enunciated and maintained all through up till August 1924, when the period of that protection expired. It was part of the original Act to give protection to non-residential premises up to the period of August 1924, after which that protection expired under that legislation. This amendment only seeks to revive the protection which was in the original Act, and I may further state, Sir, that I had received notice or intimation from the Government that the amendment I proposed required the sanction of the Governor General, and I immediately applied to the Governor General for the said sanction. I am glad to state, Sir, that for once the department responsible was very quick, and within a period of about eight days sanction has been given to me to move this amendment. I will just read the letters, Sir :

"With reference to your notice to the Secretary to the Legislative Council of the Governor of Bombay on the above subject, I am directed by the Governor in Council to inform you that the amendments require the previous sanction of the Governor General as the Bill relates to the central subject 'Civil Law—including laws regarding property'."

This was a letter from the Bombay Government. On the very same day I applied to the Government of India for the necessary sanction, and got the following reply :

"With reference to your letter dated 1st March 1925 to the Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department, I am directed by the Governor General in Council to convey to you the Governor General's sanction to move the amendments which you propose to the clauses of the Bombay Rent Act."

Now, Sir, my submission is that if this amendment were beyond the scope of the bill, beyond the scope of the principle of the bill, the Government of India before granting the sanction would have considered that point and refused the sanction on that ground. I submit, Sir, that the Governor General in Council has granted me the sanction after consideration of the bill and has not raised this point. I do not know by whom this point has been raised that it is not within the scope of the bill. If it had been considered by the Government of India that this was not within the scope of the bill, they would have refused sanction. I have got the sanction from the highest authority, which goes to show that the highest legal authority has considered the point and after considering that this is within the scope of the bill has granted me sanction. I submit that if this amendment is considered to be out of order, and if the object of the bill is protection to tenements, then this principle would not apply to a considerable number of tenements in the city. My submission is that it is within the scope of the bill and all provisions of the Standing Orders have been complied with. The sanction of the Government of India has been obtained. The very fact that it has been included in the agenda which has been circulated to members goes to show that the authorities responsible for including it in the agenda have considered the question and put it for consideration by this House. Considering all this, I hope this will not be ruled out of order on any technical ground.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts):
Sir, what I find is that my honourable friend's amendments are

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

amendments to certain clauses of the bill. With regard to these amendments relating to clauses 2 and 6, it has been stated that it can be moved at the second reading. The amendments are :

"In Section 2 of the said Bill delete the words 'Used wholly or principally as a dwelling house', after the words 'any premises'."

"In Section 6 of the said Bill delete the words 'Used wholly or principally as a dwelling house', after the words 'any premises'."

In Standing Order IX, Chapter VIII on page 88 of Volume II it is stated :

"When a motion has been agreed to by the Council that a Bill be read a second time, the President shall submit the Bill to the Council clause by clause. The President shall call the number of each clause separately, and, when the amendments relating to it have been dealt with, shall put the question 'that this clause or (as the case may be) this clause as amended, stand part of the Bill'."

So, the honourable member wishes to amend two clauses of the bill which has now been put forward. This is not an amendment of principle. The original Act, of course, is there, and when I come to discuss the general Act, I will put forward my objections. Here, my honourable friend wishes to delete certain words from certain clauses in order to extend this Act. That is not amending the principle of the Act. This is only amending certain clauses of the bill. So, I submit, this amendment, at any rate at this stage, is not in order.

Mr. P. E. PERCIVAL: Sir, I only wish to refer to the contention of my honourable friend (Mr. Nariman) that, because he has received the sanction of the Government of India, his amendments are within the scope of the bill. The sanction of the Government of India is entirely a different question. The Government of India only consider whether the Indian legislature is affected or not: they do not go into the details as to whether any particular amendment is within the scope or outside the scope of a bill. That has to be decided by the Honourable the President. While the honourable member has got over the obstacle with regard to the sanction of the Government of India, he has not got over another obstacle, namely, whether his amendments are either within or outside the scope of the bill.

As regards the argument of the honourable member Mr. G. B. Pradhan whether the amendments relate to principle or detail, this too is entirely distinct from the question whether the amendments are within the scope of the bill or not.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member relied on various points in contending that his amendments are in order. The first point that the honourable member makes is that the bill is for the purpose of protecting the tenements. That would be so if the protection to one part of such tenements which are separately dealt with in the amending Acts had not ceased to operate. The honourable member claims that all the tenements are uniform in the matter of protection. That is not borne out by facts. The Acts passed by this legislature clearly make a distinction between two different classes of tenements and the last Act which was amended in 1923, clearly provided

[The Honourable the President]

that, while the protection to one class of these tenements was to be extended up to the 31st August 1924, the protection to the other class of tenements was to extend up to 31st December 1925. That clearly shows the distinction that was made by the legislature between two distinct classes of tenements. The operation of the protection to non-residential premises ended in August 1924. In July 1924, one honourable member brought forward a bill for extending protection only to that part which referred to non-residential tenements. This further proves the distinction made. Honourable members will remember that I intimated that it was my intention that as time available was so short, I would suspend the Standing Orders and allow the honourable member to move for the first reading, if leave was granted to him to introduce the bill. The House refused to grant him leave and the bill dropped. As a result of this deliberate decision of the House protection to non-residential premises ceased to operate and this part of the tenements passed out of the provisions of the Rent Acts. The only part that remained operative forms the subject matter of the present bill, which proposes to extend the period of protection from 31st December 1925 to 31st December 1928. That is the bill before the House and that is the only subject which the House can now discuss.

There is one further point which the honourable member made and that has been conclusively answered by the honourable member the Remembrancer of Legal Affairs. The honourable member said that he received intimation that the previous sanction of the Governor General would be necessary if he wanted to move his amendment, that he forthwith applied for such sanction, and obtained it within a week. I should like him to realise that the sanction that the Governor General gives is in regard to the subject matter as being fit and appropriate for legislation in the provincial Legislative Council. It cannot be expected that the Governor General should go into the merits as to whether a particular amendment or a particular piece of legislation was in order or otherwise, having regard to the Standing Orders and the Rules applying to each provincial legislature. The question for decision, under our Standing Orders, is as to whether the present amendment is within the scope of, and relevant to, the measure which is now before the House. I am clearly of opinion that, for reasons which I have given, the amendments are outside the scope of the bill, and are not relevant to the measure that is before the House. In order however to remove all possibility of doubt on a question on which there is so much public feeling, I should like to draw attention to the opinion of the Advocate General on the subject, so that no honourable member may feel that the ruling I have given has not been fully considered. The opinion of the Advocate General is as follows :—

“ I am of opinion that the amendment proposed by Mr. Nariman is not within the scope of the Bill No. I of 1925. The Bombay Rent (War Restrictions) Acts of 1918 as they now stand deal with dwelling houses only. The object of Bill No. I of 1925 is to extend the protection of the Acts for three years in the case of certain residential apartments. The proposed amendment is not relevant to the subject matter of the bill and is outside its scope.”

[The Honourable the President]

Honourable members will realise that I have given the most careful consideration to all the aspects of this question, and I must, in the circumstances, rule this amendment out of order.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA : May I make some observations, Sir, which have not been considered by your ruling ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I think I have considered the question in all its aspects. I invited honourable members to give expression to their views, when I stated the point definitely and in clear terms. I do not wish to encourage the practice of honourable members speaking after the Chair has actually given its ruling.

Further consideration of the motion for the first reading of the Bill further to amend the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions) Act, 1918, and the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions No. 2) Act, 1918, will now be resumed.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts) : Mr. President, I rise to make a few observations as regards the principle of this bill, and also as regards certain clauses in the bill which have been put forward. In the first place, the preamble of the original Act is :

"Whereas it is expedient to restrict, in connection with the present war, the increase of rent ;"

So the original Act was passed to restrict the increase of rent in connection with the present war. We know that this Act is an invasion upon property rights. It violates the principles of political economy. But when a great danger like the late War exists, and it affects the whole society, then emergency measures have to be adopted, and the original Act was passed, as the preamble clearly shows, in connection with the War. It says "in connection with the present War". Now, I ask, where is that "present War" ? That "present" has merged into the, "past" ; there is no war. At the time when this Act was passed, it was stated that the Act of 1918 was to be in force during the continuance of the War and for such period thereafter, not being less than six months and not exceeding two years, as the Governor in Council may by notification direct. So the Act was automatically to cease, to go out of existence two years after the close of the War. It was extended once ; it was extended again ; it was amended by another Act. And now, this is the third or fourth time that the Act is sought to be extended. The preamble is not going to be amended, it is going to remain the same. It is the principal Act of 1918 that is going to be amended in the matter of two or three sections relating to the increase of rent and increase of the period of duration.

When the Honourable the General Member, in the course of his speech, gave certain figures, he had before him merely the figures relating to the island of Bombay. I put a pertinent question to him, as this Act is going to be applied to the whole of Salsette island also, whether he had got any figures as regards the vacancies and as regards the rents in Salsette. He admitted that he had not collected any. He said that he was bringing forward the bill for the purpose of protecting the poorer classes

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

and also the middle classes, but not the middle classes of the upper order. If that is so, he ought to have told the House as to what are the rents which are prevalent in the island of Salsette for such classes. He has not cared to consider that. Now, if we compare the rent which is prevailing in the island of Bombay with that which is prevailing in the island of Salsette, we find that if Rs. 100 is the figure prevalent in Bombay, it certainly is not more than 33 in the mofussil.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : In the mofussil ?

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : Yes, that is my mofussil, the island of Salsette all round. Baudra and Andheri apart, in all other places, you cannot take the same standard which you take in Bombay for comparing rents. You have made a distinction between Bombay and Karachi, but you have not cared to make a distinction between Bombay and Salsette island. You have not cared to ascertain how many vacancies there are in those places, and how many new buildings have come into existence.

The real grievance, Sir, is as regards Act VII of 1918. That Act shows a sort of distrust in the civil courts. They say that there shall be a rent controller. Even if there is a new building, which has been recently built at a heavy cost, then the rent of those small premises will be fixed not by the civil court, as under the principal Act, but by the rent controller. If the person concerned is dissatisfied with the award of the controller of rents, then what is the remedy of that man ? There is a list prepared of persons who are to be consulted, and by rotation as far as possible, two members are picked out who sit with the controller, and the case is settled according to the decision of the majority. That means that if one of those two members gives his opinion according to the opinion of the controller, then there is an end of the whole matter. If all the three have got different opinions, then the opinion of the controller prevails. So, I say, why allow that Act to remain on the statute book at all ?

If you really have the interest of the labouring classes at heart, you are by this Act discouraging people from building small premises in the mofussil. Supposing I invest to-morrow Rs. 50,000 in building small premises, as matters stand at present, it is not I as the owner of the premises that has got the right of fixing the rent, but some person from the revenue office, some officer who is called the rent controller. That gentleman does not take into consideration what I have spent, and what is the economic return which I ought to get. He fixes the rent arbitrarily and says "Rs. 3, Rs. 4, or Rs. 5 is all that you will get for the room". He does not take into consideration what I ordinarily ought to get, what I have spent, what will be the recurring charges, what will be the charges for keeping the building in ordinary repair, and things of that sort. And then, his decision is final ; it is not even open to appeal in a civil court. So, I ask, what is the propriety of allowing that second Act to remain upon the statute book ? That second Act is absolutely useless. Not only is it absolutely useless, but it has actually barred people from building small tenements. When the object of the bill is that poor people ought to be protected and that there should come into existence small

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

premises in the island of Bombay as well as the island of Salsette, here, by this second Act, people are actually barred from building, because it is not for them to fix the rents even for new premises as in the first Act. In the first Act, at any rate, if the premises are new, the landlord can make his own terms.

Then according to the second Act if the premises are small premises the rent of which is Rs. 20 or less then it is the controller who has to fix the rent without any consideration whatever whether the premises are old or new. Any tenant goes to the controller and if the tenant makes a complaint the controller has to fix the rent, and against that order there is only one appeal allowed and that is to the controller and to the persons of his own choice, because the members of the committee are selected by the controller. Then when Government were not satisfied with these conditions alone they put down certain penal clauses that even if a tenant is willing to pay to the landlord something more than the rent fixed by the controller, the Government come upon the landlord and say you are liable to be prosecuted and fined with a fine of Rs. 1,000 for the first offence. In section 7 (1), it is stated :

"Whoever knowingly receives whether directly or indirectly on account of the rent of any small premises of which the standard rent has been fixed any sum in excess of such rent shall on conviction by a magistrate be punishable, in the case of a first offence, with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees or, in the case of a second or subsequent offence in regard to the same or any other small premises of which the standard rent has been fixed, with fine which may extend to two thousand rupees."

Then section 8 says :

"Whoever, without the previous written consent of the controller or save for the purposes of effecting repairs or complying with any municipal requisition wilfully disturbs any easement annexed to any small premises the standard rent of which has been fixed or removes, destroys or renders unserviceable anything provided for permanent use therewith or discontinues any supply or service comprised in such rent shall be punishable in the case of a first offence, with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees or, in the case of a second or subsequent offence in regard to the same or any other small premises of which the standard rent has been fixed, with fine which may extend to two thousand rupees."

Then section 9 provides that the rent which is paid in excess is also liable to be recovered. So the contract act is to be obliterated, the law of demand and supply is to be wiped out and people are not to spend and not to build even though that is a step which is advantageous in the interests of the community.

So my first submission to the Honourable the General Member is that the second Act, namely, Act VII of 1918, ought to go. It has no purpose to remain on the statute book. Even as regards the first Act what I have got to say is that you cannot apply the considerations which apply to Bombay to the mofussil. You ought to make inquiries as to what are the vacancies, what is the highest rent paid by people whom you want to protect; you give us the figures showing 88 per cent. of the people are living in rooms which pay one hundred rupees as maximum rent. But if that is the standard by which you are judging then you are mistaken because you ought to apply a different standard to Salsette Island.

[Mr. G. B. Pradhan]

Then what I find is that the honourable member when he drafted this bill also forgot that there are municipalities in Salsette Island which are governed by the District Municipal Act, and that they have got such a power vested in them as laid down under section 119 of the Act. They do issue notices as regards ruinous buildings. So though he says the notice issued by the Municipal Commissioner, Bombay, is binding, what about the notice by the municipalities? So that is the second mistake.

Then the next point is that he has not also taken into consideration the way in which it hampers the municipalities. What I have noticed is that this Rent Act in the mofussil, that is in places like Thana, has been applied with the same strictness with which it is applied in the Bombay Island and the result is that it is restricting the expanding capacity of the municipalities which cannot get increase of revenues. We cannot expand our resources because the Rent Act is applied. The landlords say we are taking the same rent and so how can we pay increased taxes. As the total rental is based upon the house-tax assessed, this Rent Act hampers the mofussil municipalities in the expansion of their revenues and that is a factor which has to be taken into consideration.

Now, my submission, Mr. President, is that, as a matter of fact, I am against this measure because there are several necessities of life for which you have not introduced any measure. You are introducing this measure because you think that poor people and people of limited means should have a roof over their heads and that they should not be turned out by landlords. There was a similar control as regards corn and other things in war times. There are several necessities of life which every man requires. If it is proposed that superfluous wealth of the wealthy people of Bombay should be distributed amongst their poor fellow citizens it would be styled as a robbery or dacoity with a vengeance. This Act is a sort of extortion no doubt but then it is justified on the ground that the landlords are blood-thirsty people and that they and other rich people are spending lakhs of rupees on luxury, while so many poor people are going with one meal and merely rags to cover their nudity. So these poor people are to be protected. If that is so, let there be a protection to business premises also. It is a hardship for one class of people for the protection of the other. But then if you are going to continue this measure at all try this experiment only for one year more. Why do you want it for three years? After trying it for one year more if you think that there is still a necessity for it then extend the period by a couple of years more. You already see that the measure was introduced as a war measure. It was promised that it would disappear two years after the close of the war. The war is now a thing of the past. Of course there may be some other things somewhere else, such as the dispute on the Rhine-land, etc., but here at any rate the war is a past thing. The measure had already been extended for three years. Now after that period of three years what we notice is that things are adjusting themselves. The law of supply and demand is coming into operation. If this is so then try the measure for one year, and if there is a necessity then try it for another year more, but

[~~M~~ G B Pradhan]

there is no case made out why this should be brought into operation for a period of three years. If this measure is to continue, why apply it to residential premises only and why not to business premises, and if this is to be on the statute book I say that it ought to apply to business premises also because the higher the rent the merchant pays the higher he charges for the commodity he sells. If that is so I would agree with my honourable friend Mr. Nariman and would say then if you are protecting residential quarters protect business people also. There is no reason why you should only protect people so far as their residential premises are concerned and not protect them as regards their business premises. So my request to the Honourable the General Member is that in the first place this measure is an encroachment upon the property rights. It is a sort of a socialistic measure and that it is a sort of extortion, but if this measure is deemed to be a necessity, then this measure ought to apply not only to residential premises but also to business premises, because there is no sense in removing it from the business premises because they now pay higher rent and that that rent is not paid by the merchant from his own pocket but that it is charged on the consumers.

Then, this measure ought not to be extended at once by three years. Then, surely the same standard that would apply to the Bombay Island cannot apply to the Salsette Island and yet I find that my honourable friend before putting forward this measure has not collected the statistics for the Salsette Island. Then, as regards Act VII of 1918, I say that it does not protect the poor, but on the contrary it actually comes in the way of new premises coming into existence. Lastly, I think that the privileges extended to the Municipal Commissioner as regards unsafe and dangerous buildings should be extended also to the mofussil municipalities. With these few remarks I resume my seat.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Sir, I differ from the honourable member for Thana. I hold that it is absolutely necessary that Government should come forward to protect the interests of the poor tenants. I am only sorry they have not gone far enough. The honourable member who preceded me stated that the Act should be extended only for one year. I would say that it should be extended for five years, because the conditions that exist are not likely to change in such a short space of time as three years. There is one important fact that has to be remembered as regards the law of demand and supply that is brought forward. That is, in some particular cases, whatever the increase in price, still the article will be sold. Take the case of wheat. People will buy it whatever the increase in its price. There was an argument brought forward by the Honourable the Finance Member in the Legislative Assembly, that though the third class fares were increased more passengers travelled, while the result of increasing the first and second class fares was a decrease in the number of first and second class passengers, and therefore there should be a decrease in first and second class fares and not in third class fares. But he forgot

[Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan]

one fact, and that is that there was no alternative for the third class passengers. They had to travel even when the fares were increased. Similarly here also, just consider the case of tenants who are paying Rs. 15 or Rs. 16. Supposing their rent is increased to Rs. 25 or Rs. 30 there will be one of the two alternatives before them; either they should pay the enhanced rent and starve or they must leave Bombay. Take the instance of a man who gets Rs. 50 and pays a rent of Rs. 15. If the rent of Rs. 15 is suddenly raised to Rs. 25, what will be the result? The man will have either to leave Bombay and go to his native place or, if he decides to reside in Bombay, lead a miserable life. There is a limit beyond which small rents cannot be increased. I am very sorry that the percentages of increase that have been granted under the new schedule are very abnormal, and I think that when the bill goes to the select committee, the select committee should lower this percentage. I shall give the illustration of a man who has to pay Rs. 15. He will have to pay Rs. 7-8-0 automatically. In fact the increase given is on the side of landlords rather than on the side of the poor tenants. It would be a revolutionary increase. So many people will be hard pressed and will not be able to spend enough on the absolute necessity of life, namely, food, and there will be bad nourishment. My honourable friend Mr. Nariman had intended to extend this Act to non-residential premises also, but unfortunately he could not do so on account of your ruling....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member does not realise that he did not want to extend protection but to re-impose it. It is not an extension that the honourable member wanted; he wanted to re-enact a law which did not exist. The honourable member surely realises the difference between extension and re-imposition.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN: Six months after, it is possible for that point to be brought up again.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Bring a separate bill.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN: It will be brought forward in course of time.

My honourable friend from Thana said that if the bill is to be extended it must be extended for non-residential as well as residential buildings. I hope this defect in the bill will be removed in due course of time. I think that protection to tenants of non-residential buildings is also essential. If honourable members will look at the rents paid by the municipality for their schools, they will find that the rents paid are exorbitant. On account of the disappearance of the Act regarding business premises, the landlords have demanded increases of 100, 200 or 250 per cent. in rents. I have got a list here to show this. Just now the greed of the landlords is so much that it would be impossible for the people to live in Bombay unless some sort of protection is given to them by legislation and I am very glad that Government have come forward with this legislation. I hope that it will be possible in the select committee to make the provisions less rigorous and decrease the

[Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan]

percentages of increase shown in the schedule so as to give proper protection to the poor tenants. I am in favour of giving protection even to buildings yielding rent as high as Rs. 100 or Rs. 125. But all these details can be thought over when the bill is sent to the select committee. I most heartily approve of the principle of the bill and I hope this House will pass its first reading.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University): Sir, on behalf of the Swaraj party I rise to support the first reading of this bill. It is very rarely that the Swaraj party gets the chance of supporting a Government measure, and we have to congratulate ourselves that on this occasion we can support the amending bill wholeheartedly. This is no time for me to pronounce an opinion as regards the merits of the several sections. The Government are merely asking that the bill should go before the select committee. Whether the line ought to be drawn at Rs. 85 as my honourable friend Mr. Cowasji has done, or at a higher level, is a matter which I am sure the select committee will go into carefully, and when we have the bill once more before us in the July session we shall have the benefit of the opinion of the select committee. But the difficulty at present is with reference to some of the objections that have been pointed out (one of which at least is extremely important) by the honourable member from Thana. I do not agree with him that this Act is purely a measure of spoliation. I suppose we are proceeding on the principle of the greatest good of the greatest number, and as long as this principle is kept in view, many theories and rules of economics have got to go by the board. But there is one point which he made, and I hope my honourable friend opposite (the Honourable the General Member) realises that, and that is that the sections relating to powers given to the Municipal Commissioner of Bombay as regards the vacating of premises unsafe for human habitation will have to be extended to district municipalities also. I have no doubt my honourable friend opposite realises that. With these words, Sir, I have great pleasure in supporting the bill.

Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities): Sir, I rise to support the first reading of the bill. No doubt the hardships of the tenants are great. But I have no doubt that this House also realises that the hardships of the poor landlords are not very small. Other professions like law and medicine are not controlled, and I do not see any reason why landlords should be controlled, though since the removal of the restriction on business premises there have been instances where rents have been increased by 100 to 500 per cent. In order to put a stop to this, I think Government have intervened at the proper time.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA (Bombay City, North): Mr. President, I do not suppose any one here is going to oppose the first reading of this bill. But the Honourable the General Member had stated that he was going to produce a bill that would satisfy everybody. He conveyed the impression, so far as I am concerned, that he had carefully considered the provisions of his projected bill, had discussed the matter with landlords as well as tenants and had arrived at some conclusions that would be

[Mr. J. Baptista]

acceptable to all concerned. So far as I can see, he has done nothing of this kind. He has apparently drawn upon his self-confidence and hoped to please everybody. He forgot what the nurse taught him in the nursery that the man who tries to please everybody pleases none.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : I say I want to do what is fair and just.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA : My honourable friend draws upon his vanity now. What is fair and just, we shall decide presently. But my contention is that he should not have ventured to make that statement without having previously consulted landlords and tenants and not relied on his over-confidence that he would be able to please everybody. He has told us plainly that he wants to look at this matter neither from the point of view of the landlord nor from the point of view of the tenant. Neither the landlord, nor the tenant ! Now, I should like to know who is this fellow who is neither a landlord nor a tenant ? My own research leads me to conclude that the man who is neither a landlord nor a tenant is the money-lender. Sir, so far as the money-lender is concerned, he does not care two brass farthings for the landlord or the tenant. All he cares for is the margin of security for the money that he lends. If the rent goes up, he increases the margin proportionately. Therefore, it is this anxious money-lender who is really intervening as a third party. Now, I am not one of those who always look down upon the money-lenders and denounce them. They perform a useful function in the society and some of them are really benefactors of society. My honourable friend Mr. Cowasji is associated with some of these benefactors. We all know that his father is one of the biggest money-lenders in Bombay. (Laughter.) But my grievance is that my honourable friend professes in words to look at it from the point of view of the poor and those who are suffering, but in fact he does not. If he wanted us to look at it from the point of view of the poor, the first thing he should have done was to include the non-residential premises in his bill, because the shop-keepers charge higher prices for the grain and other material they sell to pay the increased rent and for this reason the extra rent really comes eventually out of the pockets of the consumers, the poor people. The largest number of the consumers are really poor, for whom he feels in words, but in deeds the feeling is nowhere.

There is another principle that is involved in the bill ; whereby he would exclude buildings which are partially residential and partially non-residential. Premises which are exclusively non-residential, go out ; but there is another point, namely, he is going to apply the provisions to those premises which are partly residential and partly non-residential. So that, in a sense non-residential buildings are under the scope of the bill. He wants to exclude even those buildings which are partly non-residential, not exclusively non-residential, from the protection of this bill. That is his whole object in the changes he has proposed. Non-residential buildings can easily be converted into partly residential and partly non-residential by having residential rooms in those buildings,

[Mr. J. Baptista]

and that is a point which I want to press upon your attention. I hope that point will be taken into consideration in the select committee, and this aspect of the question will have to be looked into with a view to consider whether they will give us an opportunity to amend the bill so as to include under the protection even wholly non-residential premises. That is a point which I should like to press on the select committee.

As regards the several increases in rent that are proposed in this bill, I would rather not have this protection. Who ever dreams that the landlord would increase rents by 5 per cent. or 10 per cent. every year as the Honourable the General Member proposes to do by this bill? I think it is only the grasping landlord that would do so and he deserves to be burnt in effigy. It is not a mere matter of principle, it is a matter of detail. I hope the select committee will take all this into consideration and will bring in a bill which will please at least the tenants, because, so far as the landlords are concerned, they can protect themselves.

Then, there is usual talk of poor landlords. I think my honourable friend Mr. Surve (from Bombay) has got some statistics about these landlords. I suppose he did not know that these so-called poor landlords are both owners of the premises and tenants themselves. They live in these premises and a great majority of these do not give the premises for rent. We also hear of vacant houses. You will find that many of the houses which are called empty houses are really only nominally houses. They are huts and according to the census it is only in rare cases that houses of bricks remain unoccupied, except the new ones. I do not deny that among the new ones there are houses which are not occupied. But they are vacant because the rent is high. The high rent makes them unavailable. High rents cause vacancies. High rents mean overcrowding and overcrowding means disease and death. If my honourable friend were really anxious to protect the poor people from disease and death, he would have brought in a bill on the lines of the original bill of 1918. On the grounds I have stated, I think that any further extension in the increase of rents is very objectionable and should not be allowed.

Mr. V. A. DABHOLKAR: Mr. President, I rise to oppose the bill. I agree partially with my honourable friend from Thana (Mr. G. B. Pradhan) and totally differ from the honourable member who preceded me. Sir, the first question I should like to put to the Honourable the General Member is on what grounds he fixed that the limit should be at Rs. 85; he has kept no statistics before this House to show how he has come to control or to give protection to the rent payers to the extent of Rs. 100 and why this protection is necessary for them. In the whole of his speech which I tried to closely follow, the Honourable the General Member has not laid down on what grounds he has been bringing this bill to give protection to the rent payers paying Rs. 100 a rent. Sir, this Council has not forgotten that when budget grants were being discussed on the question of housing at Worli, the Honourable the General Member said that from one point alone the administration

[Mr. V. A. Dabholkar]

of the estates was becoming a difficult task and that Government had to curtail their scheme. If the administration of the estates was becoming a difficult task to Government, with the General Member at its head, and so many other high officers in the department, then why is he making the administration of the property of the individual landlords more difficult by having some restrictions on their liberty? Sir, furthermore, when the question of allowances to Indian officers working on the Sukkur Barrage was being discussed, he had given a piece of advice to this House that the honourable members should put themselves in the position of the Indian officers and consider whether they deserved extra allowances on account of the two establishments they had to keep as far as their families were concerned. Sir, this advice of my honourable friend is quite admirable. But may I know from him whether in framing this bill he has put himself in the position of a landlord, that he is now coming forward with the bill without knowing the difficulties of the landlord? From that, I can conclude that words are cheap and deeds only counted. Mr. President, this Council is aware why the Development Directorate was opened. The Development Directorate was opened for removing the congestion in the city. I do not wish that the department should be closed, but now the time will come to have some of the activities of the Development Department curtailed. The Honourable the General Member means to say by his argument that no protection is required over a rental of Rs. 100 as there is more supply than demand. He has suggested that whatever activities they are now carrying on for the reclamation of the Back Bay are for people who can afford to pay more than Rs. 100 who do not require protection; and so the activities of reclaiming that land should either be stopped or curtailed and that whatever reclamation they have taken up on hand should be completed and the rest of the money should be diverted to the construction of more tenements. The other day, while discussing the budget grants, thanks to the Director of Development, he supplied me with certain figures. The number of rooms completed or nearing completion is 16,880. I take it on a rough calculation at the rate of Rs. 1,500 per room for construction, the whole outlay on the 16,000 tenements is Rs. 2,53,20,000. The interest at the rate of 6 per cent. on this outlay will be Rs. 15,19,200. I understand that out of these 16,000 tenements 6,000 are occupied and 720 tenements which are nearing completion have not yet been handed over. So, nearly more than half of these tenements are vacant and we are losing something like Rs. 1,68,000 taking the rent of a room to be Rs. 13. The Honourable the General Member throws the whole blame on the Bombay corporation for these tenements lying vacant, because the census supplied by it was wrong.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangir : I never said so.

Mr. V. A. DABHOLKAR : I have got the official speech in my hand.

Then the Honourable General Member said that because population was much less than the figure supplied by the Corporation, 50,000 tenements were not necessary and therefore they had stopped.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : That is the wrong end of the stick.

Mr. V. A. DABHOLKAR : I shall show that I am not at the wrong end of the stick. The fact is that the Honourable the General Member has stated that there was no necessity of building any more tenements. Is it right? I should like to read to the House what the Honourable the General Member said in 1923 when the single room tenements of the Development Department were not occupied.

"There are yet others who think this is all a mistake and say that there is no demand and that we must not further proceed with the housing programme at all. But as honourable members will remember single tenement housing scheme was introduced by Government at the insistent request of the public of Bombay, of the labouring classes of Bombay and above all of the Bombay Municipal corporation of which the honourable member opposite (Dr. K. E. Dadachanji) is a prominent member who now thinks that the housing programme is all a mistake...."

The Honourable Sir Chimanlal proceeds to say :

"The chawls have only been recently constructed and they will fill in in course of time and we have not yet gathered sufficient experience to come to a conclusion of the character now suggested by the honourable member. Further in this connexion it must be remembered when it is said that these chawls are not filling in and people are not going in there, what is forgotten, namely...."

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : Who said that?

Mr. V. A. DABHOLKAR : The Honourable Member's predecessor. I hope the Honourable the General Member will closely follow these words :

"The real reason why these chawls are not filling in rapidly is the existence of the Rent Act."

Further on he says :

"As long as the Rent Act is in force and the labouring classes are able to stick to their old habitations insanitary though they may be and overcrowded though they may be and for which they pay four or three rupees rent it is very difficult to invite them with any prospect of success to come into the Development Department's chawls and to pay Rs. 10, although we give them much more sanitary buildings."

Here the Honourable the General Member says in the year 1923 that unless the Rent Act is removed these chawls will not be occupied. Still the present Honourable the General Member wants the extension of the Rent Act till 1928.

At one time it was declared that the Bombay city was of dirt and death and that in order to provide sanitary buildings to the labouring classes and remove the congestion the Development Department was opened. If that is a fact I do not understand how by extending the Rent Act they are going to relieve the congestion and get the labouring classes removed to sanitary buildings. Furthermore, the Honourable the General Member stated that on account of the want of quick means of communication the Development chawls at Worli could not be filled in. Here I do not agree with the Honourable the General Member. Even before the operation of the Development Department began, there were so many people living in Worli in insanitary buildings. I wish to recall to the mind of the Honourable the General Member the days of plague from 1896 to 1910. At that time many people on account of fear of death migrated to Salsette and other places, in spite of the fact that there were then no fast means of transit. It was a simple

[Mr. V. A. Dabholkar]

question of the circumstances under which people were placed. So also, if the protection of the Rent Act is not given and if landlords increase the rents, people will be compelled to go and occupy sanitary buildings built by the Development Department.

What I find in this bill is that Government are giving all sorts of facilities to public bodies like the Improvement Trust by excluding them from the operation of this Act, while landlords and private individuals have been brought under its clutches. Sir, I may be permitted to read from the land manager's report to show how Government are supporting public bodies who are the biggest of the landlords.

The land manager says :

"On account of the existence of the Rent Act the position of the tenants is such that they can baffle their landlords notwithstanding the latter's vigilance and precautionary measures. They even defy the landlords and subject them to innumerable and insurmountable difficulties in the way of collection of their dues. Usually, no tenant pays his dues in advance as provided for in the conditions of Board's tenancies, and no action can be taken in the Court to enforce this proviso, as the tenant cannot be dragged there until he falls into arrears of at least two months' rents. The tenants knowing this and our helpless position fully well, have made it a point never to pay rent till they are full 3 months in arrears, and that too only for one month, invariably being in arrears for two months. Issue of Distress Warrants on the goods of the tenants is out of question under the existing rules of the Small Causes Court, which prohibit attachment of apparels, utensils, bedding and all the necessaries of life, and these are mainly the possessions of our tenants. The service of notices to vacate means immediate and absolute cessation of payments of any rents. By the time they vacate, which is never the case except abscondance, without filing ejectment suits, there is very heavy accumulation of arrears to be ultimately written off. The process of filing suits, and getting through the ordeals of the Court and of obtaining consequent decree for vacation, take up months, and all this time, the Board's arrears of rent swell up like anything. On filing suits for recovery of Board's dues, the decision of the Courts is invariably payment by small instalments, which are even less than a month's dues, and which are never paid by the tenants. On failure to pay the instalments, a fresh decree has to be obtained against him, but by the time this decree becomes mature, the tenant becomes scarce by leaving the Board's premises and the Board's dues unpaid at the same time. All this increases the Court costs without any advantageous result to the Board. It is generally not possible for this office rent collectors to trace out these absconded tenants and if they attempt to do so they have to leave their current work aside and generally fail in tracing out the defaulters."

I am glad to see here to-day one of the trustees of the Bombay Improvement Trust (Mr. Brander). At that time, Mr. Brander, the Collector of Bombay, suggested that in view of the land manager's report that there were large arrears of rent on account of the operation of the Rent Act, the Board should ask Government to exempt the Improvement Trust from the operation of the Rent Act. If all these facilities are given to public bodies, my question to the Honourable the General Member is why those facilities are denied to the landlords. The other day, in the interest of the landlords, the leader of the Swaraj party took up and championed the cause of the landlords in voting against the increase in the stamp duty, but I then voted in favour of the increase on the stamp duty.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: As a personal explanation, I never took up the cause of the landlord and voted against the increase in stamp duty. That is my honourable friend's interpretation of my conduct.

[Mr. V. A. Dabholkar]

Mr. V. A. DABHOLKAR: The fact remains that the leader of the Swaraj party voted against.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member cannot attribute motives to him.

Mr. V. A. DABHOLKAR: I am not doing so; I am pointing out the good service that he did to the cause of the landlords, that he championed the cause of the landlords because he did not want any more stamp duty to be levied on the landlords. I say that the landlords of Bombay would not have grudged to pay the increase in the stamp duty of Rs. 40 lakhs, because the amount would have been utilised for nation-building departments like Education, Sanitation, etc. What do we landlords want? We want the leader of the Swaraj party and all those who voted for the landlords in the matter of the increase in the stamp duty to uphold the cause of the landlords on the present occasion.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: Again, on a point of correction, our attitude was that we were opposed to any fresh taxation.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member cannot keep on arguing like that.

Mr. V. A. DABHOLKAR: All right, Sir. I say.....

Mr. J. BAPTISTA: On a point of order, is an honourable member who is a nominee of Government entitled to oppose Government?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I am sorry the honourable member has raised that issue, because I take it that every member of this Council, whether he finds his seat by nomination or election, is here to do his duty to the best of his lights.

Mr. V. A. DABHOLKAR: I was going to give the same reply to my honourable friend. But to resume the discussion, the Bombay landlords would have been willing to pay Rs. 40 lakhs for increased stamp duty but this scourge of the landlords, the Rent Act, they want to be removed.

Now, Sir, what is the position of a landlord? It was stated by my honourable friend from Thana that the Rent Act was intended to remain in force only during the war, but at present there is no war. But now the war is one between landlords and tenants, by Government extending the Rent Act.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Is the honourable member going to be very long?

Mr. V. A. DABHOLKAR: I may take some more time, Sir.

(After recess.)

Mr. V. A. DABHOLKAR: To resume the discussion, I should like to point out that there are two strong opponents to the landlords. The first is the Government, because we have heard from the Honourable the General Member that the administration of properties is a difficult task, and as such he would not risk any more Government money in building any more tenements. The second are the representatives of

[M. V. A. Dabholkar]

the tenants under Rs. 10 franchise for elections. In this House, there is little possibility of getting any protection for the minority landlords. I should like to point out to this House something as regards the buildings put up by the landlords in Bombay. I will take my own instance at Kalbadevi.

At Kalbadevi I have just completed a chawl of single-room tenements, each room being 20 feet by 10 feet, and I am getting Rs. 20 for each for a month. This property of mine is further away from the main road at Kalbadevi. But other properties of mine which have been built so far back as 1914, with all the latest sanitary conveniences, fetch me for a double room 10 feet by 40 feet only Rs. 20. If the rents in the new building at Kalbadevi were very high, would the tenants have agreed to pay Rs. 20 for a single room, and if they pay that rent for a single room, why should Government by means of the Rent Act insist that the landlords shall not get more than Rs. 20 for a double room 10 feet by 40 feet? According to the present rate of the rents that are paid by the tenants, a double room must fetch Rs. 40, but it has been prevented by the Rent Act. Then, Sir, the Honourable the General Member must understand that there are 15,000 landlords in Bombay. Out of that number, 7,000 are widows and those who have got an annual income of Rs. 350. That comes to Rs. 35 per mensem. The honourable member from Bombay North said that these landlords who have an income of Rs. 350 per annum occupy a part of the house. I quite agree with him, and I would add that they have to carry on their maintenance by whatever they can get in the shape of rent from the other part of the house. Sir, the same standard of living that is applied to the tenants must also be applied to the landlords. It was stated that the average cost of living has gone up for the tenants. If that is so, then my honourable friend the General Member must agree with me that the cost of living has gone up for the landlords also.

An Honourable MEMBER: They can afford to bear the increased cost of living.

Mr. V. A. DABHOLKAR: Whether they can afford or not, I will come to that later.

Then, Sir, I do not understand why the Honourable the General Member should come forward with a bill extending the Act to three years. Why does he want the period to be pinned down to three years? Could we not have it for one year? After one year, if the circumstances are not changed, the Honourable the General Member is welcome to extend it still further. Why does he want this Council to be pinned down to three years? The predecessor of the present General Member said that the Rent Act should go out of existence after December 1925. That gentleman is not here now. But the present General Member has come out with a different policy and a different understanding, and wants to extend the Act for another period of three years. After he lays down his office, there may be a third General Member who may want to extend still further for another period of three years. So, by the change of General Members every five years, the interests of the landlords are jeopardized.

[Mr. V. A. Dobholkar]

My honourable friend from Ahmedabad stated that the State must intervene in order to protect the poorer people. I quite agree that the State should intervene to protect the poor. But we are not building tenements for poor tenants. If Government think that the poor must be protected in this way, why has Government stopped its policy of building any more tenements? The Government want to extend the Rent Act and throw the whole responsibility of providing tenements for the poorer classes on the shoulders of the landlords.

Then, my honourable friend from Bombay, North (Mr. Baptista), stated that the Honourable the General Member was neither for the landlords nor for the tenants, but he was for helping the money-lender. I say that my honourable friend is absolutely wrong. Let me point out that money-lenders are not coming forward to-day to advance money on landed property. In this connection, I should like to refer to the remarks of my honourable friend on my right, who in 1922, on the question of capital, said that it had become very difficult for the owners of property in Bombay to have their properties mortgaged. If that was the supposition of my honourable friend on my right in 1922, I should like to say that now things are getting worse. The financial stringency is being felt all over the country, and on account of the Rent Act, the prices of properties have gone down, and nobody likes to advance money on landed property, because the owners are not the real owners of the property, but on account of the Rent Act, the tenants are the owners. Under these circumstances, Sir, I think that it would not be advisable in the interests of the landlords that this bill should be sent to a select committee and as such I oppose the first reading of the bill and I hope that the Council will also oppose it.

MOULVI RAFI UDDIN AHMAD (Central Division): Mr. President, I have heard the stern and unbending champion of the landlords and I dare say I will soon hear the idolised champion of the tenants, but in this matter Government has adopted an even course, the course which would appeal to most reasonable people. In a most clear and lucid language of which the Honourable the General Member is a master, he has placed before us the material for us to judge the merits of the case. I dare say all people will not be satisfied with the measures that have been proposed for the protection of landlords, and all will not be satisfied with the provisions made for the tenants, but that goes to prove that with regard to this bill Government have adopted an even course. If there are any defects they will be removed by the select committee and the proper time for discussing those defects is the second reading.

An appeal has been made in the press to Mahomedan members of this Council to come forward and take the cause of the tenants, but the Mahomedan members of this Council will do their duty according to their conscience. They are not opposed to tenants because many of them are tenants, and they are not opposed to the landlords because they are landlords also, but here in this matter our position is quite clear. A large number of our people have come from the mofussil

[Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad]

and settled as tenants in this place, and in the interests of the honourable members of this Council I may say that we find it exceedingly difficult to go and enjoy the hospitality of any of our tenant friends here because they are not in a position to lodge them. They say they could give us a dinner but that they are not in a position to give us a night's lodging for want of space. That is the difficulty of the lower middle classes in this city.

There are only two sound objections raised to this bill. One is that the bill is not necessary because there is no more a state of war. But Sir, I assure this House that the after-math of the war is really more disastrous than the period of the war. As far as monetary stringency is concerned, people find themselves more in monetary troubles now than in the war. Therefore the argument is out of question. Then the second objection is that it ought to have been reserved for one year and not for three years. One year in my opinion is too short a time. We find taking into consideration the state of Europe as well as the state of India that this monetary stringency is not likely to go in one year but supposing by some miracle prosperity comes to the lower middle classes and the working classes, surely an amendment can be made to the bill in the other way. I therefore say that the bill rightly fixes 3 years duration. If trade and industry are revived in a shorter time then it is possible for the Honourable the General Member or any other member to bring in an amending bill. But as it is the bill is sound and in my opinion the House ought to support this measure.

Mr. R. S. NEKALJAY : Sir, I am here, another Government nominee, who unfortunately is not a landlord like my honourable friend Mr. Dabholkar, otherwise I would surely oppose the bill. Sir, my honourable friend Mr. Dabholkar does not understand the difficulties of the poor people. He thinks that all people in the city are rolling in wealth like him. Sir, I myself was a tenant in one of the chawls and the sufferings of the people living in chawls are better known to those who live in the chawls and not to those who live in mansions on the Chowpati sea-side like my honourable friend Mr. Dabholkar. He says that the living of landlords class has gone up, but to my mind there must be some reason for this and I understand it is due to their increased luxury and such other things and it is *not due to the retention of the Rent Act* or anything of that kind. Sir, I congratulate the Honourable the General Member for bringing this bill before this House and I hope the House will pass the first reading of this bill.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): (Addressed the House in Marathi) Sir, I congratulate the Honourable Member in charge for bringing in this bill which is for the benefit of the poor people. Since we have been in this House as elected or nominated members for the last one year I find this is the only occasion on which we see my honourable friend the honourable member Mr. Dabholkar opposing a Government measure which affects the interests of the poor people.

Mr. R. D. SHINDE : Sir, I rise to a point of order. The honourable member says that the honourable member Mr. Dabholkar is opposing a measure affecting public interest.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : That is not unparliamentary. That is his opinion.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL : Really speaking people who know what is the state of the poor and lower middle classes at present in Bombay so far as residential quarters are concerned, will not object to this measure and it is regrettable to find honourable members objecting to this measure which has been brought by Government for the benefit of the poor. With these words I support the first reading of the bill.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District) : Sir, I come from a district to which the bill does not apply, and it may be argued that I have no *locus standi* in this particular matter. But in these days people are so quickly misunderstood and misrepresented that I am afraid that my attitude regarding this bill may be misunderstood if I prefer to remain silent and give a silent vote. Sir, I feel not the slightest hesitation in confessing that my sympathies are entirely on the side of the poor and the middle class which perhaps has been the hardest hit since the Great War broke out. An argument has been raised against this bill by my honourable friend the member for Thana that there is no war now and consequently there is no necessity for this measure. I regret I am unable to agree with my honourable friend, though by the bye I congratulate him upon the courage of conviction which he has shown in this particular matter by giving expression to his views though they may not be acceptable to the general public. Sir, I cannot say that the bill goes far enough. I entirely agree with the view which has been expressed by some honourable members that this particular bill leans more on the side of the landlords than on the side of the tenants. I fully realise the difficulties of the Government, and I can quite conceive how difficult it must be to the Honourable Member and his legal experts to frame a piece of legislation on a difficult and contentious question like this which would satisfy both the tenants and the landlords. I am not therefore at all surprised that this bill does not come up to the level so far as the point of view of the tenants is concerned. But all the same I do appeal to the Honourable the General Member and those members who will be elected to serve on the select committee to see to it that in the select committee the bill is so improved that the hardships of the poor and the hardships of the middle classes, particularly the lower middle classes to which I have referred, will be fully and sympathetically considered and that the improvements in the bill will be not in the interest of the landlords but entirely in the interests of the poor tenants. Sir, I own to a feeling that Governments, not excepting the Bombay Government, are peculiarly susceptible to the influences of the rich and the wealthy, and I should not be surprised if as this bill passes through its various stages, influences are brought to bear upon the Government in order that the bill may be so amended as to make it more acceptable to the landlords than to the tenants. But I do sincerely hope, that the Honourable the General Member who is in charge

[Mr. R. G. Pradhan]

of this bill will take every care to resist any such influences that may be brought to bear upon him, and that this bill will be improved so as to give full satisfaction to the millions of tenants and the millions of poor people who are living in this city. With these words I fully support the first reading of the bill.

Mr. E. E. WOODS : Sir, a great deal is made of the fact, to a certain extent inside the House, and to a greater extent outside, that the Rent Act is purely a war measure to remedy certain conditions created by the War, and now that the war is over, these special conditions have ceased to exist and consequently there is no need for any further extension of this Act.

The advocates of this argument know as well as any one else that this is neither a correct nor a reasonably true statement of fact. They and their landlord friends are perfectly aware that many and the most important of these special conditions created by the war have not only not passed away, but some at least of these conditions have come to stay. We in Bombay to-day are not the only ones to suffer from this unfortunate circumstance. Calcutta for instance has found it necessary to extend its corresponding Act for a further period of three years commencing from May of last year. To travel a little further afield, we all know that the English Rent Restriction Act has recently been extended up to June 1928 with full control, and for a further period of two years with partial control. I mention this to show that the peculiar and unfortunate events set up by the War have not ceased to exist, but are, on the contrary, in a great measure present with us here to-day. It therefore becomes an imperative necessity to extend our Act as well. We shall not only be in good company by so doing, but we shall also be doing the correct thing as well.

My next point is, that although wages have been increased to compensate to some extent for the increased cost of living generally, yet it must be borne in mind that in the ultimate result so far as the betterment of the individual is concerned, his present prospects in terms of Rs. as. ps. when considered and compared with his position before the period when abnormal prices and increased costs to himself set in, are not only no better than before, but in the majority of cases considerably worse. The increase of pay demanded by workers in the various fields of labour was for the purpose of meeting the extraordinary rise in this matter of living, rents included, but in no case did this increased wage make up entirely for the changed economic conditions which workers found themselves faced with. The result is that in spite of the palliative measures adopted to remedy, to some extent at least, the abnormal conditions of living, the workers in the different degrees and strata of society as met with in Bombay have found themselves pecuniarily in a worse position than before these war conditions prevailed, and if the restrictive rent measures are not now continued, the added burden will be great and spread over a very extended area. Hundreds of schools for boys and girls, private dispensaries, nursing homes and many like institutions, all of them situated in rented premises, will be gravely affected among

[Mr. E. E. Woods]

others, as rents will be suddenly and enormously increased and the burden will fall disastrously on the public generally, and will act with peculiar oppressiveness on the poor and middle classes. I have shown that the public, and it is particularly these classes I have in mind, are unable to bear the burden as the purchasing power of the rupee has shrunk to one-half its former and pre-war value, and this again reacts on landlords and thus the extra profits of the latter have also naturally declined.

Then again, Sir, the stagnancy of trade and business generally is a fact which cannot be denied and reacts on all. Thus we find that many dwelling places, chawls, shops, etc., are untenanted for the simple reason that the people as a whole are poorer to-day on account of the dearness of living than they were before. This quality of poorness, I would impress upon the House, is the chief, if not the only reason why comparatively speaking, so many premises are untenanted to-day.

To briefly recapitulate and summarise my argument, I have in the first place shown, that the special conditions created by the war have not passed away and hence the benefits of the Rent Act should be continued.

Secondly, that we are not alone in demanding an extension. Our neighbours in Calcutta have had a further extension of their Rent Act for a period of three years from now, and the British Government have not only seen the absolute need and justice for a continuance of the protective provisions of their Rent Restriction Act in the United Kingdom for a period extending up to 1930, but they have also brought about a decrease of 15 per cent. in their standard rent as well.

Thirdly, the increased wages given to workers to compensate them for the increased cost of living do not by any means entirely remedy this evil, though they might have to a certain extent a palliative value.

And lastly, I would submit, Sir, that the present stagnancy of trade and business to-day conduce further towards these adverse conditions and only make the lot of those who are not landlords but merely tenants considerably worse, and thus by their poverty react on the landlords and help to keep many of their premises both business and residential unoccupied.

Without any desire to particularly vaticinate, I am of opinion, and in this I expect others will agree, that these conditions will be gravely accentuated in the near future.

Now, Sir, I come to the amending bill that is before us and I am afraid that it will not be found very satisfactory. It is not generally realised what a large fund of humour the Honourable the General Member is possessed of. Personally, I am inclined to think that in seeking a temporary respite from the cares of office, the Honourable Member found change in the craze which is now more or less epidemic in Bombay, and in trying to find the correspondence between, say "Greed", and another word of eight letters commencing with "L", he became so obsessed with the idea, that he worked out his schedules with a plentiful addition of high percentages in favour of the landlord. The principle of any

[Mr. E. E. Woods]

restrictive rent measure is the control and keeping down of rents, and not as proposed in the bill now before us, where the control is in practical sense rendered next to useless, and its benefits curtailed and made nugatory by the very large and exorbitant increase of rentals conceded to the landlords. I trust, however, that this House will see that a more equitable arrangement is arrived at before the bill comes up again.

I should like to make myself clear that in stating what I have, there is no intention of overlooking the just claims of our friends the landlords. I use this term with pleasure, as I am aware of a number of these gentlemen who (apart from other issues in this connection) have shown by their attitude on this question of rents, a large-hearted and sympathetic interest on behalf of their tenants, and their conduct throughout has been for good. These people, I agree, should be protected against unscrupulous tenants who either do not pay their rents regularly, or who, when subletting their premises, profiteer themselves. But I still maintain after making all these allowances, the principle embodied in the restrictive measure, is the control and keeping down of rents where it affects the poor and particularly the middle classes, as these latter from the circumstances of the case and which can easily be proved, deserve a greater degree of consideration.

In conclusion, I would like to deal with an argument advanced by the advocates of landlordism—an argument put forward presumably on account of its apparent strength as being based on a theory of Political Science,—the theory of Individualism, which I may, however, remind them received its knell over half a century ago. The argument runs somewhat on these lines : The Rent Act represents an illegal and despotic attack on the liberty of the individual regarding his landed property, and his absolute right in dealing with it under all circumstances and in any way he chooses. My reply, Sir, is that it is not so. It is merely a restraint laid on the abuse of such rights, liberties and license and for grave reasons of common welfare. Such restriction has operated in the past, and is being insisted on by all responsible Governments to-day ; and so long as we have a body of level-headed members in this Council and a General Member as at present, who will neither be afraid of, nor coerced by, capitalistic influences, however strong they be, I feel that the need and protection of poor and middle class tenants may safely be left to them.

With these remarks, Sir, coupled with the hope that the bill will receive the necessary consideration, I support its first reading.

Mr. R. D. SHINDE (Nasik District) : Sir, I support the first reading of this bill. I am sure, Sir, that nobody will dispute the statement made by the honourable member for Thana (Mr. G. B. Pradhan) that the Rent Act is an infringement of the property rights of the individual. But, Sir, he will agree with me that the State has a right to restrict individual liberty, either of person or of property, when it is necessary in the interest of society. The Rent Act, Sir, is the outcome of abnormal conditions of the war and the honourable member for Thana district is of the opinion

[Mr. R. D. Shinde]

that those abnormal conditions have subsided. But, Sir, it is not correct. In my view we are still under the shadow of the great war. Those abnormal times have not improved to such an extent as the honourable member for Thana thinks they have. Sir, we must provide some protection for some time to the small tenants; otherwise they will be at the tender mercies of the landlords. Sir, in concluding, I must thank the members of the Swaraj party for helping this time the cause of the tenants and they will, by this action, add to the laurels which they have already achieved.

Dr. M. B. VELKAR (Bombay City, South): Sir, while my honourable friend the nominated member—I mean Mr. Dabholkar—was speaking, I was all the time wondering why he was opposing this measure, because to my mind, if at all anything, this bill can be styled a landlord and capitalist measure. Look at the statement of objects and reasons of this particular bill. Here it is said: “It is equitable that the landlords should receive an adequate return for their capital, taking into consideration the changes that have taken place in the economic conditions since the Acts were passed”, and then further it is said: “and provision has therefore been made for a sliding scale of increases which will enable the landlords to secure a total increase of rent, ranging from 20 per cent. to 60 per cent. beyond the above mentioned standard rent.” Here, you find in this particular bill a provision has been made for a sliding scale of increase. By this bill it is proposed to give protection only up to Rs. 85 but there is this sliding scale of increase and above that there is no protection and the whole Act is repealed. Thus this House will be convinced that under this bill the protection is sought to be given only to the landlords and not to the tenants. It appears from the provisions of the bill that the presumption of the Government is that income of the tenants will increase every year. The provisions allow a sliding scale of increase in the rents on the presumption that the tenants also will get an increase in their income. It is a well-known fact that there is a trade depression and the problem of unemployment is becoming so acute that it requires an early solution. Under these circumstances I do not understand why a sliding scale of increase in the rent should be allowed to the landlords. The main reason for the protection that ought to be given to the tenants by this bill is that the prices have not gone down. What is the real situation? The economic distress is still there and, as has been pointed out by my honourable friend Mr. Woods, the value of the rupee has gone down by half. If therefore any protection is to be given it ought to be given to the tenants, without any sliding scale of increase in rents of the landlords as is sought to be done under this bill.

As regards the non-residential premises after the measure this House passed at the last sessions the state of affairs as it exists at present has been well described by my honourable friend Mr. Swaminarayan. The moment the protection with regard to non-residential premises ceased to operate the greedy landlords mercilessly increased the rent by 200 and 300 per cent. They have thereby betrayed their trust and

[Dr. M. B. Velkar]

shown themselves incapable of exercising any discretion with regard to rent, the moment they are allowed liberty.

Now, the bill will be referred to the select committee and I hope that it will emerge out of it in such a form as to give satisfaction to all parties.

Mr. V. A. SURVE (Ratnagiri District): (Addressed the House in Marathi): Sir, I beg to support the first reading of the bill. In doing so, I wish to say a few words in justification of this measure. I had lived in Bombay for 17 years. I can say from my experience that the landlords' only purpose is to extort as much rent as possible without any regard to the capacity of the tenants to pay or the facilities they give to them. As regards the facility afforded to tenants with regard to water-supply and lighting, the less said the better. There would be one water tap for a number of tenants living in the same flat. If the landlord is told to put another tap, he would turn a deaf ear to it but on the first of every month with unerring precision he would stand before the tenants for rent. To make the condition worse, there would arise some dispute with regard to the water tax and the municipal people would cut off water supply. As regards lighting arrangements it is in no way better than water supply.

Under the provisions of the Act, a sliding scale of rise in rent is allowed to landlords. Suppose a man with an income of Rs. 300 or so keeps a block of rooms for Rs. 85. If the protection is removed with regard to dwelling house beyond Rs. 85 and above, and if the landlord in his usual merciless manner increases the rent by 100 per cent. or so, the question is whether the tenant will be able to pay that rent.

Formerly the Tata Company used to receive a sum of Rs. 30 to Rs. 35 for a 50 square foot piece of land for quarrying purposes; that has now increased to Rs. 775. Similarly, the land of the honourable member Mr. Dabholkar, formerly used to fetch a rent of Rs. 20 to Rs. 25 for quarrying rights, but the rent has now been increased to Rs. 300 to Rs. 400. The quarrymen thus suffer greatly.

Mr. V. A. DABHOLKAR: I rise to a point of order. We are discussing the Rent Act and not the rents for quarrying rights.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member is talking about rents for quarrying rights. That has nothing to do with the present motion.

Mr. V. A. SURVE: Therefore, the present bill will have to be suitably amended in the select committee. I only desired to bring to the notice of the Council the facts which I have mentioned. I support the first reading of the bill, and hope that the House will also support it.

Dr. COSMAS FERNANDEZ: Sir, I have listened to the speeches of several honourable members, but I heard nobody referring to section 9, sub-section (3) which is sought to be amended by this amending bill. It says that in future nobody will be allowed to sublet any part of their premises. I think this provision will work very adversely upon the middle classes. There are a number of people who cannot afford to live in a house for which they have to pay a rent of Rs. 50 to Rs. 75. If they

[Dr. Cosmas Fernandez]

cannot get any other accommodation, they have to go into such houses, and the only way in which they can afford to do that is by subletting a part of the premises to their friends. That is the only way in which they can manage to get some accommodation; otherwise, they would not be able to get any accommodation at all. I think these are very genuine cases, and in the majority of such cases no profit is made.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Order, order. Newspaper reading is not permitted.

Dr. COSMAS FERNANDEZ : I see that this provision has been put in to prevent people from profiteering, but I think if this could be confined to those premises which are included in this bill with rents up to Rs. 85, then there would be little chance of people profiteering, and even that could be prevented by making certain alterations in this section in the select committee. I think it is highly necessary that subletting of part of the premises ought to be allowed. As I say, there are hundreds of instances where people cannot get the accommodation which they need, and they resort to this out of sheer necessity. I hope the select committee will take this point into consideration and put it right.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South) : Sir, I am very sorry that when some of us here were trying to give expression to the voice of the masses in connection with this measure, the Honourable the General Member was not here to listen to that voice. But I hope that the speech that the honourable member has just made which represents the feeling of the masses, not from what he has heard but from what he has felt, will be conveyed to the Honourable the General Member and will give him some idea of the hardships of the labouring classes residing in the northern part of the city, who require protection. Another point which has struck this House is that, with the exception of one honourable member who represents the landlords of the city, there is not one on either side of the House who has opposed the first reading of this bill. I know, Sir, that the honourable member from Thana has criticised it, but as far as I could understand, he is supporting the first reading of the bill. I do not know if, after further consideration, the honourable member who represents the landlords of Bombay will continue his opposition or think it right to withdraw it. But, Sir, I am here to protest, and to protest rather earnestly, that the Honourable the General Member, who had given a pledge to this House during the last session in Poona, has not redeemed that pledge. The honourable member openly stated that he was going to bring in a measure which would satisfy both the landlords and the tenants of this city. That was the clear, definite statement made by the honourable member at the Poona session, and I ask this House to consider whether he has fulfilled that pledge or redeemed his promise and has brought in a measure which has been satisfactory both to the landlords as well as to the tenants. Even on that occasion in Poona, I was apprehensive, and I raised the point before I withdrew my measure, and I wanted to have an idea as to what sort of bill he would bring in, which would satisfy both the landlords and the tenants, because it struck every one in the House on

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

that occasion that it would be impossible for the Honourable the General Member to bring in a measure that would satisfy both the parties; he must make a choice between the landlords and the tenants. In a measure of this nature, which is likely to affect the rights of one party and to increase the interests of the other party, it would be impossible for any human being to bring in any measure that would satisfy both the landlords and the tenants. The honourable member from Bombay has rightly put it that the result has been that he has not only not satisfied the landlords, but he has also irritated the tenants. But I really do not understand how the honourable member representing the interests of the landlords could oppose this measure. Could any Government be more generous to the capitalist or the landlord classes of this city than the Honourable the General Member has been in introducing this measure? I should have expected the honourable nominated member from Bombay to have stood up and congratulated the Honourable the General Member and thanked him on behalf of the capitalists and landlords of the city for having come to their rescue. Instead of that, I find he has adopted rather an ungrateful attitude, which does not acknowledge the indulgence and generosity that has been shown to them.

Now, Sir, I must also protest that, when the Honourable the General Member said that he was going to bring in a measure that would satisfy the tenants, he leaves out of this bill non-residential premises, leaves out of the protection that is to be given the greater part of the tenements of the city. I would ask him to inform this House if he has made enquiries with all the staff at his disposal and out of those enquiries come to learn as to what is the percentage of tenements which have been occupied for non-residential purposes, show many petty shops there are, how many petty offices there are, how many schools there are, how many dispensaries there are, which are going to be affected by the removal of this restriction. If he has made such enquiries, he must have found that a very large percentage of the tenements are used as business premises, and if all control is to be removed so far as that class of tenements is concerned, how can he seriously and honestly maintain that he has fulfilled the pledge of bringing a measure for the protection of tenants as a whole? That promise has not been fulfilled, and the present bill is only an attempt to fulfil it in a faulty way.

Sir, I think it is the misfortune of the masses that this part of the department has fallen into the hands of a gentleman who has never been a tenant all his life. It is a misfortune I say, Sir, not for him, but it is a misfortune for the masses. He cannot feel, as the honourable member on my left feels, the pinches and hardships of the tenants, till he undergoes a tenant's hardships himself. Has he ever in his life been so unfortunate as to be compelled to run from door to door looking for business premises or residential quarters? Has he ever been worried by a landlord with notices of ejection, and suits for recovery of rent? Never. How can he then appreciate the hardships of the tenants and the difficulties of the masses, difficulties which have been so well represented by the honourable member on my left? I say that is a misfortune. If this department had been in

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

charge of one of those honourable members who had gone through the hardships which tenants have to undergo, and been worried by greedy landlords, then certainly he would have stood up and said "I have felt the pinch myself and I feel for the poor tenant". As it is, relying upon red tape and the reports that he gets from his staff, as he himself has admitted, how can the Honourable the General Member appreciate the feelings of the tenants? It is impossible for him to feel as the tenants do. Therefore coming from the class of landlords, it is but natural that the measure which he has produced must be of the type which we have got before us. I say, Sir, where is the protection for the tenant? I have been looking from section to section, from corner to corner. I say the necessity of giving protection to non-residential premises is far greater than the necessity for giving protection to the residential premises. The law of supply and demand, as stated by my honourable friend from Thana, is governed by entirely different considerations. The Honourable the General Member has forgotten that small traders have to stick to one locality where they have commenced their business and to them to remove their shops from that particular locality means ruination of their business, and I can produce facts and figures to show that a great number of petty traders have left this city and gone out of Bombay because their landlords would not allow them to continue their business in their old premises unless they paid enhanced rents. (An Honourable Member: That is not true). I am glad that a challenge has been given. I have got facts and figures to show that for a shop rented for Rs. 12, Rs. 75 have been demanded. For a shop rented for Rs. 20, Rs. 80 have been demanded. At the public meeting held for the tenants, a Parsi widow came and stated that for a place for which she had been paying Rs. 25 rent, and where she was providing meals to boarders, was served with a notice of Rs. 150. Now just imagine from a poor lady making about Rs. 40 or 50 after working from early morning till night the landlord wants Rs. 150 as monthly rent. Instead of making any profit the poor widow has to incur a debt of Rs. 80 a month for remaining in these premises. The lady almost shed tears while describing her condition and the landlords present there were so much moved in the matter that they persuaded her landlord not to eject her. That was not, Sir, the only one instance. There are many instances of this kind. If the Honourable the General Member likes to inquire he will find that there are five thousand ejection suits in the Small Causes Court, and if the Honourable the General Member really wants to help the tenants, he really ought to go into all these cases. Now if, in these five thousand cases affecting thousands of tenants, all of them are to be ejected from their shops, their business premises, what are they to do? Are they to go begging or stealing for their livelihood or to put an end to their miserable existence? What are they to do if the landlords will not have mercy on them and if Government is not going to help them? I put it to this House that this is not an exaggerated picture. It is a picture supplied on the records of a British Court of Law. The staff of the Court of Small Causes has really been overburdened with work because they are working night and day as they

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

cannot cope with the work in connection with these ejection suits. I ask Government the *Ma Bap* what are these poor traders to do? Are they to throw themselves into the sea if you are not going to protect them? The responsibility is very great and the Honourable the General Member has not realised his responsibility. I do not know what disaster it would lead to. Some landlords are simply waiting for the decision of this House. And I assure you that as soon as they find that this control has been removed so far as non-residential premises are concerned, not only ten thousand but fifty thousand suits will come to the Small Causes Court for ejection, and then the position of these poor traders will be simply worse and they shall only have to go and beg or steal. Many of them have already left the city because they cannot pay heavy rents. I do not want to weary the House with facts and figures, but I have got with me here exact figures and names of shop-keepers from whom 200 and 300 per cent. more rent has been demanded by their landlords, and suits have been filed against tenants. The honourable member has stated that there is particularly one measure which has been rigid, namely the power given to the landlord to open the premises if the rent is in arrears for three months and if the tenant is out of the premises. Why has he not considered the case of a *bona fide* tenant going out of the premises for *bona fide* purposes and not being able to return within three months, and for some reason not being able to pay rent? In that case is his house to be taken possession without notice? Truly this is the position when a measure is taken without considering the change of circumstances. This measure has been adopted from the British measures on the same subject but in that measure there are general safeguards provided. Under the present measure if a tenant goes out locking up his place and remains away for three months that justifies the controller to break open his lock and take possession of the property so that if that unfortunate tenant returns a day later than three months he has simply to go into the streets of Bombay and his premises are taken possession of by whom we do not understand. This provision was not in the previous bill but it has been newly introduced. It would have been far better if the interests of the tenants had been left to the tender mercies of the landlords than to Government.

Then again there is another provision which gives the municipal authorities the power of ejection. If the honourable member is aware there is already a provision in the Municipal Act to the effect that whenever the premises are required for the purpose of municipal purposes, the tenant can be ejected in 24 hours but there is also a proviso to the effect that provided that the landlord gives an undertaking that after the completion of that repair the tenant will be restored to his premises. That safeguard again has been removed in the present measure. The Rent Act is said not to affect those premises which the Municipal Act considers to be in a ruinous condition. It is another instance how tenants' interests are being looked after by Government. I submit that this Act does require complete overhauling in the select committee because as the honourable member from Thana has put it the effect of this measure will be far

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

reaching, and it will affect the health of the baby for whom the Honourable the General Member is so anxious. He was an active member in the Baby Week having various measures for the protection of babies. If he wants the babies to be protected let him give good houses for their parents to live. It is not the lectures and *tamashas* at the Cowasji Jehanjir Hall that is going to protect the babies. I will only point out one or two instances how this measure affects not only the health of the babies but the health of all the citizens. Every day milkmen who are prosecuted for selling adulterated milk, openly tell the magistrates "what are we to do, our landlords are charging exorbitant rents and in order to pay them we have to sell our milk adulterated with water". Now this is the milk which is given to your babies. (Laughter.) It is not a matter to be laughed at. These are actual facts which are happening. Similarly all the commodities like ghee, milk and all other things which are required for human consumption have to be sold by petty traders at a higher price to pay higher rents and it is thus that the life of the citizen is affected. That does not affect, of course, the Honourable the General Member because he is quite secure with his pure milk and pure ghee, but if you look to the general conditions of the city you will find that this measure is really required more for the business than for the residential premises and since that protection to the business premises is not given in this measure I must say that the solemn pledge given to this House has not been redeemed and therefore I enter my emphatic protest against this bill being carried through.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North): Mr. President, if it would console my honourable friend to my right (Mr. V. A. Dabholkar), I might tell him that on the theoretical aspects of this question, the views I entertained in 1922 I entertain even to-day. If he would invite me to consider this bill on merely theoretical principles, I could assure him that I would join him in doing short work of this bill. Sir, what has this bill done? It has divided the whole population of Bombay into two classes, landlords and tenants, and has set them at loggerheads, and it has introduced artificiality and inequality. A man occupying 100 square feet in an old building is made to pay Rs. 10: another man occupying 100 square feet in a new building has to pay Rs. 20 or Rs. 25. If the State is to protect, it must protect all, and not only a few. Then, look at the revenues of the Bombay municipality. Only two years ago the general taxation was somewhere about 9·78 per cent.: to-day it is standing at 11½ per cent. Why was this increase made? Because the municipal revenue had suffered, and therefore in order to increase it the expedient adopted was to increase the general taxes. But even with that increase the revenues have remained stagnant. And as the municipal revenues have fallen low amenities to the public are denied, several curtailments in expenditure have been made, and unemployment has been going on. This is what the Rent Act and its perpetuation has accomplished. Therefore, looking only from a theoretical basis, I do not think that there would be anybody in this House who would defend the principles of the bill. But our actions in life are not all guided solely by

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

theory. We are very often compelled to look to the expediency of a measure.

The honourable member sitting to my right has very pertinently argued that the General Member has not supplied him with any statistics. I do not know since when he developed this love for statistics, but if he wants them I can give them to him. I will present to him the December issue of the *Labour Gazette*. In that there is an article under the heading "Standard of Living of the Indian Middle Classes in Bombay City". Several-family budgets have been examined, and the results are that the middle classes whose incomes are below Rs. 100 have at the end of the month a *minus* balance of Rs. 3, that is they are compelled to spend Rs. 3 more than what they actually earn. This presupposes that the man is in employment. But if the man is not in employment—and at present we hear too much of unemployment—what will be the case? In that case, in order to maintain himself he will have to spend Rs. 103 by going to a Marwadi. If any figures are necessary, I think this one figure will quite suffice. The article also gives figures relating to the middle classes getting an income of Rs. 100 to Rs. 200, and in their case also we find that the balance at the end of the month is a *minus* one and not a *plus* one. So, all those people who belong to the middle classes and reside in Bombay, even assuming they are all in employment, find themselves in debt. Then, we have to bear in mind that the men belonging to the middle classes, whose income is Rs. 100 or below, pay 17 per cent. of their income as rent. The honourable members occupying the opposite benches, I think, have to pay only 10 per cent. of their salaries as rent. I think this one fact alone will convince the House that it is absolutely necessary to extend the duration of the Rent Act.

I can give another reason also. So far as the labouring classes are concerned, Government have come forward to their rescue in a partial measure. In a very short time there will be 16,000 single room tenements so that the labouring classes will have at least some place to dwell in. So far as those who dwell in flats are concerned, private enterprise is coming to their rescue. May I ask the champions of landlords who is to take care of those persons who belong to the middle classes over whose head the dagger of unemployment is hanging to-day? Are we not supposed to make certain provisions for those people who belong to the middle classes? I think the Honourable the General Member deserves the thanks of the needy people for bringing forward this bill.

I would say in view of the figures I have quoted the limit of Rs. 85 which he has placed requires reconsideration. (The Honourable Mr. Cowasji Jehangir: It is Rs. 102). That point may be gone into in the select committee, and I shall not take more of the time of the House on that point.

The next point that was raised by the honourable member sitting to my right (Mr. Dabholkar) was his enquiry why the Rent Act should be extended to three years and not only one year. I give him a reply to that question. I am sure he is a member of the Bombay municipal corporation. He knows the meeting that was held on the 5th of May

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

1924. May I just refresh his memory and enquire if a resolution to the following effect was not passed: "That this Corporation requests the Bombay Government to adopt early legislation for the purpose of extending the present Rent Act for three years more from the date of the expiry in view of the fact that the causes which brought the Rent Act into existence have not yet disappeared"? So, if the municipal corporation which both in theory and practice, represents the public of Bombay, if a local body representing the views of the public of Bombay, makes a demand in the name of the public that the Rent Act should be extended for three years, is it not the duty of Government to act upon that recommendation? He has also stated.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Is it necessary that the honourable member should reply to each and every point which may have been made by the only member who opposed the first reading?

Mr. A. N. SURVE: On the whole, I say that the House should unreservedly support the first reading of the bill, though it has some defects which may be looked into in the select committee. Therefore, I support the first reading.

Mr. D. R. PATIL (East Khandesh District): Sir, I rise to support the first reading of this bill. As regards the principle of this bill, there is only one gentleman, our honourable friend Mr. Dabholkar, who opposes the principle. We have heard the discussion over this bill and we find some interesting matters. The first matter is that a nominated member differed from a nominated member; and the second point is that an independent member, namely, Mr. Pradhan from Nasik, differed from Mr. Pradhan from Thana, who is also an independent member; and the third point is, Mr. President, that all the members of the Swaraj party, non-Brahmin members as well as Mahomedans, are all one so far as the principle of this bill is concerned. Now, Sir, I would remind my honourable friend Mr. Dabholkar of one Hindu notion. And what is that notion? The Hindu notion is that if you do meritorious or charitable deeds in your previous birth, you are happy in this birth, and you can become a rich man. I can very easily say, Sir, that Mr. Dabholkar must have done some meritorious acts in his previous birth, as he is rich in his present birth. I heartily wish that he should become a rich man again in his next birth by doing charitable acts in this birth.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Where is the necessity of going into all this?

Mr. D. R. PATIL: The point is this, Mr. President, that I wish him to be charitable towards the poor tenants in this birth, so that he may become a richer man in his next birth.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Does it necessarily mean that if he does not do charitable acts during this birth, that he will not become a rich man in the next birth?

Mr. D. R. PATIL: Yes, the Hindu notion means that, Mr. President. I request my honourable friend Mr. Dabholkar to consider this Hindu

[Mr. D. R. Patil]
notion and I hope that he will withdraw his opposition and support this bill which necessarily protects the interests of the poor tenants.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA (Ahmedabad District): Mr. President, I oppose clause 4. It requires a great deal of thought. This clause looks very simple, but it would act as a lever to terrorise work-people in times of strikes. I have got some experience of the labour movement and, therefore, I say, Sir, that when there is a strike, the millowner would say: "Your services are terminated and therefore you cannot live in the chawls provided by me". It will prejudicially affect the condition of the labourers, and will reduce them from the position of labourers to slaves. That is the only point to which I would draw the attention of the select committee.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Mr. President, when introducing this bill, I correctly said there was only one issue before us and that was whether the Act should be extended or not, and I can see from the speeches made that, with the exception of one honourable member, all are in favour of extending the Act and that they will accept the appointment of a select committee which I shall have the honour of moving within a very short time.

My honourable friend from Thana spoke about Salsette and thought that the limit for Bombay was too high for Salsette. We shall certainly examine that in the select committee and Government will be prepared to accept any amendment in the bill that may be fair and equitable for the whole of Salsette, including his town of Thana, and he may rest assured that we shall do the landlords of Thana no injustice. We shall meet them and meet my honourable friend Mr. Pradhan, who happens to be, I believe, the chairman of the municipality, in any proposal which is just and equitable. Mr. President, the only member who opposed the first reading of this bill complained that the policy of Government changed and shifted with a change of members. I do not think he was quite correct in the constitutional position that he tried to explain. It is the Government as a whole who decided this question and it is Government as a whole who place this legislation before the House, and it has nothing to do with the personal views of any individual Member of Government. He only takes the responsibility for steering the bill through in this honourable House on behalf of Government. He quoted at great length my predecessor, Mr. President, but I did not understand the point he was trying to make. I really do not know what he was quoting and what he was trying to argue, and I believe most of the honourable members here are in the same position. (Honourable Members: Yes, yes).

Now, Sir, there has been a considerable amount of criticism that although this bill is meant to control rents the increase provided for in this bill frustrates that object. May I point out that the very fact that this bill is moved in this House and that Government desire to control the rent of certain premises is quite clear evidence of our *bona fides*, and that if this bill had not been moved and if legislation is not

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

passed, and if there is no control at all over one-room, two-room, and three-room tenements, the landlords, according to the tenants, would put up the rents by 100 per cent. This bill will prevent them from doing so. It is here where the control comes in. (One Honourable Member : Partial). It provides for reasonable rise in rent. Some of my honourable friends opposite think that if there is no control the rents will rise by 200 per cent. and 300 per cent. I do not believe so, but this bill provides what Government consider a reasonable and equitable rise in rent.

Now, coming to my honourable friend, the champion of the tenants ; he has levelled a charge against me that I have not kept my pledge. I may remind this honourable House that Government promised to introduce a bill which they hoped would be satisfactory both to the landlords and the tenants. Let me first remind this honourable House the circumstances under which I made that statement. The honourable member moved a bill for extending the Rent Act for residential premises and it was so badly drafted that you, Mr. President, did not know whether to rule it in order or not and you were arguing the question whether....

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : I had no secretary to help me.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : I am very sorry to hear that he is incapable of drafting a simple bill. He is a lawyer. He is a well-known lawyer....

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : Is it in order, Sir ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : I wish the honourable member, the Leader of the Swaraj party, would keep his own members in order and not complain when I begin to answer.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : Is it in order to enter into personalities ?

Mr. J. BAPTISTA : Is the Honourable the General Member in order to say that the President was unable to rule one way or the other and was confounded ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I did not understand him to say so. Otherwise I would have called him to order.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA : He said so.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : It is not correct, Sir. My honourable friend the leader of the Swaraj party rises to a point of order that I enter into personalities. When honourable members on the other side indulge in personalities, does he ever rise to a point of order on those occasions ? I wish, Sir, he would really lead the Swaraj party.

Coming back to the point which I was arguing, a discussion was going on between yourself and the honourable member Mr. Nariman as to how his bill could be in order. At that stage, Sir, to cut short discussion, I announced that Government proposed to bring in a bill and expressed the hope that it would meet with the approval of both landlords and tenants. Let me remind the honourable House that the bill the

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

honourable member Mr. Nariman was moving then did not include non-residential premises but it only included residential premises. The bill to amend the Rent Act with regard to non-residential premises had already been negatived by this honourable House. So, when the Government proposed to bring in a bill which would meet with the approval of landlords and tenants it could only be with regard to residential premises. The honourable member Mr. Nariman's bill did not contain any clause which related to non-residential premises.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : Sir, I want to explain the matter. In that bill I could not include non-residential premises, because just before that Mr. Addyman's bill on the same subject was not allowed to be introduced. According to your ruling that within six months the same subject should not be brought again, I could not bring the same amendment.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : That explanation does not meet the point the Honourable the General Member is making. The Honourable the General Member was attacked and I gave full latitude to the honourable member to criticise the Honourable the General Member with regard to the non-inclusion of non-residential tenements in this bill. So far as the facts are concerned the Honourable the General Member is correct.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : Thank you, Sir.

I said that Government would bring forward a bill and I hoped that it would meet with the acceptance of impartial landlords and tenants. I never expected that it would meet with the approval of people who look at everything that Government does with a jaundiced eye. I never expected to get any support from my honourable friend Mr. Nariman. It is not his creed ; it is not his principle. He is out to obstruct. Naturally when he wants to support a measure brought by Government, he has to kick against it, and he has got to make out a case against it. That is all that the honourable member Mr. Nariman was doing.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I believe the honourable member does not mean that he was making out a case against his own conviction.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : His convictions were in favour of Government ; but he does not want to support the measure because it is brought by Government.

The honourable member then wanted the Government to choose between landlords and tenants. Government refuse to side with any party, either labour or capital or landlord or tenants. It is not for Government to side with any party. It is the duty of the Government to hold the scales even. The Government have tried their best to do so. We cannot do better than what we have done now. Let the select committee improve upon it. My honourable friend enquired whether the Government would take sides even in the select committee. If he thinks so he is very much mistaken. That may be the policy and tactics of my honourable friend ; but the Government cannot. Government have got a sense of responsibility. They

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

have to answer both the landlords and tenants, both inside and outside the House. They propose to pursue that policy here as well as in the select committee. If my honourable friend believes that he is going to get any unfair preference for tenants he is very much mistaken.

Without taking any more time of the House, I will move for the select committee as soon as the first reading of the bill is carried.

Bill read a first time.

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: I beg to move that the bill be referred to a select committee consisting of 17 members to report by the middle of July, 8 to form the quorum.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA: Can I move an amendment that the report should be submitted by the end of June next?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Such an amendment would be in order.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA: I move, Sir.

"That the report be made by the end of June."

That is the only alteration I have to suggest.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Amendment proposed "That the bill be referred to a select committee consisting of 17 members, 8 to form a quorum, the committee to report by the 30th of June". Both the amendment and the original motion are before the House.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Sir, my objection is this, that Karachi is interested in this bill, and all the members from Sind have left Bombay already, and they are not inclined to return to Bombay again so soon as to enable us to report before the end of June. You must see to the convenience of honourable members who live far away from Bombay. If they had been present in the House and if they could have served on the committee, we could have had meetings of the committee to-morrow and the day after. As it is we can have only one meeting to get matters straight, but we cannot proceed with this bill until members from Karachi are in a position to be present. I hope the House will trust the select committee to do the work as quickly as possible, and we will try to bring the report of the select committee out before the July session. I hope the honourable member will withdraw his amendment.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA: Sir, I ask for leave of the House to withdraw my amendment.

Question put and leave granted.

Original motion put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Sir, I beg now to propose that the committee should consist of the following persons:

Mr. J. Addyman.

Mr. D. B. Adwani.

Mr. J. Baptista.

Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar.

Mr. V. A. Grantham.
 Mr. Hooseinbhoy A. Lalljee.
 Mr. Hoosenally M. Rahimtoola.
 Mr. K. F. Nariman.
 Mr. M. S. Khuhro.
 Mr. R. D. Shinde.
 Mr. G. B. Pradhan.
 Mr. A. N. Surve.
 *Mr. P. E. Percival.
 Mr. R. H. A. Delves.
 Mr. C. W. A. Turner.
 Mr. V. A. Dabholkar.
 The Member in charge.

Mr. C. M. SAPTARSHI : Sir, I wish to suggest one more name.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The honourable member cannot suggest any more names, because these are the 17 names proposed and the motion just now carried by the House was that the select committee shall consist of 17 members. It is perfectly open to the honourable member to suggest another name in place of any one of those that are included in the list, and then the amendment would be quite in order. But he cannot suggest an additional name.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : Sir, my name can be taken out.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The honourable member should move an amendment that in place of a certain name another member should be substituted.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : I can arrange that, Sir. What other member does the House desire to be on the select committee ? (An Honourable Member : Dr. Velkar). Very well, Sir. I shall be very pleased to add Dr. Velkar's name, by leaving out that of the Legal Remembrancer. The Legal Remembrancer can assist the committee without being a member, and so we will substitute the name of Dr. Velkar.

Motion as amended put and carried.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Supplementary Grants.

Supplementary grant of Rs. 24,645, by reappropriation from 5, Land Revenue to 22, General Administration, for contingent expenditure on treasuries.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Sir, I beg to move that a sum of Rs. 24,645 be transferred from 5, Land Revenue to 22, General Administration. Sir, the circumstances under which this transfer is asked for have been fully explained in the note that is before honourable members. It is merely a book entry, and I hope the Council will agree to it.

Question put and carried.

Supplementary grant of Rs. 28,800 by reappropriation from non-voted to voted under 24, Administration of Justice, for pay of Registrar, High Court, Appellate Side.

*Dr. M. B. Velkar's name was subsequently added by leaving out that of Mr. P. E. Percival.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, I move for the transfer of Rs. 28,800 from non-voted to voted under 24, Administration of Justice. It is a formal transfer.

Question put and carried.

Supplementary grant of Rs. 90,211 by reappropriation from 47, Miscellaneous to 6, Excise, for payment to Messrs. Boyce D. Cowasji and Company.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Sir, I move for a grant of Rs. 90,211, to be reappropriated from 47, Miscellaneous to 6, Excise.

Question proposed.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District) : Sir, the matter does not appear to me to be as simple as the two motions just disposed off. A certain rate was agreed upon between the contractors and the Government ; it was Rs. 1-1-0 per gallon. Then the contractors made a representation to Government that the rate should be Rs. 1-11-0 per proof gallon, but Government declined to grant the contractors' request. Then the company of contractors made a further representation to Government, putting forward three or four grounds of complaint, and Government, on a reconsideration of the whole question and after consulting the Remembrancer of Legal Affairs, came to the conclusion that it was *advisable* to concede the company's requests in certain respects. I doubt the wisdom of this course. Here, it is stated that Government thought it *advisable* to grant the company's request. But I think, Sir, the question is not whether it is advisable or otherwise to pay the company more. The question is not whether it is just whether the company is entitled to this large amount proposed. The amount is fairly large, namely, Rs. 90,211 and if Government have a strong case and would succeed if the matter was taken to court, I do not think it is advisable to hush up in such a manner. Unless the House is assured that it is not only advisable but also just to pay the contractors more and unless the House is informed why there had been a difference of opinion between those two sets of officers, I do not think the House will see its way to grant this demand. Either the first set of officers who advised to pay at the rate of Re. 1-1-0 bungled or the second set of officers who advised the payment at the rate of Rs. 1-11-0 per gallon. Who bungled and why ? The question does not appear simple to me as it is sought to be made out and the House will be justified in asking for a satisfactory explanation before it sanctions such a big sum.

Mr. H. H. NARIELVALA (Broach District) : I want to know from the Honourable Minister in charge whether the refund of this character was made to other contractors at the time of picketing. Such a refund was not made, so far as my knowledge goes, and I want to know why the Honourable Minister at this juncture has come with this supplementary grant.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Sir, the note on the question is so exhaustive that I need hardly enter into the circumstances which led to this compromise between the company and the Government. The simple facts are that on the advice of the excise department and the commissioner Government considered that

[Mr. A M K Dehlavi]

Messrs. Boyce Cowasji and Co. were wrong in demanding one rupee and one anna per gallon for the stock in hand which they had to take over from Government when Carew and Co.'s contract ended. Later on, it appeared from the contract and from the notice that was issued calling for tenders that there was a possibility of a misunderstanding between Boyce and Co. and the Commissioner of Excise and his department, as the documents admitted of both interpretations. It was also thought possible that if the matter proceeded to court the decision might be against one or the other, and Government was therefore advised that a compromise was the best way out of it. In short Government on whole came to the conclusion that the 90,000 rupees was not only the best compromise, but, looking to the understanding under which Boyce and Co. entered into the contract, was also fair and just.

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Sir, I beg to move:

The sum of Rs. 31,181 be transferred from head 47, Miscellaneous to 22, General Administration, for expenditure on account of village police in the Ratnagiri District during the year 1924-25.

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: Sir, I beg to move:

The sum of Rs. 4,16,000 be transferred from 47, Miscellaneous (reserved with finance department) to Irrigation, Extensions and Improvements to the protective bund lines and canals in Sind to make good the damage caused thereto by the abnormally high inundation of 1924.

Now, Sir, honourable members will have noticed from the statement placed before them that Government intended to ask for Rs. 5,34,000 but, Sir, this statement was first prepared and sent to Bombay for the finance committee in December last. Since then we have been again revising the list to see what economies can be effected. This expenditure is for the floods that took place in Sind. We tried to see what further retrenchment would be effected, and the Chief Engineer finally reported that he could save another 75,000 rupees. Originally he stated that he wanted Rs. 9,17,600. It was agreed to allow him that amount by utilising savings to the extent of Rs. 3,83,600 which were effected from other expenditure in Deccan and Sind to meet this sudden expenditure and thus our demand would have been Rs. 5,34,000 but now the Chief Engineer reports that he could do with less expenditure. We also found that we can scrape together another 43,000 from the other parts of the presidency and Sind. Therefore the total demand now will be Rs. 4,16,000, that is, Rs. 5,34,000, — 1,18,000, which leaves 4,16,000. The details, Mr. President, are given in the annexure.

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Sir, I rise to move:

That the sum of Rs. 3,50,353 be transferred from General Administration to the expenditure of Rs. 2,80,448, 22, General Administration, and to the expenditure of Rs. 24,905, 47, Miscellaneous.

This is a distribution to all the departments of Government of a lump sum that was budgetted for under one head only.

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : Sir, I beg to move :

That the sum of 31,160 be transferred from 47, Miscellaneous to 26, Police, and 34, Agriculture.

This is, Sir, in continuation of my last demand.

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Sir, I beg to move :

That the sum of Rs. 23,673 be transferred from 26, Police to 41, Civil Works.

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Sir, I beg to move :

That a sum of Rs. 6,00,000 be transferred from balances to 60, Civil Works.

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, I beg to move :

That the sum of Rs. 75,000 be transferred from anticipated savings to 31, Education.

Question put and carried.

Supplementary demand of Rs. 5,000, for grant to Girl Guides Association.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, I make a demand of Rs. 5,000 to increase the grant of Rs. 1,81,55,512 already made for Education.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I do not quite follow the way these demands are printed. You have got to show from what item to what item the transfer is to be made. Cannot the Honourable Minister for Education follow the form adopted by other departments ?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : Sir, it is a transfer of Rs. 5,000 from the non-voted to the voted head under Education.

Question put

That a sum of Rs. 5,000 be granted by way of transfer from non-voted grant expenditure under the head 31, Education, to voted grant under Education

and carried.

Expenditure for demarcation of disputed boundaries between the British Government and the Baroda territories, Rs. 22,000, by transfer from 5, Land Revenue to 47, Miscellaneous.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Sir, I ask for a sum of Rs. 22,000 by way of transfer from 5, Land Revenue to 47, Miscellaneous.

Question put and carried.

Excess grant for superannuation allowances and pensions, Rs. 6,87,000.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : Sir, I rise to ask for an excess grant of Rs. 6,87,000 under the head 45, Superannuation Allowances and Pensions.

Question put and carried.

Supplementary demand for cost of training forest probationers, Rs. 51,114.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Sir, I ask for a grant of Rs. 51,114 under 51-A, Miscellaneous Adjustments between the Central and Provincial Governments.

Question put and carried.

Expenditure in England—Secretary of State, Rs. 18,000.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : Sir, I ask for a grant of Rs. 18,000 to meet the excess expenditure in England by the Secretary of State. It is proposed to meet this expenditure by re-appropriation from our balances.

Question proposed.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : I do not understand what the expenditure was in England and why was it incurred on account of the Bombay Stock Exchange Enquiry Committee.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : As regards the Bombay Stock Exchange Enquiry Committee, it is a payment to the chairman of the committee who came from England. He has received some part of his remuneration in England.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : Sir, we ought to have more particulars about this. The statement is very laconic. It does not explain what payment was made under each head.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : You mean you want the details for the three items (leave salaries, Privy Council appeal expenses, and Stock Exchange Committee) separately ?

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : Yes, Sir. The House ought to have further information as to what was this expenditure about. There is nothing about it at all.

Mr. G. WILES : Sir, I was not expecting that further details of this small item than have been given would be called for. The Secretary of State has to meet among other things expenses in connection with the appeals taken before the Privy Council. It is an obligatory expenditure which has to be met by the Secretary of State for India.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : It is bad enough that we have blindly to sanction expenditure made by the Secretary of State. But let us have the consolation of knowing what we are paying for. Where is the urgency for this now ?

Mr. G. WILES : The urgency is that it must be approved by the honourable House before the 31st of March. I will in the meantime see that full information is placed on the table.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : We may take it to-morrow.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I do not know whether the House will meet to-morrow.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : Mr. President, I shall be very glad to ascertain what these items are, and satisfy the honourable members in the matter. We have not the information before us now, but we will enquire in two days and give a statement to the House.

An Honourable MEMBER : In the meanwhile what will happen to this item ?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : It may be dealt with after the figures are supplied.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I take it, that even though it is a non-official day, the House will have no objection to it.

[The President]

That closes Government business. The difficulty arises as regards to-morrow. The House decided, in the expectation that there would be Government business to-morrow, to meet between 12 and 3, and on that understanding several honourable members have taken an engagement to-morrow afternoon.....

Honourable MEMBERS : Holiday.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : If the House wants a holiday, I have not the least objection to it.

The House will adjourn till 2 o'clock on Wednesday, the 18th March 1925.

Wednesday, the 18th March 1925.

The Council re-assembled at the Town Hall, Bombay, at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, the 18th March 1925, the Honourable the President, Sir IBRAHIM RAHIMTOOLA, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
ATHAVLE, Mr. S. N.
BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
BEDREKAR, Khan Bahadur I. M.
BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
BIJARANI, Khan Saheb SHER MAHOMED KHAN
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
BRANDER, Mr. J. P.
CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
GHOSAL, Mr. J.
GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khar Bahadur SHAIKH
GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
HARRISON, Mr. R. T.
HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
HUDSON, Mr. L. S.
JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
JOG, Mr. V. N.
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
KALBHOR, Mr. G. M.
KARKI, Mr. M. D.
KAY, Mr. J. A.
KAZI INAITULLAKHAN
KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.

LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
 LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 LINFORD, Mr. J. W.
 MACKIE, Mr. A. W. W.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
 MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
 NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
 NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 OWEN, Mr. A. C.
 PATEL, Mr. A. E.
 PATEL, Mr. D. N.
 PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
 PATIL, Mr. D. R.
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 POWAR, Mr. M. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSENALLY M.
 SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
 SARDESAI, Mr. S. A.
 SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
 SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO, Mr.
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 SHIVDASANI, Mr. H. B.
 SURVE, Mr. A. N.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.
 SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
 THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
 TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
 VELKAR, Dr. M. B.
 WILES, Mr. G.
 WOODS, Mr. E. E.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Order, Order. Questions.

REMOVAL OF OFFICE OF DIVISIONAL TRAFFIC MANAGER, G. I. P.
RAILWAY, FROM SHOLAPUR TO POONA.

Mr. ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRATKHAN (Poona and Sholapur Cities) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there was any necessity for shifting the office of the Divisional Traffic Manager of the G. I. P. Railway from Sholapur to Poona ?

(b) If so, what ?

(c) whether they are aware of the inconveniences caused to the commercial public of Sholapur by this change ?

(d) If so, what steps do Government intend to take to remove these inconveniences ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) Yes.

(b) The passenger and goods traffic to Poona is heavier than that to Sholapur and in addition there is very heavy cross traffic to and from the M. and S. M. Railway at Poona.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

THE KARACHI CIVIL HOSPITAL SCANDAL.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the pamphlet entitled "The Karachi Civil Hospital Scandal, charges against Colonel Stephens, I.M.S." written by Dr. Rochiram of Karachi ?

(b) What action does Government propose to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) Yes.

(b) Government do not propose to take any further action beyond the orders issued in their Resolution No. 4933, dated the 13th February 1924, a copy of which was placed on the table at the first session of the Legislative Council of 1924.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: In view of the fact that Dr. Rochiram has made specific charges, do not Government consider it desirable that the civil surgeon should be asked to clear his conduct by challenging Dr. Rochiram's statements if not true ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: He has already retired.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: May I know why Government are not prepared to make any further inquiry ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The resolution contains full particulars.

NON-EXAMINATION OF DEPONENTS AGAINST COLONEL STEPHENS.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): Is it a fact that when the Surgeon General was deputed to make an enquiry into the allegations made against Lieutenant-Colonel Stephens, no one of those who had given statements on oath before Magistrates (copies of which were with the Surgeon General) was called by him to give evidence ? If so, why ? Why was Dr. Rochiram not called to give evidence ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply given to his next question.

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST COLONEL STEPHENS OF KARACHI CIVIL HOSPITAL.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): (a) Is it a fact the Lieutenant-Colonel Stephens had applied for permission to prosecute the Editor of "Sind Observer" for defamation ?

(b) Is it a fact that the Surgeon General had recommended such permission being granted, and that after the enquiry the permission was not given? If so, why?

(c) Has the Civil Surgeon applied for permission to prosecute Dr. Rochiram, the author of the pamphlet referred to in the above question?

(d) Has Government decided that it is not necessary to call upon Lieutenant-Colonel Stephens to clear up his character in a court of law?

(e) Does Government propose to institute an open and impartial inquiry into the matter?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Government are not prepared to make any statements beyond what is contained in their Resolution Co. 4933, dated the 13th February 1924, a copy of which was put on the council table in reply to a question on the subject at the first session of the Legislative Council of 1924.

SUB-INSPECTORS OF SALT AND EXCISE DEPARTMENTS.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): Will Government be pleased to lay on the table the information on the following points regarding the Sub-Inspectors of the Salt and Excise⁵ Departments appointed or confirmed on or after the 1st of March 1922:—

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|------|----------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|---|
| Name | Reli- gion. | Qualifica- tions. | Date of appointment. | Present pay. | Place and district where stationed now. |

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Three statements* containing the information desired are placed on the Council Table:—

(i) Statement relating to Sub-Inspectors of the Department of Salt and Excise appointed or confirmed between 1st March 1922 and 29th February 1924.

(ii) Statement relating to Sub-Inspectors of the Salt Department appointed or confirmed on or after 1st March 1924.

(iii) Statement relating to Sub-Inspectors of the Excise Department appointed or confirmed on or after 1st March 1924.

FINES LEVIED FROM KHATEDARS OF VILLAGE RAJURI, TALUKA JUNNAR.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): (a) Have Government received a petition from some of the khatadars of the village of Rajuri, in the Junnar taluka of the Poona district, about remitting the fines levied from them for not paying the assessment in time?

(b) Have Government taken any action thereon?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) and (b) Yes. The matter is under reference to the local officers.

* Kept in the Secretary's office.

PROSECUTIONS OF KHATEDARS ON ACCOUNT OF NON-PAYMENT
OF ASSESSMENT IN RAJURI.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): (a) Are Government aware of the complaints made by some of the khatedars in regard to certain prosecutions launched against them for taking the lead in the so-called non-payment of assessment campaign in the village of Rajuri?

(b) Have Government inquired into the matter?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) and (b) The attention of Government has been drawn to certain allegations in a newspaper article which are being inquired into.

BUNGALOWS ON BACK BAY RECLAMATION.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they intend to reserve a portion of the Back Bay Reclamation for constructing bungalows for high placed officers?

(b) whether they intend to reserve any portion within the island of Bombay for the residential quarters of non-gazetted servants, clerks and menials?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: (a) and (b) At present Government have no such intentions.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM: May I know whether this question was at any time before Government for consideration?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: I would like to have notice of the question.

WATER FINDER AND BORING MACHINES FOR AGRICULTURISTS.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any demand by the agriculturists for the water finder and boring machines respectively;

(b) the number of such machines possessed by Government; and

(c) whether the number is sufficient to supply the demand?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) Yes.

(b) One water finder and 27 boring machines.

(c) The number of machines has been found inadequate and steps are being taken to add to the existing number 40 hand-worked and 29 power boring machines and two water finders during the current and next financial years.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI: Do Government consider that even the additional machines that they are going to purchase will be sufficient to meet the demand?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: We hope so; but if more are necessary it will be considered by Government.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI: How many hand-worked machines have been turned into power machines?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: I cannot tell you off-hand.

HISTORICAL MUSEUM, SATARA.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any grant is given by them to the Historical Museum at Satara ;

(b) if so, what the conditions are ;

(c) whether the Museum is open to the public for certain hours on all days or the time is liable to be changed from time to time ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) Yes.

(b) That the public are admitted to the Museum and that the present exhibits are maintained in good order.

(c) Enquiries are being made.

FOREST VILLAGES IN EAST KHANDESH.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of forest villages in East Khandesh ?

(b) How many of them have been enjoying concessions under the forest rules ?

(c) Against how many of such villages are punitive orders in force ? What are the penalties inflicted in such cases ?

(d) Whether such penalties are imposed for one year or for a continuous period of several years ?

(e) In how many villages in East Khandesh such punitive orders are in force for more than one year ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI (a) 280.

(b) 227.

(c) In the case of 53 forest villages grazing fees were increased this year. Where the village had been responsible for serious cattle trespass the fees were doubled. Where there had been failure in fire protection the fees were increased to Re. 1. Only in one village (Lasur) were privileges suspended.

(d) The penalties are in force for one year only, unless no improvement is shown by the village.

(e) In 13 cases where villages were punished last year the enhanced fees were continued this year, because the villages had shown no improvement.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI : Who decides the failure on the part of the agriculturists ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : The Divisional Forest Officer and the Collector.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI : I think the Collector has no hand in it ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : The Collector has a hand in it.

ANGLO-VERNACULAR SCHOOL AT CHOPDA AND NEW ENGLISH SCHOOL AT BHALOD.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(i) whether the Anglo-Vernacular school at Chopda in the East Khandesh district is allowed to maintain a 5th standard ;

(ii) whether such standard has been sanctioned for that school ;
 (iii) whether the New English School at Bhalod in the Yawal taluka of the East Khandesh district has been ordered to close its 4th standard ;

(iv) if so, on what grounds ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Enquiries are being made.

PRINCIPAL OF THE SIR J. J. SCHOOL OF ART, BOMBAY.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state what are the qualifications of the present principal of the Sir J. J. School of Art ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : He studied Art at the Art School of Sir Arthur Cope, R.A., and at the Royal Academy Schools, Burlington House, London. At Sir Arthur Cope's School he took the highest rewards for figure composition and for drawing from the Nude. At the Royal Academy Schools he went through the full (five years) curriculum and obtained the highest awards of the Royal Academy in painting. Besides painting he qualified himself in Perspective Drawing and Anatomy and had the advantage of attending the courses of Sculpture, Architecture, Chemistry, etc., under eminent Professors. Again as the Royal Academy's Travelling student in Painting he studied in Paris, Rome, Florence, Venice, Holland and later in Munich, Cologne and Vienna. He also exhibited several large classical pictures and portraits at the annual exhibition at Burlington House. He also taught in the School of Sir Arthur Cope, R.A., London, at different periods.

INSPECTOR OF DRAWING AND CRAFT WORK.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : (1) Will Government be pleased to state what are the qualifications of the present inspector of drawing and craft work and what are his duties ? Is he a practising artist ? What salary and allowances does he draw. (2) Will Government be pleased to state what is meant by the words "craft work" contained in the designation of the inspector of drawing and craft work ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (1) and (2) Information is being collected.

CONSULTING ARCHITECT TO GOVERNMENT.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : (2) (a) Will Government be pleased to state what are the functions of the Consulting Architect to Government and what is his pay ?

(b) Is he paid any fees or remuneration besides his salary ?

(c) Is he allowed to do private practice ?

(d) What are his establishment charges ?

(e) What is the number of assistants and clerks under him, and the salary of each of them ?

(ii) Will Government be pleased to state whether any reports or publications are issued by him stating the styles of architecture adopted by him in designing the several buildings for which his consultation was invited ?

(iii) Will Government be pleased to state whether he has adopted Hindu and Moslem or Saracenic architecture for any public buildings in this Presidency ? If so, for how many buildings has he adopted such designs during the last four years and what was the total number of buildings he designed or planned during the same years ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN :
(i) (a) The functions of the Consulting Architect to Government are preparation of projects and designs of architectural importance. His pay is Rs. 1,750 per mensem.

(b) No.

(c) Yes, with the previous permission of Government.

(d) Rs. 1,54,900 per annum.

(e) The number of assistants and clerks under him is—

| | | | |
|----------------------------|----|----|----|
| Assistant Architects | .. | .. | 2 |
| Quantity Surveyor | .. | .. | 1 |
| Assistant Surveyors | .. | .. | 2 |
| Junior Assistant Surveyors | .. | .. | 2 |
| Upper Subordinate | .. | .. | 1 |
| Draftsmen | .. | .. | 10 |
| Clerks | .. | .. | 5 |

| Salary as under :— | | | Per mensem. |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-------|-------------|
| | | | Rs. |
| 1 | Assistant | .. .. | 1,275 |
| 1 | " | .. .. | 850 |
| 1 | Quantity Surveyor | .. .. | 1,475 |
| 1 | Assistant Surveyor | .. .. | 470 |
| 1 | " | .. .. | 310 |
| 1 | Junior Assistant Surveyor | .. .. | 140 |
| 1 | " | .. .. | 130 |
| 1 | Upper Subordinate | .. .. | 256 |
| 1 | Head Draftsman | .. .. | 230 |
| 1 | 2nd Draftsman | .. .. | 185 |
| 1 | Draftsman | .. .. | 175 |
| 1 | " | .. .. | 165 |
| 1 | " | .. .. | 145 |
| 1 | " | .. .. | 125 |
| 1 | " | .. .. | 110 |
| 3 | " | .. .. | 90 each |
| 1 | Head Clerk | .. .. | 135 |
| 1 | Clerk | .. .. | 80 |
| 1 | " | .. .. | 105 |
| 1 | " | .. .. | 89 |
| 1 | " | .. .. | 65 |

(ii) No reports are issued by the Consulting Architect stating the styles of architecture adopted.

(iii) Indo-Saracenic style of architecture has been used for public buildings in the Presidency;

It has been adopted in 9 instances. The total number of buildings designed during the last four years is 53.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : In the answer it is stated "The functions of the Consulting Architect to Government are preparation of projects and designs of architectural importance". What is meant by architect?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : He designs buildings for Government.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : Does he prepare plans, estimates and so on?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : He designs.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : I want to know what is meant by 'quantity surveyor'? (No reply.)

The Honourable Minister does not reply to my question.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : He is not bound to answer.

EXECUTION OF THE WORK THROUGH THE AGENCY OF THE SCHOOL OF ART.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state whether any work was entrusted to the students and Principal, School of Art, for execution in any of the public buildings during the last four years; and if so, the nature of the work executed through the agency of the School of Art?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The work of decorating the Durbar Hall at Government House, Bombay, with paintings of the Indian Arts, Crafts and Pastimes is the only work which was entrusted to the Principal and students of the School of Art during the period.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : Why was no other work given to the students, though there were 53 architectural buildings constructed during the last four years?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I am sorry I cannot give any reply to that question. I would refer the honourable member to the Honourable Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : May I know why no work was entrusted to the students of the School of Art for the 53 architectural works carried out in the presidency during the last four years?

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : Have Government any intention of allowing the students of the local Art School to participate in the decoration of new buildings at Delhi?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Those buildings belong to the Government of India.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : Have you not received any information from Government?

APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT ENGINEERS.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state how many persons were promoted from the lower services to the cadre of assistant engineers during the last two years; how many of them were graduates of Indian Universities or trained in foreign countries?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: 17 in 1923 and 28 in 1924. 9 in 1923 and 17 in 1924 were Engineering graduates of the Bombay University and none in either batch had training in foreign countries.

MINISTERS AS ADVISERS.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) under what section of the Government of India Act the Ministers were constituted "advisers" as stated by Sir Maurice Hayward at page 4 of the press note issued on the 19th December 1924;

(b) whether the past and present Ministers accepted office on the understanding that they were to be advisers only?

(c) If the reply to (b) is in the negative, will Government be pleased to state whether any of the Ministers present or past laid down any conditions before accepting office? If so, will Government state the conditions on which each Minister accepted office?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a), (b) and (c) Attention is invited to the provisions of section 52 (3) of the Government of India Act.

ADDITIONAL GRANTS FOR SALARIES OF PRIMARY TEACHERS.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state whether they intend to add to the datum line—fixed grant to local bodies for primary education—any future increased amount due to annual increments in the salary of primary teachers?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: Attention is invited to the reply given at the current session to part (1) of the honourable member's similar question on the same subject.

DRINKING WATER SUPPLY IN PILGRIM CENTRE OF DAKOR.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware that the supply of drinking water in the pilgrim centre of Dakor is deficient;

(b) if so, what action they propose to take to remedy the grievance;

(c) whether the municipality of Dakor has made any representation to Government regarding a scheme for water supply?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: The honourable member is referred to the answers given by Government to questions put by the honourable member for the Indian Merchants' Chamber.

SIND IRRIGATION.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state what is the total expenditure incurred in Sind to the end of 1923 on—

- (a) productive works of irrigation;
- (b) protective works of irrigation;
- (c) minor works under the Indus River Commission?

Any expenditure incurred on account of Sukkar Barrage up to the above period should be given separately.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: (a), (b) and (c) As regards productive works the figures are contained in Statement II C in the Administration Report* for the year 1922-23 (Part II Irrigation Works) which is placed on the Council table. There are no protective irrigation works in Sind. The labour involved in obtaining the figures which are not kept separately for minor works under the Indus River Commission will be too great to justify their collection. The capital expenditure incurred on the Lloyd Barrage scheme up to the end of 1922-23 was Rs. 8,42,288.

REVISED RATES OF ASSESSMENT.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state in how many talukas of the presidency revised rates of assessments have been introduced since the passing of the resolution postponing the same till suitable legislation is passed by this Council?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: The revised rates have been introduced in two talukas but actually levied in one only.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: Were the revised rates introduced after the resolution of the Council on the subject?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Yes.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: Was the Council's resolution flouted by the Revenue Member? Was it not given due regard to by the Revenue Member?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: I have given the answer.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: It was not given due regard to in the case of one taluka, as I understand.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: I have told the honourable member that I have given the answer.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: Will the honourable member please state the names of the talukas where revised rates of assessment have been introduced?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Kopergaon and Sindkheda.

* Kept in the Secretary's office.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN : Are not revised rates introduced in the Panvel and Pen talukas of the Kolaba district ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Not after the resolution.

FOREST AREAS IN THE PANCH MAHALS.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) how much of the area in each of the villages of the Panch Mahals District is under Forest and what is the total expenditure and receipts on that account ;

(b) in how many villages the expenditure exceeds receipts ;

(c) if any area is worked at a loss the names of the villages and the areas therein which are worked at a loss by the Forest Department ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : (a), (b) and (c) The information regarding the total area of forest and the revenue and expenditure of the several Forest Divisions is given in Forms Nos. 51-D and 68 appended to the Forest Administration Report for the year 1922-23 to which the attention of the honourable member is invited. The collection of the information asked for by the honourable member would require an undue amount of time and labour. Government therefore regret they cannot undertake it.

GRANT-IN-AID TO SCHOOLS IN AGENCY AND NATIVE STATE TERRITORIES.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) to how many schools located in Agency and Native State jurisdiction grants-in-aid are given by Government ;

(b) the names of the towns in which such schools are situated ; and

(c) the amount of grant-in-aid given to each of these schools.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Information has been called for.

LALA SOMA OF CHIKASE AND HIS LEASES.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR on behalf of Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District) : Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware—

(a) that one Mr. Lala Soma Jire, patil of Chikase in Sakri taluka, was given on lease about 60 acres of Government land near Gangeshwar Mahadev temple continuously for three years ;

(b) that such leases are generally considered as permanent on the new tenure ;

(c) that Mr. Lala Soma has now been deprived of the land and that it has been given to another person ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) The man in question was given land measuring 48 acres 18 gunthas assessed at Rs. 56 out of Survey No. 78 of Ohikase on eksali tenure for three years.

(b) The grant was not made according to the new tenure, but on lease for 11 months. Such grants are not regarded as permanent.

(c) The land in question has now been granted permanently on new tenure to a military pensioned havaldar who had a record of good military service. There is no question of deprivation of land.

YARN USED TO WEAVE CLOTH IN JAILS.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR on behalf of Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(1) how much of the yarn used during the last year to weave cloth in jails in the presidency was handspun, how much of it was from Indian mills and how much from foreign mills?

(2) The total sum realised during that year by the sale of cloth so woven?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD:

| | | | |
|------------------------|----|----|---------------|
| (1) Handspun yarn | .. | .. | <i>Nil.</i> |
| Foreign Mill spun yarn | .. | .. | 2,153 lbs. |
| Indian Mill spun yarn | .. | .. | 3,38,731 lbs. |

(2) Rs. 3,32,434 not including sales of cloth made of a mixture of cotton and wool.

KITCHENS FOR TRAVELLERS' BUNGALOWS.

Mr L. B. BHOPATKAR on behalf of Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware that travellers' bungalows are very often used by people who are strictly vegetarians?

(b) whether they are aware that there are no kitchen rooms attached to these bungalows which can be used for cooking vegetarian food and for dining purposes?

(c) whether they are aware that the want of such kitchen rooms causes great inconvenience to those government officers and others who are vegetarians and are entitled to occupy the bungalows.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN:

(a) No.

(b) Yes, excepting in a few cases in the Northern Division.

(c) No.

AGENDA AND PROCEEDINGS OF DIVISIONAL BOARDS OF AGRICULTURE, CO-OPERATION AND DISTRICT LOCAL BOARDS.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state whether the proceedings of the Divisional Boards of Agriculture, Co-operation and District Local Boards are supplied to the libraries and newspapers in their respective divisions and districts respectively?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: A short summary of the proceedings of the meetings of the Divisional Boards of Agriculture

and Co-operation or an account of items of particular interest discussed at their meetings is supplied to local newspapers and Co-operative or Agricultural magazines.

As regards information about District Local Boards the Honourable Member is referred to the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government.

IMPOUNDING STRAY CATTLE IN APRIL AND MAY.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware of the hardship caused to villagers when their cattle, finding no grass in the *gairan* and straying on forest land, are impounded during the months of April and May?

(b) Will Government be pleased to furnish figures of the amounts recovered on account of the impounding of such cattle during the months of April and May 1924 in each taluka of the Poona District?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) Government are not aware that any hardship is caused to villagers in consequence of the impounding of cattle.

(b) The amounts of compensation recovered during April and May 1924 for cattle allowed by the owners to stray and graze in closed forests are as follows:—

Amount of compensation.

| Range. | April 1924. | | May 1924. | |
|----------------|-------------|-------|-----------|-------|
| | Rs. | s. p. | Rs. | s. p. |
| Poona | 0 | 0 0 | 2 | 0 0 |
| Ghoda | 22 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 0 |
| Dhond | 4 | 8 0 | 0 | 0 0 |
| Junnar | 42 | 0 0 | 37 | 0 0 |
| Khed | 23 | 12 0 | 45 | 0 0 |
| Maval | 10 | 8 0 | 47 | 0 0 |
| Sasvad | 10 | 8 0 | 47 | 4 0 |
| Total | 113 | 4 0 | 178 | 4 0 |

The information is given according to Forest Ranges as it is not kept according to talukas.

PICK-POCKET AT THE CITY POST OFFICE, POONA.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government kindly make enquiries as to whether the postal and police authorities of Poona have received any complaint during the years 1921-22, 1922-23 and 1923-24 regarding the loss of money from the pockets of persons attending the City Post Office, Poona, on postal business?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Government have made enquiries on the subject and it has been ascertained that the District Superintendent of Police, Poona, had received two such complaints in the year 1922, and they were registered. In one the complainant's watch was stolen from the pocket and in the other cash and notes were stolen. In the year 1924 only one such complaint was received and registered, the loss involved being Rs. 2-10-0.

**STRAY CATTLE NUISANCE TO CROPS IN BAGAIT LANDS
IN POONA DISTRICT.**

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): (a) Are Government aware that raising of the second crops in Bagait lands is becoming most costly and troublesome owing to the nuisance of stray cattle?

(b) If so, do they intend to take any action in the matter so as to encourage the growing of second crops in rice and *bagait* lands?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) Yes.

(b) The attention of the honourable member is invited to the report of the committee appointed to consider the question of protection of crops from wild animals and stray cattle and to the orders of Government issued thereon.

LEGISLATION REGARDING CONSOLIDATION OF HOLDINGS.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) When do they intend to bring in a bill preventing the division of agricultural land into fragments and consolidating the land already divided into small fragments?

(b) Will they be able to do so before the term of the present members of this Council expires?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) and (b) Government have a draft bill under preparation, which they hope to introduce during the current year.

CONSTRUCTION OF A RAILWAY FROM TALEGAON TO MANCHAR.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware of a scheme regarding the construction of a railway line from Talegaon to Manchar in the Poona district in pursuance of which a survey of the line was actually made by the late Dr. Bhatawadekar and Mr. Puranik;

(b) whether the answer given to my question No. 4 published at page 24 of the sixth list of questions and answers of third session of 1924 has any bearing on the question put by me as it related to railway line and not to "road-rails" system;

(c) whether any steps were taken in the matter described in (a) to the knowledge of Government by the district local board, Poona?

(d) will they be pleased to state what has been the result of the survey work undertaken by the late Dr. Bhatawadekar and Mr. Puranik?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. METHA: (a) and (d) Yes. A survey of the Talegaon-Khed section of the Talegaon-Manchar light railway was originally carried out by the late Sir B. K. Bhatawadekar, and the scheme for that railway was dropped.

(b) Yes, as the scheme for the railway line was dropped and Mr. M. B. Bhatawadekar, son of the late Sir Bhalchandra, contemplated instead the construction of a tramway on the "road-rails" system.

(c) An application for the construction of a railway from Chinchwad to Narayangaon *via* Chakan and Moi was submitted by the President, District Local Board, Poona, and as the Board was not in a position to finance the proposed railway, the President, District Local Board, Poona, was informed that further negotiations would not be pursued.

SUB-JUDGES EMPOWERED TO TRY CRIMINAL CASES.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state whether there are any sub-judges who are empowered to try criminal cases in the Bombay presidency? If so, who are they?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: The following Sub-Judges exercise magisterial powers :—

1. The 2nd Class Sub-Judge at Viramgam.
2. The Joint 2nd Class Sub-Judge at Broach.
3. The 2nd Class Sub-Judge at Tando Mahomed Khan in the Hyderabad District (Sind).
4. The 2nd Class Sub-Judge at Jacobabad, Upper Sind Frontier District (Sind).

APPLICATION OF THE MUSSALMAN WAKF ACT, 1923.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to refer to the assurance given in this House on 1st August 1924 by the Honourable the Minister for Education (*vide* page 833 of Bombay Legislative Council Debates, Volume XII) and to state how long it will still take to complete the preparation of the requisite notification applying Act. No. XLII of 1923 (an Act to make provision for the better management of the Wakf property, etc.) to the Bombay Presidency in pursuance of the resolution on this subject passed a year ago?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The question is still under consideration.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: May I know by what time Government will be able to come to a decision?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I am sorry I cannot give the date.

PROSECUTIONS UNDER THE FOREST ACT.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of prosecutions under Forest Act during the last three years in each of the districts of Sind?
- (b) the number of convictions in those cases?
- (c) the number of convictions out of those which have been quashed in appeal?
- (d) whether any compensation has been given to the successful appellants?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI:

(a) *Number of prosecutions under the Forest Act during the last three years in each of the districts in Sind.*

| District. | 1921-22 | 1922-23 | 1923-24 |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Sukkur | 9 | 30 | 13 |
| Upper Sind Frontier .. .. . | .... | 1 | .... |
| Larkana | 27 | 24 | 9 |
| Nawabshah | 2 | 3 | 7 |
| Hyderabad | 54 | 46 | 11 |
| Karachi | 35 | 35 | 25 |
| Total .. | 127 | 139 | 65 |

(b) *Number of convictions in those cases.*

| District. | 1921-22. | 1922-23. | 1923-24. |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Sukkur | 5 | 27 | 10 |
| Upper Sind Frontier .. .. . | .... | 1 | .... |
| Larkana | 14 | 18 | 16 |
| Nawabshah | 1 | 1 | 6 |
| Hyderabad | 14 | 32 | 16 |
| Karachi | 13 | 12 | 12 |
| Total .. | 47 | 91 | 40 |

(c) Nil.

(d) Does not arise.

APPLICATION OF THE BOMBAY PRIMARY EDUCATION ACT,
1923, TO MIRPURKHAS MUNICIPALITY.

Mr. HOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Mirpurkhas municipality has strongly protested against its exclusion from the list of local authorities constituted and notified in Government Resolution No. 2534, dated 10th October 1924, for the purposes of the Bombay Primary Education Act of 1923 ?

(b) whether Government propose to take any action in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) Yes.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

WORKS UNDER THE SUKKUR BARRAGE SCHEME.

Mr. HOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to supply, in a tabular form, the following information regarding each of the works under the Sukkur Barrage scheme—

- (a) Original estimates,
- (b) Estimates as revised from time to time,
- (c) Final estimates as expected at present,
- (d) The actual cost up to 31st December 1924,
- (e) The balance of the estimated cost of completing the work,
- (f) The time of commencement,
- (g) The progress, i.e., work done up to 31st December 1924,
- (h) The time when the work was originally expected to be completed,
- (i) The time when the work is now expected to be completed,
- (j) The expected profit or loss.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : The detailed estimates are under preparation and actual work has scarcely started in full swing anywhere. In the meantime the honourable member's attention is invited to the project estimates. The three volumes* containing these estimates as also the latest report* of the Chief Engineer, Lloyd Barrage and Canals Construction, are placed on the Council table.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : May I know whether these volumes will be circulated to honourable members ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Has the honourable member seen these volumes ?

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : I would like to read them.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : They will be placed on the Council table, and they will be placed in the library.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : Does the honourable member know that we have no time to read these big volumes here ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : The cost of circulating copies to all honourable members would be prohibitive, but I will consider it.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : Considering that we are spending crores on the barrage scheme ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : I will consider the question of what the cost would be. They are rather expensive volumes. I will, however, give the honourable member every other facility. We can lend a few copies to honourable members, which they can take home and return by the next session. To give them away to every honourable member would involve a cost which Government will have to consider.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : It may cost something like Rs. 1,000.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : Much more than that.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI : The honourable member can circulate one or two of the volumes containing summaries and general conclusions ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : That won't be of any use, because each volume contains equally useful information. But I will see if we can place one or two volumes at the disposal of honourable members in turn, if it will serve their purpose, instead of sending all these bulky volumes at once.

PRESS AND REGISTRATION OF BOOKS ACT.

Mr. V. N. JOG (Dharwar District) : Will Government be pleased to state whether their attention has been drawn to an article in the *Navashakti* of Dharwar dated the 8th April 1924, on the Acts relating to printing presses and the registration of books, and if so, whether they intend to take any action in this connection ?

* Kept in the Secretary's office.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Government have enquired into the matter, but have found no instances which support the allegations of the *Navashakti*. Further enquiries will however be made if any specific instances are quoted by the honourable member.

BRIDGES AND CAUSEWAYS ON THE DHARAMTAR-
MAHABLESHWAR ROAD.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state:—

(a) Whether their attention has been drawn to a contribution appearing in *Kotaba Samachar*, Pen, of 27th September 1924, regarding the necessity for the construction of bridges and causeways on Dharamtar-Mahableshwar Road?

(b) If so, have Government arrived at any decision regarding the subject-matter of the said article? If so, what has been their decision?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: The contribution in question was not brought to the notice of Government.

AMALGAMATION OF THE ABKARI DEPARTMENT WITH THE SALT,
CUSTOMS AND OPIUM DEPARTMENTS.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state the date on which the Abkari Department of this Presidency was first amalgamated with the Salt, Customs and Opium Departments?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: The Abkari Department in the Presidency proper was amalgamated with the Salt Department, which also looks after customs administration at minor ports and on land frontiers, on 17th September 1917. The separate Opium Preventive Service which was started in 1900 was amalgamated with the ordinary excise establishment in 1907.

EXPENDITURE ON PROTECTIVE, PRODUCTIVE AND MINOR
WORKS OF IRRIGATION.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) What capital expenditure was incurred since 1919-20 on protective, productive and minor works of irrigation in the Deccan, Gujerat and Sind, and

(b) the total area under command of these works in each of these provinces?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: (a) The capital expenditure incurred on productive and unproductive works in the Deccan, Gujerat and Sind since 1919-20 to end of 1923-24 was Rs. 2,20,94,140; Rs. 4,326 and Rs. 87,90,291 respectively.

(b) The gross area under command of these works in the Deccan, Gujarat and Sind is approximately 1,950,000 ; 559,000 ; and 16,945,000 acres respectively.

Note.—Since the introduction of the Reforms the old system of classifying irrigation works into 'Major' Protective and Productive—and 'Minor' Works has been abolished. All these irrigation works are now classified as either "Productive" or "Unproductive".

Mr. H. B. SHIVDASANI : Why has Gujarat been neglected to this extent—only Rs. 4,000 out of an expenditure of over 3 crores of rupees.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : I think that question has already been explained to the House.

AGREEMENT TAKEN FROM TRAINED PRIMARY TEACHERS.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District) : Will Government be pleased to furnish a copy of the agreement taken from trained primary teachers on the strength of which they are being paid five rupees less than the pay prescribed by Government ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Copies* of (1) the form of agreement referred to and (2) Government Notification No. 2028, dated the 11th June 1923, containing the conditions of employment, are placed on the Council table.

EXTRADITION OF SHRI RAM FROM BOMBAY TO INDORE.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District) : Will Government be pleased to state under what circumstances one Shri Ram was extradited from Bombay to the Indore State during the last year ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : A copy of the order* passed by the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Bombay, is laid on the table.

REALISATION FROM ENTERTAINMENT DUTY TAX.

Mr. V. M. JOG on behalf of Mr. S. T. KAMBLI : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the income derived from the entertainment tax from the 1st April 1924 to the close of December 1924 ;

(b) the total amount of proceeds of the said tax from the date of its imposition to this date ?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : (a) The income derived from the entertainment tax from 1st April 1924 to the end of December 1924 amounts to Rs. 4,67,460.

(b) The total receipts from the said tax from the date of its imposition to the close of December 1924 amount Rs. 16,78,691.

SALE PRICE OF CASUARINA PLANTATIONS.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : With reference to the replies given by Government to paragraph 3 (a) and (b) of my question

*Kept in the Secretary's office.

regarding casuarina plantations (Council Debates, Volume XII, page 70) on the 21st July 1924, will they be pleased to state (1) (a) the number of blocks of casuarina plantations auctioned in each of the talukas of Karwar and Honavar and of the talukas of Ankola and Kumta, if any ;

(b) the amount of sale price of each of such blocks ;

(c) the number of acres contained in each of them ; and

(d) the names of persons who purchased such blocks, and

(2) to place on the Council table the following registers :—

(i) casuarina plantation journal book.

(ii) casuarina plantation control book ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Statements * containing the required information are placed on the Council table.

Casuarina plantation journal and control books are maintained by the Forest Department for administrative purposes ; Government do not consider that any useful purpose would be served by placing them on the Council table.

ISSUE OF SALT TO "FOREIGN MALABAR" AND OTHER STATES.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state the reason or reasons for issuing salt at the nominal duty of a pice per maund to "Foreign Malabar", *i.e.*, to the States of Travancore and Cochin, and free of all duty to the States of Janjira, Cambay and Radhanpur and the estates of Patri, Jhinjuvada on the Northern Frontier ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : The arrangements indicated are in accordance with old treaty arrangements.

NATAL COAL FOR BOMBAY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI on behalf of Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE (Bombay City) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether any order has been placed for Natal coal for the requirements of the Bombay Development Directorate ? If so, why was the preference given to Natal coal over Bengal or English coal ?

(b) Were any tenders asked for or was the order given through brokers ? If so, who were the brokers and what was the brokerage given to them ?

(c) Whether there are any South Africans in the service of the Development Department ?

(d) Whether any expert advice was called for before giving an order for Natal coal ?

(e) Has the Director of the Development Department anything to do with the order ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Does not arise.

PRISONERS IN THE ANDAMANS.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI on behalf of Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE (Bombay City) : Will Government be pleased to state the number of prisoners that are at present in the Andamans and to state how many of them are ordinary prisoners and how many political ones ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : There are 709 prisoners in the Andaman Islands from the Presidency of Bombay. None has been convicted of an offence against the state.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS AMONG MAHOMEDANS.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI on behalf of Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE (Bombay City) : Are Government aware of the unanimous demand of the Moslems of this presidency for greater facilities of education because of their backwardness ? If so, will they be pleased to state what steps they have taken or they intend to take to further the educational progress of the Mahomedan community ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Government are aware of the demands of the Mahomedans of the presidency for greater facilities of education and the accompanying memorandum* shows the present state of education among them and the more important of the steps which Government have taken or intend to take for its improvement.

SALE OF CARTS PREPARED IN THE DANGS.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the Divisional Forest Officer, Surat, ordered carts to be prepared for sale in the Dangs ?

(b) (i) If so, how many carts were prepared during the last two years and how many of these have been sold ?

(ii) Will the Government be pleased to state the names and address of the purchasers of these carts, the prices paid by them to the Government, and the date of the sale and payment of price in each case ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : (a) The Divisional Forest Officer, Surat, acting under the instructions of Government, ordered the carts to be prepared for sale in the Dangs.

(b) (i) 215. All were sold.

(ii) A statement* containing the required information is placed on the Council table.

ORDERS REGARDING PAYMENT OF MONTHLY SALARY OF GOVERNMENT SERVANTS.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District) : Will Government be pleased to state whether there is any resolution or order of Government to the effect that the pay of each month must be paid to Government servants before the 20th of the following month ?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : The answer is in the negative.

* Kept in the Secretary's office.

NUMBER OF VILLAGE PANCHAYATS IN THE NORTHERN DIVISION.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Manals District) : Will Government be pleased to state what action they have taken in view of the small number of village panchayats in the Northern Division ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Government will shortly appoint a Committee to investigate the working of Village Panchayats and to recommend measures to make panchayats more popular and successful.

ENCOURAGEMENT TO VILLAGE PANCHAYATS.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have chalked out any plan or scheme for encouraging village panchayats in this presidency ?

(b) If so, will they be pleased to place the details of the scheme on the Council table ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : The honourable member's attention is invited to the answer given to the preceding question.

MONETARY HELP TO VILLAGE PANCHAYATS.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have received a resolution of a public meeting held in Niphad requesting them to give monetary help to the village panchayats ?

(b) If so, will they be pleased to state what they have done in the matter.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN :

(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

HOT WATER SPRINGS AT VAGESHWAR.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of Mr. K. F. NARI-MAN (Bombay City, South) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware of the danger to the public due to the want of proper repairs to the hot water springs of Vageshwar (Vajreshwar) ;

(b) whether they contemplate taking any steps in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Inquiries are being made.

PARCEL CHARGES BY B.B. & C.I. RAILWAY.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of Mr. K. F. NARI-MAN (Bombay City, South) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware that the distance between Grant Road and Dahanu on the B.B. & C.I. Railway is only 74 miles ;

(b) that the railway company charges for parcels and other packages between these two stations as if the distance between them was hundred miles ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to explain why an excess charge for 26 miles more than the actual distance is levied between these two stations ?

(d) Are Government aware that similar excess charges are levied between Church Gate and Dahanu ?

(e) Are Government aware that representations were made by the public protesting against this unjust levy ?

(f) Do Government contemplate taking any steps in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) The distance from Dahanu Road to Grant Road is 75 miles.

(b) No. As the distance between Grant Road and Dahanu is 75 miles, the charge is made for 75 miles only.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The distance between Church Gate and Dahanu is 77 miles and the charge is made in accordance with the scale of rates fixed by the Indian Railway Conference Association as under :—

| | | | |
|---|----|----|-------------------------|
| For distance exceeding 75 miles but not exceeding 100 miles | .. | .. | Per maund. Rs. 1 7 0 |
|---|----|----|-------------------------|

(e) No.

(f) Does not arise.

WELLS IN THE KAIRA DISTRICT.

Mr. D. N. PATEL (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of wells in the Kaira district which are primarily used for drinking purposes ; and how many of them have dried up and become useless for that purpose ;

(b) the number of wells in the Kaira district which are used for irrigation purposes ; and how many of them have become useless for that purpose ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : The number of wells in the Kaira district in 1922-23 was as follows :—

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|----|----|--------|
| (a) For irrigation purposes | .. | .. | 12,282 |
| (b) For drinking purposes | .. | .. | 2,676 |
| (c) In disuse | .. | .. | 2,377 |

(in addition to those used for irrigation and drinking purposes).

The number of wells in disuse under (a) and (b) is not recorded separately.

TANKS REPAIRED BY THE DISTRICT LOCAL BOARD, KAIRA.

Mr. D. N. PATEL (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that beds of all tanks which are repaired out of funds provided by the district local board of Kaira vest in that board ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Enquiries are being made.

EMOLUMENTS OF PATILS.

Mr. D. R. PATIL (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have completed consideration of the question of the emoluments received by patils;

(b) if so, at what decision have they arrived?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: The honourable member is referred to the answer to question put by Mr. N. E. Navle (Ahmednagar District) during the second session of the Council for the year 1924.

Mr. D. R. PATIL: May I ask if there is any rule which stands in the way of the Honourable the Finance Member giving a direct answer to my question instead of referring me to the answer given to a question put by my honourable friend Mr. Navle?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: Sir, it saves the time of the House if the question is not repeated.

Mr. D. R. PATIL: I think the time of the House might have been saved by giving a direct answer.

INCREASED ASSESSMENT OF WARKAS LANDS AT PALGHAR.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that the warkas lands at Palghar were assessed at rupee one per acre?

(b) Is it not a fact that for the conversion of the same land for the non-agricultural use Government are charging Rs. 40 per acre if the permission of the Collector is first obtained and Rs. 200 per acre for unauthorised non-agricultural use?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) The assessment varies from 12 annas to Rs. $1\frac{1}{4}$ per acre.

(b) No. The maximum rate of Rs. 200 per acre is fixed under rule 82 of the Land Revenue Rules. This rate is charged for lands used for mills, factories and other industrial concerns. The rates between Rs. 40 and Rs. 80 are charged in case of dwelling houses and residential buildings according as the area built upon does not exceed one-third or exceeds two-thirds of the plot.

MIDDLE CLASS UNEMPLOYMENT.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to state whether they have appointed a committee to inquire into unemployment among the middle classes as was done by the Bengal Government. If so, will they be pleased to state the personnel thereof?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: The answer is in the negative.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN: Is the question of appointing a committee under consideration?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I think I have informed the House in reply to a question that enquiries are being made by the Labour Office.

OUTLET No. 1023.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of Khan Saheb SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH MAUJALI SHAH (Thar Parkar): Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the dimensions of outlet No. 1023 have been reduced and its level raised to 6 inches above that of other outlets?

(With regard to this question No. 5, the number of the outlet in question is 3 and it is situated in Deh: No. 102, taluka Mirpurkhas, and takes its course from the Lakhaki Minor Jamrao Canal.)

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: The information has been called for.

APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION TO THE POLICE TRAINING SCHOOL AT NASIK.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN on behalf of Mr. SHANKERRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts): Will Government be pleased to state (a) the number of applications received for admission in the Nasik Police Training School from

- (1) Brahmins,
- (2) Backward Hindus,
- (3) Depressed Classes Hindus,
- (4) Mahomedans,
- (5) Others.

(b) Do martial spirit, loyalty, law-abiding, peaceful character, enduring and patient temperament count in this selection, in addition to the marks secured in University examination?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: The applications for admission to the Police Training School at Nasik for the courses in 1924 were received from the following classes:—

| Classes. | No. of application. |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Brahmins | 192 |
| Backward Hindus | 166 |
| Depressed Classes Hindus | 6 |
| Mahomedans | 96 |
| Others | 99 |

It is not usual to consider the marks obtained in the University examination for the selection of candidates. Due weight is given to the other qualities mentioned in the question when the candidate possesses the prescribed qualifications.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : Out of 96 Mahomedans, may I know how many are School Final passed candidates ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I should require notice, but the School Final is the qualification prescribed for all direct recruits to the Police School.

TOWN PLANNING.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The places (towns and cities) whose local authorities have declared their intention to make a town planning scheme since the passing of the Bombay Act No. I of 1915 ?

(b) The date on which each of such local authorities made the said declaration ?

(c) The names of those persons who have been appointed as arbitrators in such places under the aforesaid Act ?

(d) The places where and the dates on which the town planning scheme has been made final ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : (a) to (d) The accompanying statement* gives the information required, so far as the Bombay Suburban District is concerned. The information regarding town planning schemes in the Bombay Presidency, excluding the Bombay Suburban District, has already been furnished to the honourable member by the Honourable the Minister of Local Self-Government.

ENCROACHMENT SUITS IN EAST KHANDESH.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of encroachment suits lodged in East Khandesh in 1923-24 and 1924-25 ?

(b) in how many cases the alleged encroachment was proved to be no encroachment ?

(c) in how many cases appeals were lodged ?

(d) in how many cases the decisions of the prant officers were reversed ?

(e) in how many cases the encroachments were so decided on the ground that the man who was alleged to have committed the encroachment had no documentary evidence ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Information has been called for.

VISUAL INSTRUCTION.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many times the deputy educational inspector in charge visual instruction visited each of the divisions of the presidency and how many lectures he gave in each of them ;

* *Vide* Appendix 80.

(b) whether such lectures are given in the vernacular of the district visited ;

(c) if not, will Government be pleased to state why they are not given in the vernacular ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Enquiries are being made.

BOUNDARY STONES IN KAIRA DISTRICT.

Rao Saheb D. T. DESAI (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state at what price the boundary stones in the Kaira District are purchased by Government at present and at what price they were purchased during the last year ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state at what charge the boundary stones mentioned above are supplied to the cultivators and at what charge they are put up at the boundary of the fields ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Information has been called for.

EXPENDITURE ON SUKKUR BARRAGE.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state how much of the expenditure of about Rs. 4 crores referred to in H. E. the Governor's speech to the deputation from Sind on Saturday 5th August 1922 (at Poona) was incurred in the area commanded by the Sukkur Barrage Canals and whether this amount spent in the said area is included in the Sukkur Barrage estimate of 18,35 lakhs ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : It is not possible to ascertain how much of the expenditure referred to in H. E.'s speech was incurred on the area commanded by the Sukkur Barrage Canals as some of the present canals command lands beyond the confines of the Sukkur Barrage Canals Scheme. No expenditure, however, incurred on the area commanded by the Sukkur Barrage Canals, has been included in the Sukkur Barrage estimate of Rs. 18,35 lakhs.

AREA IRRIGATED BY GHAR CANAL, LARKANA DISTRICT.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many times during the last ten years the rice crop in the area commanded by the Ghar canal in the Larkana district was less than eight annas and how many times the consolidated land revenue had to be suspended ;

(b) the total area irrigated by the Ghar canal every year ; and

(c) the area which suffered from want of sufficient water ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Information has been called for.

ADVANTAGES TO ZAMINDARS UNDER FALLOW RULES.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) what advantages the Sind zamindars enjoy as regards land revenue under the Fallow Rules ;

(b) whether it is a fact that they have to pay assessments for one-third of the lands owned by them ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Information has been called for.

‘ FALLOW RULES ’ CONCESSIONS TO AREAS IRRIGATED BY
SUKKUR BARRAGE.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state whether areas to be irrigated by the Sukkur Barrage canals will be subject to the advantages or concessions under the Fallow Rules enjoyed by the Sind zamindars ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Information has been called for.

FOREST AREAS AT ZANKHARIA.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the area under forest in Zankharia, Vada talav, and in the villages within 6 miles of it ;

(b) the expenditure and receipts to the Forest Department for maintaining these areas ; and

(c) whether these areas grow timber ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Information has been called for.

APPLICATIONS FOR CULTIVATION OF FOREST LAND NEAR
ZANKHARIA.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether applications from cultivators and others were received by them for giving the lands mentioned in the above question No. 7 in the Panch Mahals District for cultivation ;

(b) if the reply be in the affirmative, what the highest value offered in lump or per acre for the Zankharia and other neighbouring plots by the applicants was ;

(c) whether these applications were received by the Commissioner, Northern Division, or the Collector of Panch Mahals ?

The Honourable Mr. M. A. K. DEHLAVI: Inquiry is being made.

INAM LANDS FOR WATERING TROUGHS.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR on behalf of Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware that almost every village in West Khandesh has got one watering trough for cattle maintained by the people themselves ?

(b) whether they are aware that most of these troughs are not properly maintained, because no inam lands are attached to them ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) A large number of villages have such troughs.

(b) No.

WATERING TROUGH FOR CATTLE AT DAHIVAD.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR on behalf of Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware that Dahivad, a village in Shirpur taluka of the West Khandesh district, on the Agra Road, is used as a halting place, by day and by night, by thousands of loaded carts coming from the Satpura hills during eight months in a year ?

(b) whether they are aware that the people of Dahivad have maintained a watering trough there for the use of all those carts ?

(c) whether the people of Dahivad have asked for the assignment of some land as inam for the maintenance of the trough, and if so, what is the result of such representation ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY THE COUNCIL AT ITS JULY 1924 SESSION.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR on behalf of Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District) : Will Government be pleased to state what action they have taken in connection with the resolutions that this Council passed at its last session (in July 1924) giving in a tabular form the serial number, the name of the mover and the subject matter of each resolution and the action taken thereupon ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : A statement* containing the information required by the Honourable Member is placed on the Council table.

LICENSES FOR ARMS IN THE POONA DISTRICT.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of persons holding permits to bear arms in each taluka and peta of the Poona district for the year ending December 1924 ;

(b) the kind of arms which such persons are permitted to bear ;

(c) the number of persons who are entitled to bear arms in each taluka of the Poona district without formal permits ;

(d) specific cases in which the holders of such permits were useful to any village community in the prevention or suppression of crimes by robbers and dacoits ;

*Vide Appendix 72.

(e) the number of persons who were given new licenses and the number of persons whose licenses were taken away during the year ending December 1924 ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : The information has been called for.

CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIRS TO BOUNDARY MARKS IN POONA DISTRICT.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) in which of the talukas of the Poona district the work of construction and repair of boundary marks is in progress ;

(b) what arrangements are made by Government to help the landholders to erect or repair the boundary marks at the exact place so as to avoid the trouble and expenditure by landholders erecting boundary marks in a wrong place ;

(c) what amount has been recovered and what are the arrears of charges for construction and repair of boundary marks by Government agency in taluka Khed of the Poona district up to the end of December 1924 ;

(d) whether it is one of the duties of watandar Mahars to watch boundary marks ? Are orders issued to watandar Mahars to assist the landholders in repairing the boundary marks ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Information has been called for.

GAIRAN IN POONA DISTRICT.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the names of the remaining 36 villages of the Khed taluka of the Poona district which have got sufficient *gairan* as appears from their reply to my question No. 5 published in the 1st list for the third session of 1924 ;

(b) the number of cattle according to latest available information in each village and the area of *gairan* in each village in the 57 villages which have insufficient *gairan* ;

(c) how many of the 36 villages are inam villages with their names ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Information has been called for.

AUCTION SALE OF GRASS.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District) : Will Government be pleased to state the amount realized at the auction sale of the right of cutting grass in the closed portion of the reserved forest and the amounts recovered by impounding cattle and damages from 1st April to 31st December 1924 in the villages of Bibi and Vetale of the Khed taluka of the Poona district ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Information has been called for.

AREA OF GAIRAN IN KHED TALUKA.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) what was the area of *gairan* in the Khed taluka of the Poona district in the year 1879 or before the passing of the Bombay Land Revenue Code and what is it in the year 1924;

(b) the number of villages in the Khed taluka which have not got grazing land at the rate of one acre for every two head of cattle?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Information has been called for.

ENHANCED FEES PER HEAD OF CATTLE.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware of the hardships caused to agriculturists by their being required to pay enhanced fee of Re. 1 per head of cattle if the cattle go into Government forest in the neighbouring villages, even though their own villages cannot afford sufficient grazing land;

(b) the amounts realised from grazing fees at ordinary and enhanced rates in respect of village cattle and non-village cattle, the amounts of auction sales for cutting grass and the amounts of damages and fines from 1st January to 31st December 1924 in the Khed taluka of the Poona district?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Inquiry is being made.

DISPUTES BETWEEN VILLAGERS AND MAHARS IN POONA DISTRICT
REGARDING THE OWNERSHIP OF SKINS OF DEAD ANIMALS.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they or their district officers, during the annual tours have heard of any disputes in the Poona district between the villagers and Mahars regarding the ownership of the skins of dead animals, especially in cases in which the Mahars are suspected of having poisoned such animals?

(b) whether the villagers have, owing to such disputes, stopped giving the usual bread to Veskar Mahar?

(c) If the answer to (a) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state in which of the villages such disputes have been settled through the intervention of Government officers and in what manner?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Information has been called for.

CROPS IN KHED TALUKA, POONA DISTRICT.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that the first crops in the western portion of the Khed taluka of the Poona district suffered heavily from insects this year?

(b) If so, what help was given to the agriculturists who suffered, by the Agricultural and Revenue Departments ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Information has been called for.

CULTIVATION OF BOUNDARY STRIPS IN GADAG TALUKA,
DHARWAR DISTRICT.

Mr. V. N. JOG on behalf of Mr. S. T. KAMBLI (Dharwar District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether they are aware that boundary strips are ploughed or sown or are otherwise used for cultivation in Gadag taluka in Dharwar district, contrary to the provisions of rule 98-A of the rules made under section 214 of the Land Revenue Code ?

(b) If so, whether Government contemplate taking any steps in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : inquiry is being made.

ASSISTANT JUDGES IN THE PRESIDENCY.

Mr. V. N. JOG on behalf of Mr. S. T. KAMBLI (Dharwar District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(1) The name and caste of each of the Assistant Judges in the Presidency with the date of his appointment ?

(2) How many of these Assistant Judges are natives of the Bombay Karnatak ?

(3) To what caste do these belong ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : A statement† furnishing the required information is placed on the Council table.

PERSONS BELONGING TO HAVYAK OR HAVIK CASTE IN
PUBLIC SERVICE.

*Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The number of persons belonging to the Havyak or Havik caste who hold the posts of subordinate judges, deputy collectors and mamlatdars in the Presidency ;

(b) The number of Havyaks in Government service in all grades ;

(c) The proportion of Havyak element in Government service in Kanara to their total population ?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE

| Designation. | Number. |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| (a) Subordinate Judges | Nil. |
| Deputy Collectors | Nil. |
| Mamlatdars | 1 |
| (b) 169. | |
| (c) $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. | |

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† *Vide* Appendix 70.

ENCOURAGEMENT TO BOOK-WRITING IN KANARESE.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have ever encouraged the writing of Kanarese books by giving grants-in-aid or any other kind of help?

(b) If so, will they be pleased to state the number of writers who have been given grants-in-aid or any other kind of help and the number and names of books written by each of them during the last 12 years?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) Yes. An annual grant of Rs. 500 is given to the Karnatak Vidya Vardhak Sangh.

(b) No direct payments have been made to authors by Government, but during the last 12 years the Karnatak Vidya Vardhak Sangh has given rewards for 100 books by 47 authors amounting to Rs. 5,995. Patronage is also given indirectly to authors by the purchase of books for school libraries and prizes for primary schools by the Deputy Educational Inspectors.

SITE OF SHRI-BHARATHI SCHOOL BUILDING.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the members of the Committee of Shri-Bharathi English school at Karki (Kanara) applied for the free grant of a site for the school building out of survey No. 1036 of the village of Karki on or about the 21st April 1920?

(b) If so, will they be pleased to state the terms or conditions proposed by the Collector for being inserted in the grant?

(c) Whether the conditions or terms were accepted by the said Committee?

(d) If not, what was the final order of the Collector in that behalf?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Inquiry is being made.

COST OF MANUFACTURING SALT AND ITS MALKI PRICE PER MAUND.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the cost of manufacturing salt per maund in the various salt-works in the presidency during the last five years;

(b) the malki price charged per maund in such salt-works?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Information has been called for.

NATAL COAL FOR SUKKUR BARRAGE.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of Mr. HOOSENBHOY A. LALLJEE (Bombay City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Natal coal is being ordered for the requirements of the Sukkur Barrage scheme, in preference to Bengal or English coal;

(b) and if so, why was the preference given?

(c) was any expert advice called for before ordering the Natal coal?

(d) were any tenders asked for or was the order given through brokers? If so, who were they? What was the amount of brokerage paid to them and when was it paid?

(e), were there any Colonials or South Africans in the service in the scheme?

(f) whether the Commissioner for Sind has anything to do in the matter of the order for Natal coal?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: (a) Transvaal and Natal coal has been ordered.

(b) and (c) As the quality, price and conditions on which it was offered were found more favourable than any other class of coal and it was recommended by the Chief Controller of Stores.

(d) Tenders were invited throughout India. No brokerage has been paid.

(e) Two Colonials, but no South Africans.

(f) The reply is in the negative.

BEHRAMPUR COUNTRY LIQUOR SHOP, AHMEDABAD.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA on behalf of Mr. G. K. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Behrampur country liquor shop in Ahmedabad was opened on 1st April 1922 and that in about a week's time or thereabouts it was closed? If so, what were the reasons?

(b) Whether the license fee for the said shop was recovered in full for the whole period?

(c) Whether the license fee was refunded to the licensee when the shop was closed?

(d) When the shop was closed, was any proportionate increase in license fees recovered from the adjoining shops? If so, from which shops?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Information has been called for.

PROPORTIONATE INCREASE IN LICENSE FEES.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA on behalf of Mr. G. K. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) If the answer to my question No. 13 (d) be in the affirmative, why was a proportionate increase in the amount of license fees of Rs. 1,91,200 not recovered from the adjoining shops, when the country liquor shops of Pirmadsha, Jamalpur, Delhi Gate, Bhut Aml, Salaposh and Raikhad in Ahmedabad City were closed on 18th July 1918?

(b) Has Government revenue suffered on account of the adoption of the above procedure after the regular auction? If so, to what extent?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the Behrampur country shop in Ahmedabad City was again reopened on 1st January 1923? If so, what were the reasons for doing so?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Information has been called for.

AVERAGE YIELD PER TODDY TREE.

Dr. Y. M. MEHTA (Surat City): Will Government be pleased to state what was the average yield in gallons of toddy per tree in the Surat District during the years 1922, 1923 and 1924 respectively?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: The accompanying statement* shows the approximate average yield of toddy per tree in the Surat City and each taluka of the Surat District during the years in question.

AVERAGE SELLING RATE PER GALLON OF TODDY.

Dr. M. M. MEHTA (Surat City): Will Government be pleased to state what was the average sale price per gallon of toddy in (a) Surat City and (b) the Surat District separately during the years 1922, 1923 and 1924 respectively?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: The subjoined statement† furnishes the information required by the Honourable Member.

SURVEY SETTLEMENT IN ALIENATED VILLAGES.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether there are any rules regarding the introduction of the survey settlement in the alienated villages (of all classes) prior to the operations of Act I of 1865?

(b) What steps were to be taken under those rules both by the Government and the Inamdars for the introduction of survey settlement in such villages?

(c) Were all those steps taken in the case of the inam village of Kallol, taluka Chikodi, district Belgaum?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Information has been called for.

JADID SHET-SANADIS OF THE INAM VILLAGE OF MANKAPUR,
CHIKODI TALUKA, BELGAUM DISTRICT.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars): Will Government be pleased to state whether the Inamdars of Mankapur, taluka Chikodi, district Belgaum, were prevented from taking services from their jadid shet-sanadis, and whether Government recover gair-hajiri akar from them?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Information has been called for.

RECORD OF RIGHTS IN BIJAPUR DISTRICT.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars): Will Government be pleased to state whether Record of Rights has been introduced in the inam villages of Balloli Zalki and Agarkhed in the Bijapur district; if so whether the respective inamdars were consulted or previously informed of such introduction?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Information has been called for.

*Vide Appendix 77.

†Vide Appendix 78.

ALIENATED VILLAGES FROM THE REVENUES WHEREOF PAYMENTS
ARE MADE TO GOVERNMENT.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars): Will Government be pleased to supply a list of alienated villages from the revenues of which amounts on account of the items Mokassa, Sardeshmukhi, Bakti, Sir-patilki, Kasar, Jamavasuli, Nim-chouthai, Parmas, Inam-Tijai, Sahotra, Foujdari, Istmarar Judi Zelbab, etc., are paid into the Government treasury as belonging to Government, with the amounts so paid and the gross revenues of the villages?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Information has been called for.

CARTS AS TAKAVI TO BHILS IN THE DANGS FOREST.

*Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District): Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that carts were given as takavi to Bhils of the Dangs by the Forest Department?

(b) If so, will the Government be pleased to state the names and addresses of persons who were given takavi in this form and the price paid for each cart?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state whether any wheels of these carts were purchased by Government at any places outside the Dangs? If so, at what places were they purchased, from whom, and at what price was each pair of wheels purchased, and how many in all were so purchased?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Forest Department have sold some of these carts, on the condition that the delivery is to be given at the station of the purchaser?

If so, what sum has been spent for the railway fare for conveying the carts to such stations?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Yes, mostly to Kokanis residing in the Dangs.

(b) The honourable member is referred to the reply given to clause (b) (ii) of the question put by him.

(c) 20 pairs of cart wheels were obtained from Degam at Rs. 55 per pair in the year 1921-22 from Mr. Jiwan Lakhu and 15 pairs were purchased at Gundeva at Rs. 45 a pair in the year 1923-24 from Sutar Deva Hari.

(d) No carts were sold on the condition of delivery at the station of the purchaser.

Does not arise.

IRRIGATION BY KHARI CANAL, KAIRA DISTRICT.

Mr. D. N. PATEL (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many villages of Matar taluka in the Kaira District have the right to be and are irrigated from the Khari canal;

*This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

(b) what was the total acreage of lands of each such village which were irrigated from the Khari canal in the year 1923-24 ;

(c) what was the total acreage of lands beyond the limits of the Matar taluka which were irrigated from the Khari Cut, which is a cut from the Khari canal ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: (a) By "Khari Canal" the Honourable Member is presumably referring to the Khari river whence the Khari Cut takes off. Eleven villages known as the Kalambandi villages have a right to be and are irrigated by this river.

(b) Nil, there being no flow in the Khari river on account of the deficient rainfall in 1923-24.

(c) Nil, as there was no flow in the Khari Cut also, only 20 acres 38 gunthas of land of South Daskroi were irrigated in April 1923 ; of this 17 acres 5 gunthas were given the previous year's supply remaining in the Chandola tank and 3 acres 33 gunthas of Kharif crop was protected in the Wasai village, the cultivators having taken the water by lift from the nalla below the Wasai reservoir.

DAMAGE TO CROPS CAUSED BY THE COLD WEATHER.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN on behalf of Mr. G. I. PATEL (Ahmedabad Millowners' Association): (a) Will Government be pleased to place on the Council Table a statement showing the extent of damage done to different crops by the last spell of cold weather in the several areas of the Presidency ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether any relief is granted to the agriculturists and, if so, to give the nature and details of such relief in the different areas ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Information has been called for.

"GURCHARAN" IN THANA DISTRICT.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts): (a) Will Government be pleased to state the total area reserved for *gurcharan* for each of the talukas in the Thana District at the original survey and at the revision survey ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state if woodland plots are prepared out of the *gurcharan* lands. If so, how much land has been converted into woodland plots out of *gurcharan* since the original survey ?

(c) Has any *gurcharan* land in the Thana District been converted into reserved or protected forests since the original survey ? If so, how much ?

(d) Have the villagers been in any case allotted any other land in substitution of *gurcharan*, which has been converted to other lands ? If so, how much area has thus been allotted since the original survey ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : (a), (b) and (c) A statement* furnishing the required information is placed on the Council table.

(d) Land measuring 197 acres 2 gunthas has been allotted to the villagers in Bassein Taluka only, in substitution of *gurcharan*, which was put to other uses.

Mr. J. B. PRADHAN: Will the Honourable Minister please state who manages the area converted into woodland plots? Is it managed by the Revenue Department or the Forest Department?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: I should require notice.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN: Do Government contemplate giving any compensation to the villagers for the large tracts of *gurcharan* land taken from them for reserved and protected forests? (No reply.)

MUNICIPALITY AT MANMAD.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Will the Honourable the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state what action has been taken on the representation of the people of Manmad demanding the establishment of a municipality?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: The matter is still under consideration.

MEETINGS OF MINISTERS.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Will the Honourable the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Ministers meet together and deliberate upon and decide in concert their general policies as regards the transferred departments, or their policies as regards specific questions as regards their departments?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: The Ministers do not hold any regular meetings in connection with the affairs of their respective departments, but consult one another informally on any matters in which they deem it advisable to do so.

ALLOCATION OF REVENUE.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to state what principles, if any, are followed in arriving at an agreement between the two sides of the Government, as regards allocation of revenues for the administration of the reserved and the transferred subjects?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: The allocation is arrived at by agreement between the Reserved and Transferred sides of Government as contemplated in Devolution Rule 31, and is based upon the needs of each department and the funds available in any particular year.

EXPENDITURE ON NON-VOTABLE HEADS.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to state the total amount of expenditure under each of the following non-votable heads of expenditure, for each of the years 1921-22, 1922-23, 1923-24 and 1924-25, viz.—

(1) Expenditure of which the amount is prescribed by or under any law;

(2) Salaries and pensions of persons appointed by or with the approval of His Majesty, or by the Secretary of State in Council (*vide* section 72-D (3) (iii) and (iv) of the Government of India Act).

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: The total amount of expenditure under the non-votable heads referred to is as shown in the following statement :—

| Non-votable heads section 72-D (3) (iii) and (iv) of Government of India Act. | 1921-22. | 1922-23. | 1923-24. | 1924-25 9 months |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| | Rs. (Lakhs). | Rs. (Lakhs). | Rs. (Lakhs). | Rs. (Lakhs). |
| 1. Expenditure of which the amount is prescribed by or under any law .. | 117 | 177 | 153 | 113 |
| 2. Salaries and pensions of persons appointed by or with the approval of His Majesty or by the Secretary of State in Council .. | 70 | 82 | 77 | 62 |

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE LEE COMMISSION.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to state what steps they have taken or propose to take to carry out the recommendation of the Lee Commission (approved by His Majesty's Government) that a Public Service Act should be passed by each Provincial Government to regulate the Provincial Services?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: The question is under consideration.

ADMINISTRATION OF TRANSFERRED DEPARTMENTS.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Will the Honourable the Senior Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Ministers are hampered in the administration of the transferred departments by their want of control over all-India Services?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: No.

JUHU SEA WALL.

Mr. PUNJABHAI THAKERSI (Bombay City, North): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) what contribution was originally demanded from the owners of bungalows on the Juhu sea coast in the Bombay Suburban District for providing a sea wall at Juhu?

(b) whether this amount was increased, and, if so, to what extent, and for what reasons?

(c) when the work of constructing the sea wall will be taken in hand?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: (a) The Santa Cruz Town Planning Scheme No. II, as sanctioned by Government, under which a contribution of 43.5 per cent. of the increment, calculated in accordance with section 17 of the Bombay Town Planning Act, 1915,

was levied, provided a sum of Rs. 57,084 in lump for laying a water main to Juhu, constructing a sea wall, groynes and sluices. Rs. 20,000 were allocated therefrom towards the cost of a sea wall.

(b) The question as to the type of wall to be constructed is at present being considered in consultation with the owners concerned. No increase in the contribution has yet been made. Any increase will depend on the type of wall which it may be decided to carry out.

(c) The work will be taken in hand as soon as the type of the sea wall and the question of financing its cost are settled.

AMBERNATH, TROMBAY AND CENTRAL SALSETTE DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES.

Mr. PUNJABHAI THAKERSI (Bombay City, North) : Will Government be pleased to state :—

(a) what progress has been made in the sale of land at Ambernath, Trombay and Central Salsette and what the annual expenditure of the staff maintained for the development of these areas is ;

(b) whether any reduction of staff is contemplated for the next year in these areas ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : (a) The information is given below :—

| Place. | Area sold. | Average annual <i>pro-rata</i> expenditure on the staff during the three years 1921-22 to 1923-24. |
|------------------------|--|--|
| | Square yards. | Rs. |
| Ambernath | 1,17,517 For factories. 27,033 For superior staff quarters. 56,264 For workmen quarters. | 45,503 |
| Trombay | 1,66,557 | 1,07,098 |
| Central Salsette | Nil. | 7,489 |

(b) Considerable reduction in the staff has been made during the current financial year and further reductions will be made hereafter if and when possible.

ADVISORY COMMITTEES FOR HOSPITALS IN BOMBAY.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA (Bombay City) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state if they have appointed Advisory Committees for the different hospitals in the City of Bombay ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state the names of the members of these committees ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) Yes.

(b) The list* of members is placed on the Council table.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA : When were these committees appointed ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Last month.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA : What are the functions of these committees ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I haven't got the papers here ; if the honourable member will give notice or will see me at any time, I shall give him the information.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA : When do the committees meet ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The committees meet when they think it necessary to meet.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA : How many meetings did they hold up to now ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : If you will give me notice I shall find it out.

Dr. M. M. MEHTA : Did the committees ever meet ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : I cannot answer off-hand at present.

CHANGES IN GOVERNMENT VERNACULAR TRAINING COLLEGES.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA (Bombay City) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) what changes (1) as to admission to the various classes in the Government vernacular training colleges for primary teachers, (2) in the rules for appearing at the various teachers' examinations, and (3) in the amount of fees charged at the training colleges for studies and at the training college and vernacular final examinations, have been introduced since 1921, and

(b) their reasons for the same ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) and (b) The accompanying memorandum† gives the information required.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA : Have the examinations for the third year training class been abolished ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : So far as the other vernaculars are concerned, the classes are closed ; but for Urdu the classes have been retained this year.

ADMISSIONS TO THE POLICE TRAINING SCHOOL, NASIK.

Mr. SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The total number of candidates admitted in 1924 for training in the police training school, Nasik.

* Vide Appendix 76.

† Vide Appendix 75.

- (b) The number out of them who belong to backward Hindu classes.
 (c) The number out of those in (a) who are Brahmins.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD :

| Outside Nominees. | Head Constables. |
|-------------------|------------------|
| (a) 15 | 9 |
| (b) 5 | 4 |
| (c) 3 | 5 |

STATEMENT OF FREE STUDENTSHIPS.

Mr. SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(i) the total population according to the census of 1921 of:—

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| (a) Advanced Hindus | } (used as in Government Resolution, Educational Department, No. 1413 of 21st January 1924), |
| (b) Backward Hindus | |
| (c) Depressed classes, and | |
| (d) Mahomedans. | |

in the presidency proper ;

(ii) the distribution of boys in Government secondary schools in the presidency proper out of each of the above classes as it stood on the 1st July 1924 ;

(iii) the distribution of the free studentships in the Government secondary schools of the presidency proper amongst the boys of the above classes as it stood on the 1st July 1924 ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (i) Information has already been supplied.

(ii) and (iii) The required information is contained in the accompanying statement.*

STATEMENT OF SCHOLARSHIPS.

Mr. SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(1) the number of open scholarships held by—

- (a) boys belonging to advanced Hindu classes,
 (b) boys belonging to non-Mahomedan backward classes, and
 (c) Mahomedans boys

in the Government secondary schools in the Bombay, Northern, Central and Southern Divisions on the 1st August 1924 ?

(2) The number of special scholarships—

(i) sanctioned by Government Resolution, Educational Department, No. 643 of 15th November 1923, and

(ii) held by—

- (a) boys belonging to non-Mahomedan backward classes, and
 (b) Mahomedan boys

* *Vide* Appendix 73.

in the Government secondary schools in the Bombay, Northern Central and Southern Divisions on the 1st August 1924 ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (1) The accompanying statement A* gives the information required.

(2) Government Resolution No. 643, dated the 15th November 1923, has been superseded by subsequent orders of Government sanctioning a revised comprehensive scheme of special scholarships for all classes which are regarded as backward in education. The accompanying statement B* accordingly gives the number of scholarships sanctioned and held under this scheme. It should be noted that no special scholarships for Intermediate Hindus have been awarded in the Northern Division in the current year as the question of the 'Intermediate' castes in that Division which are to be treated as backward in education is still under consideration.

PROVINCIAL TAXATION OF TURF CLUB INCOME.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North) : Will Government be pleased to state whether they have any scheme under consideration for bringing the income of the Turf Club under provincial taxation, apart from the levy of the entertainment duty ?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : The answer is in the affirmative.

Mr. A. N. SURVE : May I know when it will be placed before the House ?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : I hope at the next session.

BEHAVIOUR OF THE RETURNING OFFICER OF THE NORTH DASKROI TALUKA.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether protests were made to the Collector against the behaviour of the returning officer of North Daskroi taluka of Ahmedabad district at the time of the counting of votes at the election for the District Local Board on the 3rd December 1924 ?

(b) Will they be pleased to state whether the Collector had to interfere and entrust the counting of votes at the Daskroi taluka local board elections on the 4th December 1924 to the members of his own office ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : (a) Yes. Protests were made to the Collector in the evening after the counting of votes was finished in the District Local Board election.

(b) The Collector had no reason to find fault with the behaviour of the Returning Officer but in order to avoid any possible ground for complaint he appointed his Head Clerk assisted by clerks of his office to count the votes in the Taluka Local Board elections which was done on the following day.

* Vide Appendix 74.

POLICY OF KEEPING REVENUE OFFICERS IN ONE PLACE FOR
MORE THAN FIVE YEARS.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Will Government be pleased to state whether it is their policy not to keep revenue officers in one place for more than five years ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : There are no rules on the subject. Transfers are made as are required in the interests of the administration.

THEFTS IN PRANTIJ CITY AND TALUKA.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of thefts in Prantij City and Taluka during the last ten years ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state in how many of these crimes, thieves were detected and stolen property returned to the owners.

(c) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have taken any steps to prevent thefts in the future ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : (a) 1915, 17. 1916, 9. 1917, 12. 1918, 14. 1919, 18. 1920, 11. 1921, 17. 1922, 8. 1923, 8. 1924, 16.

(b) 1915, 10. 1916, 4. 1917, 8. 1918, 8. 1919, 13. 1920, 6. 1921, 8. 1922, 6. 1923, 7. 1924, 9.

(c) The present arrangements seem sufficient.

NON-CO-OPERATING SCHOOLS.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is their policy to debar non-co-operating schools that seek recognition from receiving Government grant for one year after recognition by the Educational Department.

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether any non-co-operating school has again non-co-operated after recognition by the Educational Department ?

(c) If the reply to (b) is in the negative will Government be pleased to state the grounds on which such a policy has been adopted by the Educational Department ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) The reason for deferring the Government grant for one year after recognition is to give sufficient time to make the necessary additional provision, if any, in the Educational budget.

DEVELOPMENT OF GOGHA, AHMEDABAD DISTRICT.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they contemplate taking any steps to develop the port of Gogha in the Ahmedabad District ?

(b) If so, will they be pleased to state when the work will be commenced ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Government have appointed an expert to survey the Northern Group ports with a view to examining the possibility of their improvement. On receipt of his report they will decide what steps, if any, should be taken for the development of the port of Gogha.

Mr. H. H. NARIELVALA : Has the officer visited this place and commenced the inquiry ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I do not know whether he has visited this particular place but he has commenced the inquiry.

Mr. H. H. NARIELVALA : May I know what places he has visited ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I cannot tell you what places he has visited without inquiry.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR PRIMARY TEACHERS.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Will Government be pleased to state when the report of the committee for primary teachers, appointed in March last, will be published ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Government have not yet received the report of the Committee referred to and it is therefore not possible to say at present when it is likely to be published.

COTTON CROP AND CULTIVATORS IN AHMEDABAD DISTRICT.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether they are aware that heavy damage has been done by frost to the cotton crop in Ahmedabad District ?

(b) Whether they are aware that cultivators mostly depend on the cotton crop for paying their revenue dues ?

(c) If so, will they be pleased to state what relief in the form of suspension or remission of revenue payments they have given to the cultivators who have been hard hit by the calamity ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) There has been damage in some parts of the Ahmedabad District.

(b) Yes.

(c) Orders have been issued by the Collector to his revenue officers to make personal inspection on as wide a scale as possible and to report whether the damage will bring the anna valuation below six annas. In those cases where the anna valuation falls below six annas the Collector will give such suspensions or remissions as the rules prescribe.

DIPLOMA EXAMINATION OF RAJKUMAR COLLEGE.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD on behalf of the THAKOR OF AMOD (Northern Division) : Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that the Diploma Examination of the Rajkumar College is not recognized by the University of Bombay (as it is by the University of Allahabad and the Punjab) as an

examination qualifying a student for admission into an arts college? If so, what are the reasons therefor?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The University of Bombay has not recognised the Diploma Examination of the Rajkumar College, Rajkot, as equivalent to its Matriculation Examination particularly because a classical language does not form a necessary part of that examination.

URDU VERNACULAR SCHOOLS IN NORTHERN DIVISION.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD on behalf of The THAKOR OF AMOD (Northern Division): Will Government be pleased to place on the table a statement showing the number of Urdu schools in each district of the Northern Division during the period 1921 to 1924?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The required information is given in the accompanying statement.*

ROADS IN GUJARAT DISTRICTS.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA on behalf of The THAKOR OF KERWADA (Gujarat Sardars and Inamdars): Are Government aware of the most deplorable condition of the roads in the Gujarat Districts? Are Government aware that there is not a single road which connects these five districts of the Northern Division?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: (a) No. All Government roads except the recently provincialized ones which are nothing better than cart tracks, are maintained in good condition and the latter too are being improved so far as funds permit.

(b) With the exception of Broach and Kaira districts, the link of which is interrupted by the Mahi river and Baroda territory and Kaira and Panch Mahals, which have a Kacha connection recently provincialized and which is being improved, all the other districts are fairly well inter-connected by good roads the link of which is interrupted only by the Narbada near Broach and the Watrak, during the rains only, near Kaira.

VESTING OF WELLS IN LOCAL BOARDS.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA on behalf of The THAKOR OF KERWADA (Gujarat Sardars and Inamdars): Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the public wells maintained by the local boards in the villages have still not been vested in the local boards and if so, why?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Enquiries are being made.

WATER SUPPLY AT DAKOR.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI (Indian Merchants' Chamber): (a) Will Government be pleased to state the total number of pilgrims that visited Dakor during the year ended March 31st last?

(b) Is it a fact that Dakor has been suffering from want of adequate source of water-supply, and that the pilgrims committee refer to this defect in their report in very clear terms?

* Vide Appendix 79.

(c) Have Government taken any action in the direction of making available to Dakor sufficient water for Dakor's permanent population, and for the large number of pilgrims visiting Dakor all through every year?

(d) If the reply to (c) is in the negative, will Government be pleased to state the reasons why despite the report of the pilgrim committee in 1917 and in spite of the fact that a pilgrim centre is liable to outbursts of epidemics of water supply be inadequate no action has been taken?

(e) Will Government be pleased to place on the table a copy of any report that they may have received till now regarding the prospects of adequate water being made available to Dakor?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN :
(a) 330,357 pilgrims visited Dakor during the year on fair days on which pilgrim tax is being collected. Over and above this, four to five hundred pilgrims on an average visit Dakor every day.

(b) to (e) Already replied to.

Mr. LALJI NARANJI : May I know what is the amount of tax collected from the 330,357 pilgrims referred to in the reply to question (a)?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : I want notice.

Supplementary Estimates.

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE : Mr. President, at the close of the day before yesterday I was asked to give details with regard to supplementary estimate no. 14 of the supplementary estimates. The sum there asked for is Rs. 18,000, and I was asked to what particular heads this expenditure is due. I find that Rs. 7,000 includes expenditure on leave allowances of certain military officers who are paid through the Secretary of State and not through the High Commissioner. Rs. 3,000 are due to the legal expenses of a suit brought by N. R. Wadia against the Government of Bombay. In that particular suit we had purchased land on behalf of the municipality of Bombay and this expenditure will be recovered from the municipality of Bombay. And as to Rs. 4,000 on account of expenditure on account of the Bombay Stock Exchange Committee, some of the officers were paid in England.

Question put and carried.

BILL No. XXII OF 1924. A BILL TO AMEND THE BOMBAY DISTRICT POLICE ACT, 1890.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North) : Mr. President, under Standing Order IV, 4, I move that the second reading of Bill No. XXII of 1924, a bill further to amend the Bombay District Police Act, 1890, be adjourned till the next session.

Mr. President, if you will kindly give me permission I shall give a brief explanatory statement for moving this motion. The circumstances under which I bring this motion are as follows :

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

On the amendment moved by the Honourable the Leader of the House on the 22nd October 1924 this bill was referred to a select committee for report within two months. A notice was sent in Bombay that a meeting of the select committee would be held on the 17th December but it was subsequently cancelled and another meeting was called again on the 19th December. But on that date the finance committee held its meeting and consequently the meeting of the select committee could not be held. Eventually a meeting of the select committee was held for the first time on the 20th January when we discussed the bill. On the 17th February the Secretary to the Legislative Council sent a draft of the report to me for signature, but in my opinion it did not correctly represent what happened in the select committee. I therefore brought that fact to his notice and also wrote a letter to the Honourable the Leader of the House urging upon him the desirability of meeting again. I am glad to say that he has kindly consented to hold another meeting on some day in April next.

Under these circumstances, I request the House to extend the time to enable the select committee to submit its report, and pending its submission to adjourn the consideration of this bill till the next session.

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I think a definite date ought to be fixed for the submission of the report of the select committee.

Mr. A. N. SURVE: I move, Sir, that the time for submission of the report by the select committee be extended up to 15th June, 1925.

Question put and carried.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I should like to suggest that the name of Mr. P. E. Percival be substituted for the name of Mr. N. J. Wadia, because Mr. P. E. Percival is now the Legal Secretary while Mr. Wadia has ceased to be a member of this Council.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member cannot move several motions on one item. It would have been easy to bring in all the changes under one motion.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I thought this was a separate matter, because that motion related to the extension of time for the submission of the report by the select committee, while this related to the change in the personnel of the select committee.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: All the changes can be brought under one motion.

Question put that Mr. P. E. Percival's name be substituted for that of Mr. N. J. Wadia as one of the members of the select committee on Bill No. XXII of 1924, and carried.

BILL NO. XXVI OF 1924 (A BILL TO ALTER THE CONSTITUTION AND TO WIDEN THE POWERS OF MUNICIPALITIES.)

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): Sir, I beg to move that Bill*
 No. XXVI of 1924 (A Bill to alter the constitution
 and to widen the powers of municipalities) be read
 First reading.
 a first time.

This bill will affect the interests of 156 district municipal boards, and is intended to confer larger powers on about 2,700,000 of people who are living in the municipal areas. Before I go to the exposition of the various clauses of my bill, I would like to speak in very brief terms about the progress that has been made in local self-government so far as this presidency is concerned.

The local self-government was started in this presidency in the year 1850, though it was started in Bengal in 1843. I do not propose to give this House a detailed information about the various attempts made by the Government of India in order to extend the scope of local self-government. I will only allude to the memorable resolution on local self-government issued by the Government of India in 1882. The Government of India issued the said resolution in order to enlarge the scope of and confer wider privileges on the municipalities in India. The Government of Bombay adopted a reactionary attitude in regard to that resolution, and they set their face against any expansion of local self-government. It was only out of deference to the wishes of the Government of India that they brought before the Council in 1884 two bills which were extremely inadequate. From 1884 right up to 1901 no serious attempt was made by the Government of Bombay for putting local self-government on a broad basis, and for bringing it to such a level as to satisfy the natural aspirations of the people. It was only in the year 1901, that the law regarding the district municipalities was embodied in the Bombay Act III of 1901, and even that measure was undertaken at the instance of the Government of India. The Government of Bombay did not deem it proper to frame the Bombay Act III of 1901 in such a way as to meet the requirements of the people. This Act was in operation for 12 years. The Government of India again asked the Bombay Government whether they were ready and willing to extend the basis of local self-government in this presidency. Then it was Lord Willingdon's Government. They gave a reply in October 1913 to the Government of India to say that in this presidency local bodies were not sufficiently advanced to deserve an elective majority. Till 1913, the major municipalities such as Poona, Ahmedabad, Surat had not an elective majority on their boards. In this connexion I submit, Sir, that if even after 60 years of local self-government the people of this presidency were found incompetent to have a larger measure of local self-government, either the people must have been exceptionally undeserving of such rights or there must have been something rotten so far as the Bombay Government was concerned. But it seems, Sir, that

* Vide Appendix F.

[Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar]

what at times human agency cannot accomplish, divine agency does accomplish ; and it was owing to the divine interposition so to say that the whole angle of vision of the Government of India in regard to the problem of local self-government, though not of the Bombay Government, came to be changed by the great War. In 1915 the Government of India issued a fresh resolution No. 50/77 of 28th April 1915 on local self-government. In that resolution the Government of India distinctly stated that they were unhesitatingly in favour of a general policy of further progress, that the aim to be steadily pursued was abstention from interference in detail and increased reliance on the non-official element in local bodies. The concluding paragraph of that resolution is as follows :

“ In conclusion, the Governor-General in Council hopes that this declaration of policy may lead to steady and sound progress without hampering local Governments and administrations, or unduly fettering local self-Government. It is designed to mark a definite advance in devolution and political education. His Excellency in Council trusts that it will be interpreted in the spirit in which it is framed a spirit of prudent boldness, calculating risks but not afraid to take them in the cause of progress.”

In spite of such explicit instructions from the Government of India the Government of Bombay refused to move in the matter, and to free local self-government from their trammels. But it seems, Sir, that with the reverses which the allied arms sustained on the fields of France and Flanders, a still greater awakening came to pass not only over Great Britain but also over India, and as a consequence in 1917 the Secretary of State came down here, and, in consultation with the Viceroy, issued a report about the political situation in India and the changes that were required in the constitution of the Indian and provincial Governments. The House very well knows that the whole report of the Secretary of State for India and the Viceroy is based upon four great principles, the first of which is that “ there should be, as far as possible, complete popular control in local bodies and the largest possible independence for them of outside control ”. Even though the report recommended, in a sense, a complete devolution of power to the local bodies, still the Bombay Government failed to act upon that recommendation, and did not effect the requisite changes in the District Municipal Act. In this connection, I might mention one circumstance that, when the Bombay Government refused to move in the matter, in spite of the resolution of the Government of India and the recommendation made in the Montford Report, a conference of all the municipalities was held at Poona in July 1917, under the presidency of Mr. V. J. Patel. It was a very largely attended conference, and was started under the auspices of the then Governor, Lord Willingdon, and in the speech which was made by His Excellency he stated :

“ You are probably all aware that my Government is at the present moment engaged in trying to work out a comprehensive scheme of local self-government, which is to include all governments from village panchayats to district municipalities. I am glad to see Mr. Martin here, who is the special officer appointed to work out the scheme, and who has worked with the greatest zeal and energy in connection with this matter ”.

[Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar]

I do not know whether Mr. Martin actually formulated a scheme in regard to the various aspects of local self-government; but this much I can say that, till the year 1920, no serious attempt was made either in the direction of altering the constitution of the municipalities or of widening their powers. The conference, passed a resolution which, for the information of the House, I shall read out. The resolution ran thus :

“ This conference is strongly of opinion that all local bodies should be wholly elected ; that they should have the right to elect their own president subject to the following safeguards :

that there should be communal representation in the case of the Mahomedan community only, and secondly, that with a view to provide for other interests each local Body should frame its rules of election so as to reserve a specified number of seats for the representatives of such interests. Such representatives shall be elected by other members returned by the general body of voters ”.

I find from the printed report of the conference that this resolution was moved by Rao Saheb Harilal Desai who, I learn, was the Deputy President of this House, and it was seconded by the Honourable Mr. Upasani. In spite of this demand made by the representatives of the municipalities in this presidency, no attempt was made to improve the condition of the municipalities. It was only on 24th September 1920 that the Government of Bombay issued their Resolution No. 9693, directing that steps should be taken to enfranchise a larger proportion of the population of each municipal district by reducing the qualifying tax, to increase the proportion of councillors, and to fix the maximum proportion of nominated councillors at one-fifth of the total number of councillors ; and furthermore the Government granted to the municipalities the right of electing their own presidents by a simple majority vote. The resolution is all right, so far as it goes. But the one serious objection that can be advanced against it is that the changes made in the District Municipal Act are under a resolution, which is more or less the outcome of the will and whim of the Government, and that it is not the fruit of the legislative vote. Sir, a resolution often-times goes out of existence with the same secrecy and rapidity with which it comes into existence, and the Government withdraws a resolution with the same facility with which it publishes it. I must frankly confess that the resolution made an advance upon the kind of local self-government that was in existence till the year 1920. But over and above the fundamental objection that could be taken against the resolution the second objection is that the resolution did not go far enough. I will discuss the various aspects of this resolution when I come to the exposition of the clauses of the bill. But for the present I may say.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Is the honourable member likely to take a couple of hours ? The way he is going on creates that impression.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : Sir, the resolution is not something on which those who are interested in the cause of local self-government can safely depend. That is in short the history of local self-government, so far as this presidency is concerned.

The bill that I have moved seeks to modify Act III of 1901 in some of its most important aspects. The first amendment that I propose is in

[Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar]

regard to sections 3 and 181 of the Act. Clause (1) of section 3 defines a city municipality thus :

“‘City municipality’ shall mean any municipality which is one of those specified in Schedule E or has been declared under sub-section (1) of section 181 a city municipality, and which has not ceased under sub-section (2) of section 181 to be a city municipality.”

And the sub-section (1) of section 181 says :—

“The Governor in Council may, at any time in respect of any municipal district which contains a population of not less than fifteen thousand inhabitants, declare by notification, the municipality thereof, which shall be specified in the notification, to be a city municipality.”

In other words it means that a municipality will not be a city municipality unless it is included in the Schedule which is attached to the Act or declared to be so under section 181. It is only 14 municipalities which have been included in the Schedule. Furthermore, under section 181 whether a municipality is to be converted into a city municipality or not, or a city municipality will remain a city municipality or not, will depend entirely upon the decision of the Governor in Council. By my first amendment I seek to substitute for the words “is one of those specified in Schedule E” the words “contains within its municipal district a population of not less than fifteen thousand inhabitants”. If this amendment is accepted by the House, then instead of 14 city municipalities we shall have 34 city municipalities, and the distribution of these 34 municipalities will be as follows :—In the Northern Division 11 ; in the Central Division 12 ; in the Southern Division 6 ; and in the province of Sind 5. I think, Sir, that in cities which contain a population of 15,000 and more, public spirit has so far advanced as to supply to the municipal boards a sufficient number of public-spirited and right-minded persons ; and it will be entirely out of tune with the spirit of the times to confine the larger powers and prerogatives of a city municipality only to those cities which are mentioned in Schedule E.

My second amendment is in regard to section 10 of the Act, which runs thus :

“Except as is hereinafter otherwise provided, every such municipality shall consist of
 (a) elected councillors ;
 (b) nominated councillors, if any, that is to say such persons, as from time to time—
 (i) are by name appointed in this behalf, or
 (ii) are executing the functions of any office from time to time notified in this behalf by the Commissioner.”

The amendment which I propose is to insert the words ‘except a city municipality’ after the words ‘every such municipality’. This amendment is of importance because by clause 5 of the bill I propose to make all the city municipalities wholly elective. I propose also to add a new section 10-A, after section 10, in these terms :

“Every city municipality shall consist wholly of elected Councillors.”

I think, Sir, that the time is ripe for making all city municipalities wholly elected, and to confine nomination of one-fifth of the total number of councillors only to such municipalities as cannot be classed as city municipalities.

The next amendment is as regards section 15 of the Act. It is a very simple amendment, and I am sure that the Honourable the Minister in

[Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar]

charge will not hesitate to accept it. If the bill that he has framed contains a clause to this effect, then certainly he should have no hesitation in accepting it. The present section 15 is :

"No person may be a councillor, (a) who

(i) having been sentenced by a criminal court to imprisonment or whipping for an offence punishable with imprisonment for a term exceeding six months, or to transportation, such sentence not having been subsequently reversed or quashed, or

(ii) having been dismissed from Government service, such dismissal having been notified in the *Bombay Government Gazette*, or

(iii) being a pleader whose sanad has been withdrawn by the High Court, or

(iv) having been removed from office under section 16,

has not, by an order which the Governor in Council is hereby empowered to make, if he shall think fit in this behalf, been relieved from disqualification arising on account of such sentence, or dismissal, or withdrawal of sanad, or removal from office."

According to my amendment, the period of disqualification will be confined only to five years. I propose to add after the words 'section 16' the words 'and five years not having elapsed from the date of the expiry of such sentence, or of such dismissal, suspension or removal'.

Then, clauses 7 to 13 of the bill embody rather important amendments. These clauses relate to the amendment of section 23, and clause 7 proposes to amend the section in such a way as to ensure that all the municipalities will be presided over by elected presidents.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN
Are they not presided over by elected members now ?

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : That is a right which I concede has been given by the Government resolution referred to above. But it is conferred upon the municipalities by the Act. Clause 9 is most important, and it proposes to debar any salaried servant of the Government from becoming either the president or the vice-president of any municipality.

Sir, this amendment is in consonance with the recommendation of the Decentralization Commission in this behalf. The Decentralization Commission, which submitted its report in the year 1909, made a recommendation in this behalf to this effect :

"Municipal chairmen should be elected non-officials. Government officers should not be allowed to stand for election, and only where any other chairman but a nominated chairman would be impossible should they be allowed a chance."

Clause 9 of my bill is drafted exactly on the lines of the recommendation made by the Royal Commission on Decentralization. Clauses 8, 9, 10 and 11 contain more or less consequential amendments, and I do not desire to take up the time of the House by explaining them.

Clause 13 embodies a necessary amendment to the effect that the non-acceptance of office should be made one more ground for filling up the post of either the president or the vice-president.

Clauses 14 and 17 should be read together, and they embody a very useful and necessary change in sections 41 and 160 of the present Act. Section 160 of the Act lays down the procedure which a local body is expected to follow for the acquisition of land required for any municipal purpose. But in point of fact we find that this procedure is not usually followed. My amendment proposes to make the procedure embodied in section 160 obligatory and compulsory upon the local authorities. There is a growing tendency on the part of several local bodies to move

[Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar]

the Government at once and in the first instance under section 41 for the acquisition of land required for any municipal purpose. And curiously enough, the Government do not hesitate in the least to put into operation section 41 and thus bring the owners of land within the clutches of the Land Acquisition Act. I submit, Sir, that it was because I, honestly and conscientiously, thought it to be an oppressive procedure that I have proposed to modify section 160 in such a way as to compel the local authority first to exhaust the procedure that is laid down in section 160, namely, the procedure of arbitration before applying section 41. If land is required, then it should be acquired as far as possible by arbitration, and it is only when the method of arbitration is found to be useless or that the arbitration could not be worked out within the specified period, that the Government should be moved to step in under section 41 and to acquire the land under the Land Acquisition Act. I think it is a very wholesome procedure that is laid down in section 160 and the change that I have proposed is a very salutary one.

Then, the next amendment is in regard to section 56 of the Municipal Act. Section 56, clause (m) is in these terms :

“Municipalities may at their discretion, provide out of the said property and fund, either wholly or partly, with the previous concurrence of the Collector, for any public reception, ceremony, entertainment or exhibition within the municipal district.”

This section has come into prominence since the Secretary of State for India has filed suits against the Poona city municipality. The section as it stands makes the previous concurrence of the Collector a condition precedent for any expenditure on the score of any public ceremony, reception, entertainment and so forth. We find, Sir, that in the whole field of the Municipal Act there is no other provision which is more insulting to the intelligence of elected representatives of the people. To ask a municipality like the Poona city municipality which contains some honourable members of this House on its body to take the previous concurrence of the Collector for a little expenditure to be incurred for the reception of such a personality as Mahatma Gandhi, or Desh Bandhu Das, or Maulana Mahomed Ali is nothing short of a deliberate insult to that body. I think, Sir, that even on the grounds of justice and fair play to make the collective wisdom of 50 municipal councillors subordinate to the individual wisdom of a Collector is something that should not rightfully find any place in any scheme of local self-government. I propose by this amendment to delete the words “with the previous concurrence of the Collector” and to give the municipalities full discretion and liberty to incur expenditure for the purposes mentioned in clause (m) of section 56.

The last amendment is in regard to section 58, and by that amendment I propose that the proviso to section 58 should be deleted. The section is important, and it has also come into prominence owing to the friction that arose some two years back between the Government and some of the major municipalities in the province of Gujarat. The section says that the management, control and administration of every public institution exclusively maintained out of municipal property and

[Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar]

funds shall vest in the municipality by which it is maintained, and the proviso says :

“ the extent of the independent authority of any municipality in respect of public education, and their relations with the Government Educational Department shall from time to time be prescribed by the Governor in Council. ”

I propose to delete this clause, because I hold that the attempt on the part of Government to exercise the right of control and supervision over the municipalities when they are not in receipt of any grant-in-aid from the Government is one that should not be countenanced by this House. It is wise to enjoy the tune when you pay the piper ; but to enjoy the tune at the cost of others and with the threat of breaking up the company is nothing short of downright despotism. In the case of such city municipalities to retain this proviso is to disfigure the whole scheme of the District Municipal Act.

With these remarks on the provisions of the Bill, I will now explain briefly some of the points regarding which there is likely to be some misunderstanding. I feel it necessary that I should explain them very clearly to the House. The first point is that in none of the amendments that I have proposed, have I touched the question of communal representation, either directly or indirectly. Whatever my individual views regarding communal representation may be, so far as the amending bill is concerned, I have taken every care to steer clear of that thorny question. So, no one need run with the idea that any amendment or any part of it embodied in my bill touches the question of communal representation either expressly or impliedly.

The second point is—and I am sure that much capital will be made out of it—namely, the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government will fling his own bill in my face, and will endeavour to persuade the House that inasmuch as his bill is going to be introduced in the July session, my bill should be thrown out by the House. But let me tell him that my bill is intended not to supplant his bill but rather to supplement it. I have not only read the lines of his bill but have also read his bill between the lines, and I can confidently say that the one great point of difference between my bill and his bill is that while his bill affects only 30 municipalities out of the total of 156, my bill covers up the entire field of local self-government, that is to say, my bill will broaden the basis of all the municipal boards which are at present 156 in number. If I am right, his bill affects only the major municipalities and he has styled it as the major municipalities' bill. So far as the major municipalities' bill is concerned, I may frankly confess that some of its provisions are progressive in nature (Hear, hear) ; but in regard to other provisions it is practically stationary as for instance, while he wants the element of nomination to stand in the constitution of the municipal boards of the major municipalities, I want to eliminate it altogether therefrom.

The third point that I may refer to is that by extending the scope of local self-government it is not the literate classes that stand to gain. Let me make the position clear on this point. The recent elections held in several parts of the presidency have made it very clear that the

[Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar]

illiterate classes or the backward or intermediate classes as they are sometimes styled to be, have begun to take deeper interest in the municipal affairs and as they form an overwhelming majority of the electorate of any municipality they have scored considerably at the polls (Hear, hear). Personally I am extremely glad to note that my Maratha friends have begun to take their proper place in municipal affairs ; and I shall welcome the day when the whole of the municipality like the Poona city municipality will contain an overwhelmingly large number of the backward and intermediate classes, as theirs is the duty and function to assume the reins of administration of such institutions. Let me remind them that by my bill I propose to make the major municipalities absolutely elected. I propose to remove the factor of nomination which exists at present in the case of the major municipalities and to make the major municipalities absolutely elective in nature. In other words, I wish to take the right of nomination from the Government and vest it in the general body of every major municipality. In this connection an objection will be urged, namely, what about the minorities and what about the securing of expert opinion regarding any municipal question ? I think that the resolution passed by the local Self-Government Conference referred to above furnishes a convincing reply thereto. I am told, Sir, that the method of nomination of members by the elected members is followed by the Bombay Corporation. The reservation of seats to safeguard the interests of minorities can be very well effected by one method or the other, and the simplest method is for the elected members to nominate persons to the reserved seats. To explain matters more clearly, the Poona city municipality at present consists of 43 elected and 7 nominated members. According to my amendment the right of nominating the 7 members is to be taken away from the hands of Government and is to be given to the elected members.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN :
The right of nomination is given to the municipalities in my bill.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Does not the Honourable Minister realize that his interruptions further prolong a very brief speech ?

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : The seven seats are to be reserved for the minorities but the members are to be nominated by the elected members.

The fourth point is that this is not a bill which I have as it were sprung upon the public at large. As soon as leave to introduce it was granted to me, I referred it to all the major and minor municipalities of the presidency for their opinion and over 80 municipalities have expressed their entire approval with the provisions thereof, though only in one matter, the Ahmedabad municipality expressed its disapproval, namely with the provision relating to acquisition of land required for municipal purposes. This clearly shows that there is a wide-spread desire on the part of the municipalities to have larger powers and.....

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Will the honourable member point out the provision that he has made for the minorities ?

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : It is not a question to be settled by the Act, but by rules under the Act.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Order, order. The honourable member should address the Chair. Surely the honourable member can refer to the Honourable Minister by addressing the Chair.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : Under the Municipal Act the reservation of seats is to be done under rules made by the municipality itself. It can never be done by the Act. It is only the proportion between the elected and nominated councillors that can be provided for in the Act. Take a concrete example. Some seats are reserved in the Poona municipality for Mahomedans. Is there any provision of the Act under which these seats are reserved for Mahomedans ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : The honourable member is.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I cannot allow these interruptions in view of the amount of time that the honourable member has taken. The Honourable Minister will have a right of reply. The honourable member has been addressing the House for about one hour and I cannot overlook the fact that only two days are allotted to go through non-official business which is so bulky in character. I cannot prevent the honourable member continuing, but these interruptions allow him to give further replies and to prolong, as I said, a very brief speech.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : Now, Sir, I will really make it brief, I will only say in conclusion that if there is any provision regarding which any honourable member has got any objection, then surely that provision can be modified in the select committee. I do not expect every honourable member of this House to see eye to eye with me in respect of all the provisions of the bill. Even the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government, with all his expert knowledge of local self-government and expert legal advice which is ever at his command cannot place before the House a bill which will satisfy each and every member of the House. If there is any provision that does not exactly suit the likes or dislikes of any honourable member, it can be modified in the select committee. If any further provisions are necessary to bring out more prominently any of the important points or to safeguard the interests of any community or minority then the select committee will be perfectly at liberty to do so.

With these remarks I request the House to pass the first reading of this bill.

Question proposed.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Sir, the honourable mover of this bill accused Government of dilatoriness in amending the existing Municipal Act. But the honourable member knows full well that I prepared a bill to amend the District Municipal

[Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain]

Act which was circulated to the municipalities for criticism over three years ago. Only recently I got the opinions of all the municipalities. If Government were to rush through legislation without consulting the local bodies, a cry would be raised in this House that the municipalities have not been consulted. If they circulate the bill for opinion to the municipalities, then Government are accused of dilatoriness and the Minister or Member in charge is attacked for delaying legislation. I had assured the House that I would bring in a bill in a short time. After receiving the opinions of the municipalities, I hurried the Legal Department to get a bill drafted. I requested the permission of Government to bring in my bill this session. I was told by Government that as this was a budget session and further as the bill, being a big one, would take a long time, it would not be possible to move it in this session. Government did not allow me to move it, in the interests of honourable members themselves who might have had to sit for a much longer time. I cannot disobey the orders of Government. As I have been handicapped in this way, the honourable member for Poona wants to steal a march over me. I shall presently show that the provisions of his bill are practically those of my draft bill. I do not know whether he should claim originality for them or looking to the time when my draft bill was circulated to the municipality of which the honourable member for Poona is a member, and the time when his bill was introduced, I have every reason to believe that the provisions of his bill were adopted from my draft bill. I will presently convince the House that this is so.

In clause 2 of my honourable friend's bill, he proposes to make every municipality with a population of 15,000 or more a city municipality. His complaint is that under the law as it stands at present there are only 14 city municipalities. I was also of opinion that we could have a larger number of city municipalities. If the honourable member refers to my draft bill, he will see that I have for the present included 32 municipalities in the category of city municipalities, and the one more municipality which the honourable member wants also to be included is, I believe, the Karachi municipality so as to make the number 33 according to him. That has been excluded from the list in my bill, as a separate bill for the Karachi municipality is to be introduced. I am sure honourable members will agree with me that the principle laid down by the honourable member for making a municipality a city municipality is most arbitrary. In my draft bill I have taken into consideration several factors for a city municipality—its financial position, the capacity of the people to administer the affairs of the municipality, the population and the importance of the city; and not adopted the arbitrary basis of population only. Mere population alone cannot be a correct criterion for a city municipality. The equitable principle is to take into consideration the capacity of the people, the financial position of the municipality concerned.....

MR. P. G. JOSHI: The Honourable Minister is referring to a draft which is not before the House. Is he in order, Sir, in doing so?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: He can only make a passing reference. He cannot make it the main basis of his speech.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: Is he supporting or opposing the bill?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: He will disclose it at his pleasure.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: My honourable friend lays down an arbitrary principle. The financial position of the municipality is the most important factor to be taken into account. If any municipality with an unsound financial position were made a major municipality under the provisions of this bill, honourable members will agree with me that it would be unfair to make it liable for additional expenditure on the arbitrary basis of population. If we accept the principle laid down by my honourable friend, has he made any provision for financial aid? I know of municipalities, most of the honourable members of this House also know, which have a population of more than 15,000 but whose financial position is not good. Is it fair that the honourable member should saddle such municipalities with additional responsibilities which they cannot discharge on account of their poor financial position? If they cannot discharge those responsibilities, has he suggested any remedy for it? Suppose we accept his arbitrary principle and convert every municipality with a population of 15,000 and more into a city municipality, and give them wider powers and responsibilities. Suppose, owing to the financial position, one of these municipalities cannot perform its duties, what is the remedy? Has the honourable mover provided any remedy? The remedy is, as the law stands at present, to suspend the municipality; but after it is restored, the municipality will be the same again. Or else, the remedy is to dissolve it. The only other alternative will be to abolish it altogether. Therefore, I submit, Sir, that the principle which is enunciated in the bill that every local area with a population of 15,000 and over shall be constituted into a municipality is neither reasonable nor equitable, and I hope the House will not accept it. On the other hand, I think the principle that is laid down in my bill will meet with all the requirements, and the number of major municipalities will be much greater. If any other municipalities care to be classed as major municipalities, they can apply to Government, and we shall be only too happy to classify them as major municipalities.

Now, Sir, under clauses 4 and 5 of the bill the honourable mover proposes to divide the municipalities into two classes, the major or city municipalities and the minor. For the minor municipalities, my honourable friend proposes that there should be a four-fifths elected majority. But this is no innovation on the part of the honourable member. All the honourable members of this House know and the whole presidency knows, that every municipality, except perhaps those at hill stations and in any new cantonment areas in which municipalities have been established recently has a four-fifths elected majority. So, the principle which he wants to enforce is nothing new; it exists already, and every municipality has a four-fifths elected majority. Sir, under my bill also every municipality will have a four-fifths elected majority. This is not

[Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain]

a new principle which the honourable member is introducing for the first time.

Another principle which the honourable mover enunciates is that every major or city municipality should be wholly elected, and his criterion for a major municipality is a population of 15,000 and over. Now, I put it to this House whether it is not a very arbitrary provision of a very sweeping character that every municipality which has a population of 15,000 and over should be wholly elected. Are we to judge of the capacity of the people for administration by the mere fact that there are 15,000 of them? Should we not consider their financial position? I know of cities with a population of 8,000 whose financial position is far better than cities with a population of 12,000 and my bill makes provision for them, but not in the way of laying down an arbitrary principle which the honourable mover wants to introduce.

Besides, the honourable member is silent as to commercial representation for the Mahomedans. There is no mention about this important subject. Further, there are the claims of the various minorities to be considered. I can produce before this very House applications from every minority for representation on the municipalities. It is not the fault of any one that these minorities exist. God has made so many minorities in this presidency, with diverse interests and traditions, and we cannot but meet their demands. I think the honourable member should tell them that they should not apply to Government for nomination, and that they should not say that their interests suffer in the hands of the advanced classes. But the honourable House will be surprised to learn—and the honourable member the Commissioner (Mr. Mountford) will bear me out—that during this session of the Council there have been members of the advanced classes hovering about this hall, pestering me for nomination.

An Honourable MEMBER: They are minorities.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: I am afraid the day is not distant when these classes too will ask for special protection of their interests. Now, Sir, we have demands from the Parsis in the mofussil for representation on the municipalities. They are an intelligent class, who take a great deal of interest in the administration of the local bodies. They say that they ought to be given representation; and that as they cannot come in by election, they should be represented by nomination. There are also the Marathas and the depressed classes. The Mahomedans are not satisfied even with the communal representation they have. They say that Government should duly adjust the differences of representation, because by communal representation they do not get more than two or three members on a local body. They say that Government should nominate a larger number of Mahomedans. I appeal to the Mahomedan members of this House to say whether they want communal representation and nomination or not. It is for them now to express their mind, and to declare themselves in this House if they want communal representation. Again, Sir, my honourable

[Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain]

friend might protest that communal representation creates differences. But I am convinced that it would do otherwise than perpetuate differences. The present unity is due to the communal representation that the Mahomedans have in the Legislative Council and local bodies. The very lack of representation of Mahomedans and other communities in the local bodies and in the Council is calculated to create a feeling of disappointment and insecurity on their part. It is, on the contrary, the presence of those members that tends to unity and harmony between the various communities. Now, Sir, we are on our way to Swaraj. Is it fair that in the local bodies we should train only certain classes of people? Should not every caste and community be trained in the affairs of local administration? I attach the greatest weight to that training. Most of the publicists in this and other presidencies owe their success to the training they have received in the local bodies. In fact, we are but limbs of one body. If the Mahomedans or the Marathas are not trained, I think we will be doing a great harm to the body politic. But my honourable friend's bill does not say a word about communal representation. The Mahomedans are not satisfied even with communal representation, but they ask, in order to adjust the proportion, for more nomination. Then there are the demands of the backward communities, the Parsis, the Indian Christians and several others. All these have also to be considered.

Now, my friend perhaps thinks that Government nominates a few people in order to have some influence on the local bodies. I assure the House that this is far from the truth. Now, every municipality has a four-fifths elected element, and only one-fifth is nominated. Can that one-fifth in any way influence the four-fifths? Government have reserved to themselves the power of nomination simply out of regard for the minorities. If the minorities do not want Government to have that power, then Government do not care for it (interruption).....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Again, my Mahomedan friends contend that they have been inadequately returned by election, and though they have the right of communal representation, they want more representation, and it is the duty of Government to adjust the differences. Then there is the question of experts who are necessary for the local bodies. There are also gentlemen who have very wide experience of municipal affairs, but who do not care to seek election. I think it is in the interests of the municipalities themselves that such persons should be nominated.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: May I know if the Honourable Minister is likely to take long?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Yes, Sir.

(After recess.)

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I should like to take this opportunity of placing on record my warm appreciation of the services

[The President]

which Mr. Sen, the Secretary to the Legislative Council, rendered to this House during the short period he worked in that capacity. I would have taken an earlier opportunity of doing so, but I remained under the impression that as Mr. Sen had gone on leave he might return to this duty. I now find that Mr. Sen is not likely to return to this office, and it is for that reason that I wish to take this opportunity of putting on record my sense of appreciation of the very valuable work which he did during his term of office as Secretary to the Legislative Council. It may be that the outside public and, perhaps, honourable members are not fully conversant with the onerous and responsible duties which fall on the Secretary, but having had to work with him, I can testify to the work which falls upon him and the manner in which Mr. Sen discharged it. (Hear, hear). In addition to the loyal co-operation which I received from him, he was so devoted to work that no detail of the business that came before him was unimportant to him. I found him throughout extremely able, energetic and helpful in the discharge of his duties.

There is, however, one aspect of this question to which I should like to make a reference. Within the time of less than two years that I have been your president, I have had to work with three secretaries of this Council. The work attached to this post is of rather a special character and is not quite analogous to what falls on administrative officers. Although I have found the members whom His Excellency has appointed as Secretaries to be able and quick at picking up the detailed requirements of the work, I cannot help remarking that continuity of service, especially in these special duties, is very desirable, and I trust that such frequent changes will not occur in the future.

In conclusion, I wish once again to express my warm appreciation of the valuable services rendered by Mr. Sen, and I am sure you will all agree with me in thinking that such appreciation is richly deserved.

(Debate on District Municipal Act Amendment Bill resumed.)

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Sir, I have already explained that the first amendment of my honourable friend seeks to constitute every city which has a population of 15,000 into a city municipality, merely because it has so much population. That, Sir, is a very arbitrary provision, because it does not take into consideration other and more important factors, such as magnitude, importance, revenue and financial condition. These city municipalities have to discharge higher duties and responsibilities than minor municipalities, and therefore it is not proper to lay down only a criterion of population. We are already moving in the direction of increasing the number of city municipalities, we have already proposed in our bill to increase the number from 14 to 32 and we have also left room to increase it further.

Then, Sir, to make the city municipalities wholly elected is to introduce another arbitrary principle. Every city municipality is now four-fifths elected, and in some cases we have increased the elected strength to six-sevenths and even eight-ninths. In our bill provision is made by which Government can make any municipality wholly elected. That goes just as far as the proposal of my honourable friend, but, at the same time, leaves room for discretion. Now, my honourable friend stated

[Khan Bahadur Shaikh Ghulam Hussain]

that Government do not nominate good people. I may remind him that some of the prominent publicists of the country owe their present day eminence to Government nomination. I will cite the instance of my honourable friend Mr. Patel, who is now president of the Corporation. Had he not been nominated as a member of the Bandra municipality by this satanic Government, how could he have been elected to the pre-reform Council as the representative of the municipality and afterwards gone to the Legislative Assembly, where his name is quite familiar? I can cite many other instances.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The Honourable Minister need not make a long speech now: he has the right of speaking again in reply.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Then, I will add a few more words only.

Now, Sir, the honourable member wishes to have wholly elected bodies in the mofussil. But even in the Bombay Corporation a proposal to that effect was moved, and the members did not agree to its being wholly elected. This is a premier city and yet that was the case. I think the case of mofussil municipalities is much weaker.

Then, Sir, in clauses 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11, my honourable friend does not introduce any new principle. We have already provided for elected presidents in all municipalities except at hill stations where non-officials cannot be found, and I have already made a provision not only in the Major Municipalities Bill, but even in the District Local Boards Act that the disqualification should disappear after five years. About the acquisition of land by municipalities, my honourable friend himself says that the Ahmedabad municipality does not like his provision. I think if we accept his provision, it will delay acquisition on the part of the municipalities, and I do not think they will like that idea. Further, his provision simply throws the burden on the municipalities to move the court. Under the present procedure, the owner of the land or the municipality may do so. However, we are going to amend the existing Act, and I have made provision in my bill for appeal to the District Court in cases in which the municipality or the owner is not satisfied with the decision of the panchayat.

Finally, clause 15 proposes to do away with Government control over education. Now, primary education in the local bodies is governed by the Primary and Compulsory Education Act, and the honourable member should bring an amendment to that Act and not to the Municipal Act.

So, Sir, I have shown that there is nothing new in the bill. As regards the withdrawal of the previous sanction of the Collector to expenditure on public entertainments, receptions, etc., I have already modified my bill and have withdrawn such previous sanction. I therefore think I have satisfied the Council that no new provision has been introduced by the honourable member, and that all the necessary provisions have already been made in my Major Municipalities Bill.

Mr. D. R. PATIL (East Khandesh District): Mr. President, I beg to move that the consideration of the first reading of the bill for altering

[Mr. D. R. Patil]

the constitution and widening the powers of the municipalities that has been brought forward by my honourable friend Mr. Bhopatkar be postponed to the next session.

Question proposed.

Mr. D. R. PATIL : Mr. President, in the light of the remarks passed by the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government, I think, he is going to bring a fresh bill practically containing all the points that are covered by the bill of the honourable member Mr. Bhopatkar, and so we are in duty bound to give him the credit of bringing such a bill, because through his whole speech we can see the fire of anger which he created by the words to the effect that he spent all the time that he has spent in framing such a bill, and how is it that the honourable member Mr. Bhopatkar is coming forward to take the credit ? I think, Mr. President, he (the Honourable Minister) has got justification for his anger and for his question. I think the honourable member Mr. Bhopatkar also will agree with me in giving credit to the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government and I think he will not be very anxious about getting the credit to himself because the whole object of us (honourable members) here is to do good to the people, and if that good to the people can be secured by a bill that will be brought by Government, I think we should welcome it and not oppose it. In these circumstances, Mr. President, I think the first reading of this bill ought to be postponed till the next session.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR : Can I say a word on a point of explanation ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The honourable member can speak on the motion for postponement of the question till the next session.

As no member wishes to address the House, I will put the honourable member Mr. Patil's motion to the vote.

Question put and carried.

**A BILL TO ENABLE THE HINDUS OF THE PROVINCE
OF SIND TO RESTRICT THEMSELVES TO
MONOGAMOUS MARRIAGES.**

(Motion for leave to introduce the bill.)

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I should like once again to bring to the notice of honourable members that when the motion before the House is for leave to introduce a bill, the procedure laid down in the Standing Orders will be strictly followed. Standing Order 1 of chapter VIII reads as follows :—

“If a motion for leave to introduce a Bill is opposed, the President after permitting, if he thinks fit, a brief explanatory statement from the Member who opposes and from the Member who moves the motion, may without further debate put the question thereon” etc.

I will allow the honourable member to make a brief statement in justification for his demand for leave to introduce. Then, if anybody opposes, I will allow him to give his reasons for doing so, and then I will ask the honourable member Mr. Adwani to reply. Then the question will be put to vote.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): It will be generally admitted, Sir, that the object of my bill is a good one. My bill seeks to remove some of the disabilities under which the changing conditions of society place the Hindu woman of Sind. I have confined myself to the province of Sind for the reason that I have no first-hand knowledge of the other parts of the presidency.

It will be seen, Sir, that even in a country like Turkey, despite religious sanction in favour of polygamy, the legislature of that country has insisted on monogamy for its citizens. I realise that we are governed by the ancient Hindu law, but the ancient Hindu law cannot be supposed to have provided for the social requirements, for all time, of a community in whose customs changes are taking place from time to time. All the same, I have tried, as far as possible, to keep myself clear of the controversies of Hindu law and have tried to go along on the lines of least resistance and the proposed legislation is, therefore, based on what I consider to be the prevailing customs in Sind at the present moment; I want to safeguard the social position of the women of Sind, so far at least as the present customs in Sind warrant me to do so. It is probable that some honourable members of this House will say that my bill does not go far enough. At the same time, there will be others who will perhaps say that my bill goes too far. But that is a matter which can easily be settled either at the first reading or at the second reading. At the present moment, Sir, for the purpose of leave to introduce the bill, I think honourable members will agree that the object of my bill is a very good one, and therefore, there should be no objection in granting me leave to introduce this bill.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Does any honourable member object to leave being granted to introduce the bill? (No member objected). The honourable member has the leave of the House.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: Sir, I beg to introduce the bill.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The bill is introduced.

A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE BOMBAY LAND REVENUE CODE, 1879.

(Motion for leave to introduce the bill.)

Mr. R. D. SHINDE (Nasik District): Sir, I beg leave to introduce a bill further to amend the Bombay Land Revenue Code. My object in giving notice for leave to introduce this bill is to take away from the provision of the Land Revenue Code, section 86, the portion which empowers the revenue authorities to impose penalties to the extent of one-fourth of the total amount. Honourable members will see that under section 86 of the Land Revenue Code the superior holder can on a written application get relief and recover the amount of rent due from the inferior holder and as the law stands at present under section 148 specially for the recovery of arrears of land revenue in some cases the penalty to the extent of one-fourth of the total amount is enforced. My

[Mr. R. D. Shinde]

submission is that this provision of penalty works real hardship on agriculturists. You will see, Sir, that with the nominal expense of 8 annas the superior holder can recover the whole amount—it may be one thousand or five thousand—and if the revenue authorities are well disposed to the *sawkars* or the superior holders they can inflict penalty to the extent of one-fourth of the total amount and give the superior holder what even the civil courts will be very unwilling to give him.

My object in moving this bill is to take away this provision of penalty and I am leaving at present the provision as to the grant of interest. The revenue authorities can grant interest at the usual rate but the only thing that I wish to amend is the provision as regards penalty.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Does any honourable member object to leave being granted to introduce the bill?

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars): Sir, I rise to oppose the motion for leave to introduce this bill. As far as my experience with regard to the collection of rent or land revenue and recovery of arrears in Inam villages goes, I submit that it would be a great hardship on the inamdars and superior holders if this provision of $\frac{1}{4}$ th fine is done away with. Many tenants are in the habit of prolonging payment and the inamdars and superior holders have got one remedy, namely, the filing of assistance suits. For Government, there are many ways of recovering their arrears, but the inamdars and superior holders have got only one remedy which I have just stated. The tenant is given sufficient time to pay the arrears. He is served with a notice of ten days before the date is fixed for inquiry. If he does not pay the arrears even on the day so fixed, then only the penalty is in some cases imposed upon him. Then again the rules of suspension and remission also go much to help the tenant in the payment of arrears. If this provision for the imposition of fine is taken away, then the tenants or inferior holders will be naturally induced to postpone the payment of rent or arrears indefinitely. Therefore, I strongly oppose the motion for leave to introduce this bill.

Mr. R. D. SHINDE (Nasik District): Sir, in reply I have got only one thing to say that the superior holders, the landlords, are put in a different position from that of any other ordinary creditors. Government give them the facility of having their arrears recovered as arrears of land revenue through the Government authorities. This is a sufficient privilege and the clause which I want to eliminate will remove a serious inconvenience which has been felt so long.

Question put. House divided. Ayes: 34; Noes: 31. Motion carried,

Division No. 13.

Ayes.

ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.

DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
KALBHOR, Mr. G. M.
KARKI, Mr. M. D.

MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
OWEN, Mr. A. C.
PATEL, Mr. A. E.
PATEL, Mr. D. N.
PATIL, Mr. D. R.
POWAR, Mr. M. B.
PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.

SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
SHANKARRAO JAYARAMRAO ZUNZARRAO,
Mr.
SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
SHIVDASANI, Mr. H. B.
SURVE, Mr. A. N.
SUBVE, Mr. V. A.
SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
THAKRESI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
VELKAR, Dr. M. B.

Tellers for the Ayes: Mr. R. D. SHINDE and Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN.

Noes.

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
ATHAVLE, Mr. S. N.
BEDDEKAR, Khan Bahadur I. M.
BIJABANI, Khan Sahab SHEER MAHOMED
KHAN
BRANDER, Mr. J. P.
CHAUDHARI, Mr. L. S.
DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
FRANJJI, Mr. K. S.
GHOSAL, Mr. J.
GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan
Bahadur SHAIKH
GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
HARRISON, Mr. R. T.
HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.

JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
KAZI INAITULLAKHAN
LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
MACKIE, Mr. A. W. W.
MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
SARDESAI, Mr. S. A.
SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
WILES, Mr. G.
WOODS, Mr. E. E.

Tellers for the Noes: Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR and Mr. S. A. SARDESAI.

Mr. R. D. SHINDE (Nasik District): Sir, I beg leave of the House to introduce the bill further to amend the Bombay Land Revenue Code, 1879.

Question put and carried.

Mr. R. D. SHINDE: I beg to introduce the bill.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The bill is introduced.

A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE BOMBAY TOWN PLANNING ACT, 1915.

(Motion for leave to introduce the bill.)

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): Sir, I beg leave of the House to introduce the bill further to amend the Bombay Town Planning Act, 1915.

Under the existing Act, all sorts of restrictions are put on the rights of persons whose lands happen to be included in a town-planning scheme in order to benefit the local body concerned. Under the present Act, the contribution to be levied by the local authority on each plot is to be calculated on the basis of the market value of such plot "at the date on which such local authority made a declaration of intention to make a Town-planning Scheme", and the market-value of such plot "estimated on the assumption that the Town Planning Scheme has been completed". The owner is to give half of such excess to the local authority towards

[Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar]

meeting the costs of the scheme. This is really a great hardship so far as the landlords are concerned.

Secondly, the constitution of the tribunal of arbitration and the powers conferred on it are not in consonance with the spirit in which an arbitration is generally carried out. The constitution of the tribunal is such that it is highly detrimental to the interest of the landlords. It is absolutely necessary in the interests of justice and fairplay that the landlords also should have some representation on the tribunal of arbitration.

Thirdly, so far as the tribunal is concerned, the president of the tribunal is given more powers than the other members thereof. The most surprising feature of this tribunal is that the arbitrator himself, upon whose decision the tribunal is to sit in judgment, is a member of that tribunal. I submit that the Act requires to be amended in this behalf.

One more defect is that at present the proceedings of the tribunal are not subject to any rules or regulations. My amendment is that the proceedings should be governed by the Civil Procedure Code, 1908. As there are large interests involved in town-planning schemes, it is advisable to give a right of appeal against the decision of the tribunal. The above are some of the amendments embodied in my amending bill. I beg of this House to grant me leave to introduce my bill.

Question proposed.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Does any honourable member object?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Sir, as this is only a motion for leave to introduce the bill, Government do not propose to oppose it. Thereby it should not be inferred that Government are in favour of it either now or hereafter.

Question put and carried.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR: I beg to introduce the bill.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The bill is introduced.

A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 80 OF THE BOMBAY LOCAL BOARDS ACT.

(Motion for leave to introduce the bill.)

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District): Sir, I beg leave of the House to introduce the bill to amend section 80 of the Bombay Local Boards Act.

Sir, section 80 of the Local Boards Act runs as follows:

“In every district the expenditure from the local fund for educational purposes as defined in clauses (d) and (l) of section 50 shall be made by the district local board only or by such authority as may be prescribed in any enactment for the time-being in force, and for this purpose a sum equal to not less than one-third of the revenue described in clauses (b) and (c) of section 75 shall be set apart by the said board for expenditure by it on the said purpose (after deducting the sum or sums described in sub-section (1) of section 79):”

[Mr. L. S. Chaudhari]

Now, Sir, the present bill wants to amend this section which I have just read out. The principal clause of the bill runs as follows :

"In section 80 of the Bombay Local Boards Act of 1923 substitute the words 'Not more than one-fifth' in place of the words 'Not less than one-third'."

The only amendment that is proposed is the substitution of the word "less" for the word "more", and in place of "one-third" the substitution of "one-fifth". It is a very small amendment. Here, it might be asked what is the propriety of introducing this bill at this time, when the Act itself was discussed in this very House a year and a half ago? But, at that time, the whole policy of the Act was under consideration and the effects of section 80 attracted very little attention from the House. I assign three reasons for introducing this bill at the present juncture. First of all, when the Act was discussed, section 80 received very little attention. Secondly, the very fact that the honourable member in charge of Local Self-Government convened meetings of the presidents of local boards twice to consider the adequacy or otherwise of the resources of the district local boards is in itself sufficient proof of the fact that the burden on the local boards should be reduced. Thirdly, the very fact that this House consists of altogether new members shows that they should have an opportunity of recording their views regarding the execution and the effects of section 80.

In order to make out a *prima facie* case in support of my bill, I shall refer to some statistics in my district.....

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : It is one of the richest districts.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI : I do not plead on behalf of my district only, but I plead on behalf of all districts. As I have found it difficult to get the money in my district local board for compulsory primary education—and it is supposed to be a rich district—much more difficult would it be for the other district local boards to defray the charges of extra expenditure that will be required for primary education. The total population of my district is 1,075,837. On an average, nearly 15 per cent. of this population ought to be considered as children of school-going age. That comes to nearly.....

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Do I understand that the honourable member wants to put an additional burden on Government?

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI : No, Sir. I want to request the House to consider the position in which we are at present placed. According to this calculation 70,722 of the total population will be the number of children who will be required to be brought under the execution of this Act. Taking away from this number the present boys of school-going age who are already in school, namely 24,140, we have to make provision for 56,000 and odd children. Now, taking into consideration the total cost required for educating one boy, which is nearly Rs. 15 per head, I think the total expenditure comes to Rs. 10 lakhs. Of course this amount of Rs. 10 lakhs includes the pay of the teachers, their pension allowances, and the maintenance of the supervising staff. In estimating this

[Mr. L. S. Chaudhari]

sum of Rs. 10 lakhs, I have not taken into account the grants which the district local board shall have to make for building school houses. The item of Rs. 10 lakhs does not comprise the complete expenditure. Besides, the question of girls' education is totally excluded from this consideration. Confining myself to the education of boys of school-going age, that is between the ages of 6 and 11, the total extra expenditure for primary education will be Rs. 10 lakhs or something more, because we shall have to make some provision for building grants. Of this extra total expenditure of Rs. 12 lakhs, under the present arrangement, the district local board will have to spend one-third. That comes to about Rs. 4 lakhs. Looking to the sources of revenue of the district local boards, we have been given some 11 heads of revenue, and the power of increasing the local cess to its maximum of 2 annas per rupee. The district local board of East Khandesh have formulated a scheme of expansion of primary education and we have appointed a committee of our board, who have come to the conclusion that at least a sum of Rs. 12 lakhs will be required to meet this extra expenditure. We have increased the local cess by one-half anna, and thereby we have realised Rs. 1,17,000. But even assuming that we increase it to its maximum extent under the power with which we have been invested under the District Local Boards Act, we shall realise at the most Rs. 2,33,000. So, there will be a deficit of Rs. 1,66,000. Whence are we to get this deficit? (An Honourable Member: Tax yourself.) That is the only remedy. But how are we to do it? We have been given 11 heads of revenue under the District Local Boards Act, but all of them are barren items, because we have gone through each of them very carefully, and we find, as was remarked by the honourable member Mr. Trivedi, who was a member of this Council, that the cost of recovering all these revenues under these heads is more than the actual return. Even taking it for granted that we have tried all these heads of revenue, we shall not be in a position to realise the sum of Rs. 1,66,000 to make up the deficit. Under these circumstances, I would request the House that they will grant me leave to introduce this bill.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The question is that leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Bombay Local Boards Act VI of 1923. Does any honourable member wish to object? (No honourable member objected.) As nobody objects, leave is granted to introduce the bill.

Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI: I beg to introduce the bill.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The bill is introduced.

A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE CATTLE TRESPASS ACT, 1871.

(Motion for leave to introduce the bill.)

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Mr. President, I beg to ask for leave of the House to introduce my bill further to amend the Cattle Trespass Act, 1871. In the October session of the Council,

[Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan]

Government introduced a bill to amend the Cattle Trespass Act, the powers under sections 4, 5, 6, 12, 14 and 17 were transferred to village panchayats by the amending Act of 1920. The original Act provides that the village patel is *ex-officio* pound-keeper. Now, in village panchayats an anomalous position arose, according to which the village patel himself may be the *sar-panch*, that is to say, the head of the village panchayat, and he would be the servant of the village panchayat at the same time in his capacity as the pound-keeper. To remove that anomaly, Government amended the original Act in the October session. That was passed and became an Act. Now, I want to add a further proviso in the Act, by which similar power will be granted to municipalities. Now, powers under sections 4, 5, 6, 12, 14 and 17 of the Cattle Trespass Act of 1871, have been transferred to various municipalities long ago, but on account of the provision of the village patel as *ex-officio* pound-keeper in the original Act, there is cause for trouble in some municipalities. The municipalities on the advice of the Government themselves appointed their own pound-keepers, while the *ex-officio* patel had established his right as pound-keeper by seeking the assistance of the court. Now, an anomaly, corresponding to the anomaly in the village panchayats, arose in this case also. The village patels are councillors of municipalities, and, as *ex-officio* pound-keepers, they would at the same time become subordinates of the municipalities. Now, the Municipal Act itself provides that a subordinate of the municipality cannot be a municipal councillor. To remove this anomaly, I have brought this bill for investing the municipalities with the powers of appointing their own pound-keepers.

Question put, that leave be granted to introduce the bill, and carried.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN: Sir, I beg to introduce the Bill further to amend the Cattle Trespass Act, 1871, as further amended.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The bill is introduced.

**A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND BOMBAY ACT III OF 1874
(BOMBAY HEREDITARY OFFICES ACT).**

(Motion for leave to introduce the bill.)

Mr. D. R. PATIL (East Khandesh District): Mr. President, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend Bombay Act III of 1874 (Bombay Hereditary Offices Act), which is known as the Watan Act. I want to effect amendments only in two sections, namely, sections 60 and 61. For the information of the House I shall at the outset read section 60 and show in what way I want to amend that section and why. Section 60 reads as follows:

"When any representative watandar or any deputy or substitute appointed by him is convicted by a Criminal Court not inferior to a court of sessions of any offence in the discharge of his official duties, or of any of the offences specified in the second schedule or of the abetment of any such offence, and such conviction is not subsequently reversed or quashed, the Governor in Council may direct the forfeiture of the whole or of any part of any watan in which he has an interest. Such forfeiture may be either absolute or for such period as the Governor in Council thinks fit."

[Mr. D. R. Patil]

My amendment to section 60 seeks to lay down that the representative watandar should not have his watan forfeited either wholly or in part for the misconduct of a deputy appointed by him. Sir, we know very well that when a representative watandar recommends a deputy, Government does not blindly acquiesce in it. As soon as a deputy is recommended, the Assistant Collector or the Collector sends for the report of the mamlatdar and gets some sort of information from the police, and only when that officer is satisfied that the deputy is a competent man the nomination is accepted. If that is so and, every precaution is taken by Government before the deputy is accepted, I do not see any earthly reason why the responsibility for the misconduct of the deputy should be fastened on the original watandar and his watan should be liable to be forfeited wholly or partly. I beg to suggest that this hardship imposed on the original watandar for the misconduct of the deputy is not proper, and therefore it should be removed.

Now, Sir, I turn to section 61 to which I want to effect an amendment. Section 61 reads as follows :

"All deputies appointed under this Act shall be subject to the same rules in the performance of the duties of their offices, and to the same penalties, except as otherwise provided as the representative watandars themselves are subject to when officiating, and in the case specified in section 58 of this Act, it shall be lawful for Government to direct the forfeiture of the life interest in the watan of the representative watandar entitled to officiate, whether the officiator guilty of misconduct be such representative watandar himself or a deputy appointed by him."

As regards this section also I beg to submit that the hardship which is imposed on the original watandar for the misconduct of the deputy should be removed. The same reasoning which I put forth as regards the amendment of section 60 applies to this section also. Now, I may tell one thing to this honourable House. About three years ago there was a conference of the patils of the whole presidency when His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales visited Poona. In that conference a resolution was passed that the hardships imposed on the watandar for the misconduct of his deputy should be removed, and that resolution was sent to Government for action. I do not know whether Government have received that resolution. Whatever that may be, I can understand, Sir, that according to Western standards of civilization a man who commits an offence should be punished. But I cannot understand why a man should be punished for the fault of another. The whole object of mine in bringing forward the amendments to these two sections is only based on this principle that a man should not be punished for an offence committed not by himself but by another ; A should not be punished for B's misconduct. This is my only object in bringing forward this bill.

Question proposed.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Does any honourable member object ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Sir, I only wish to point out that the fact that Government do not oppose the introduction of the bill should not be taken to mean that they approve of its principles.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I think that is clearly understood. It does not bind anybody.

Question put and leave to introduce the bill granted.

Mr. D. R. PATIL : Sir, I beg to introduce the bill further to amend Bombay Act III of 1874.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The bill is introduced.

A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND BOMBAY ACT VIII OF 1867, AN ACT FOR THE REGULATION OF THE VILLAGE POLICE IN THE PRESIDENCY OF BOMBAY.

(Motion for leave to introduce the bill.)

Mr. D. R. PATIL (East Khandesh District) : Sir, I beg leave to introduce a Bill further to amend Bombay Act VIII of 1867, an Act for the Regulation of the Village Police in the Presidency of Bombay. Now Sir, the amendment which I propose is very simple and very reasonable, and I do not think it requires a long speech from me to induce the House to accept it. There are some two sections of Bombay Act VIII of 1867, namely, sections 14 and 15. Under section 14 a police patel, in the case of a petty assault, or abuse, has power to punish the guilty person, and the only punishment is confinement in a chavdi extending to 48 hours. Now, if we look at section 15, we find that even in the case of a theft, an offence more serious than petty assault or abuse, punishment is fine or confinement in a chavdi. The bill proposes to remove this anomaly and proposes to give the police patil an option to impose a fine for petty assault or a abuse.

Question proposed and leave to introduce the bill granted.

Mr. D. R. PATIL : Sir, I beg to introduce the bill.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The bill is introduced.

MOTIONS TO AMEND STANDING ORDERS.

(Report of the select committee on Motions Nos. III to VIII of 1924.)

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, I present the report* of the select committee (on Motions Nos. III to VIII of 1924 to amend the Standing Orders.)

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The report of the select committee is presented.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, I move the second reading of the amendments as presented by the select committee, and I do so, Sir, subject to a minute of dissent of mine which raises the question of two of the amendments proposed by the select committee in respect of which unfortunately I found myself opposed to the views of the majority.

*Vide Appendix G.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I do not know whether it would not be better to get the motion moved by one of the members who have signed the majority recommendations.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I said, Sir, I would move the second reading, but I have to point out that I did dissent on two points. I do not wish to raise them now. I should raise them when the clause by clause reading comes up for discussion, but I mention the fact in case you might think, Sir, that it might be more proper for some one else to move the second reading who was so fortunate as not to dissent at all.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I think it would be much preferable if some member from among those who have not made any dissenting minute should propose the second reading. This is not a Government Bill. This assumes the nature of a bill under our rules and Standing Orders. The measure was initiated by non-official members by notices for the amendment of Standing Orders. If it had been a Government bill, the difficulty would have been there, of course, but this is a purely non-official business and I would prefer to ask whether any one of those members who have not made a dissenting minute desires to move the second reading. I think the honourable member Mr. Baptista is one of them.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA (Bombay City, North) : I merely formally take the responsibility of moving the second reading.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The honourable member has agreed with all the recommendations of the select committee. That is why I am asking him whether he would move the second reading.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA : I move, Sir, as one of the members of the select committee who has not made a dissenting minute, but.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : If the honourable member does not want to move it, I will ask somebody else to move it. Perhaps the honourable member Mr. Nariman or the honourable member Mr. Surve may like to do so.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North) : Mr. President, I move the second reading of the Standing Orders as recommended by the select committee.

Second reading. Standing Orders read a second time. Question put and agreed to.

Standing Orders, as amended, read clause by clause.

"Chapter IV, Order I : Add.—2 (B) Provided that with the permission of the president a member may move any of the resolutions that stand in his name, whatever their order on the agenda be ; but no such permission shall be given unless 24 hours' notice has been given to the Government Member in charge, if he so desires."

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Mr President, I am sorry that I must oppose this particular amendment. This is the first point on which I was unfortunately not in agreement with the other members (the majority of the members) of the select committee. The effect, Sir, of this amendment is to reduce the notice which is allowed for resolutions

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

from 15 days to 24 hours. It is, Sir, impractical that any resolution should be properly discussed if the notice required is only 24 hours. It is quite impossible for the responsible departments to collect the necessary information to lay the facts before the House and to ensure that the resolution shall be fully and properly discussed if the departments have only 24 hours' notice. The present rule requires 15 days' notice of a resolution and the rules as to priority of resolutions provide that eight days before the sessions there shall be a ballot for priority. The rules further provided that when that priority has been established, the resolution must be moved in that order. The member who has given notice of several resolutions, having put them in the order in which he thinks they should be moved, is bound by that order and is not permitted to alter that order. So that, Sir, under the present rules 8 days before the session notice is given of those resolutions which honourable members wish to move as their first resolution and it therefore gives sufficient time to go into those particular resolutions to obtain the materials for laying the facts before the House for deciding whether the resolutions can be accepted or whether they cannot be accepted, and for putting the whole facts before the House. But, as a matter of fact, the number of resolutions of which notices are given is so very large that the rule which provides 15 days' notice is of little practical effect. So many as 150 or 200 resolutions are very often notified, and it was because there were so many resolutions notified that the subsidiary rule was introduced providing that each member giving notice of several resolutions should decide 8 days before the session which was the particular resolution which he was particularly fond of, and which he wanted to move first, so that notice could be given to the department concerned a reasonable time beforehand, to get the facts relating to that particular resolution. So that, although there was a formal notice of these 200 resolutions 15 days before, it was not of very much practical use to the department. There was a real practical notice by the ballot 8 days before which did enable them to get together materials to place the whole facts before the House. It is now proposed, Sir, that notwithstanding the honourable member having decided which was his pet resolution and so having led the department to collect all the facts for him on that resolution, and notwithstanding that all this has been done, he is to be at liberty at any time subsequently to change his mind and say: No, that first resolution I do not much care about, I do not care about the second, or third or fourth or fifth and sixth, and some honourable members have given us notice of one dozen resolutions, and some one of them may say it is the very last one that I really wanted, and within 24 hours he tells us that the 12th resolution is the one which he wants discussion on, and in 24 hours the department has to give all the information necessary for that resolution. It is not practically possible, Sir, and I think it would not be in the interest of honourable members to pass this amendment as it stands, because it would not enable any of these subsequent resolutions to be properly discussed and argued in this House. I submit, Sir, that the rules ought, therefore, to remain as they are. The rules while giving a formal notice of 15 days give a practical notice of 8 days and even that,

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

Sir, is short enough, but they do give a practical notice and it enables us to prepare for these resolutions. Fifteens days, Sir, is the ordinary time in all other assemblies. Fifteen days' notice is the ordinary time in the House of Commons and no one in the House of Commons would be permitted to move any resolution under 15 days' notice. And therefore, Sir, I think it is not only an impracticable proposition, but it is a departure from the procedure recognised in all legislative bodies to reduce notice to 24 hours. I hope, Sir, in view of this explanation of the impracticability of the proposed amendment, and of the departure from all the precedence, that this particular amendment will not be sanctioned by this honourable House.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South): Sir, I rise to support the amendment, and I really did not expect the opposition, any serious opposition, that the Honourable the Home Member has put forward to this very modest suggestion and a modest demand. I should have expected, Sir, that moving of resolutions is such a limited privilege, such a scanty privilege, given to the non-official side of the House that anything that removes the restriction and anything that gives a more generous construction to the moving of these resolutions to non-official side would be supported. Now, Sir, so far as the moving of resolutions is concerned, if you consider the privilege how scanty it is, you will see, Sir, that during the last three years the non-official members have hardly got a chance of moving more than one resolution at a time during the whole period. That is the privilege that we are supposed to enjoy, and even in that restricted privilege when we try to remove the obstacles in the way of non-officials, I cannot understand the obstructive policy adopted by the Government benches in retaining these restrictions. The Honourable the Home Member has said that 24 hours are not sufficient for them to be ready with the reply on the part of Government to these resolutions. Now, Sir, if they say that 24 hours are not sufficient they may make it 48 hours or three days, but I cannot understand the reason when they oppose this motion *in toto* without coming to any reasonable solution. This opposition I say, Sir, is unreasonable. What we ask for is only a reasonable resolution, because in the course of the short experience we have found that we could hardly reach more than two or three resolutions, the time allotted to resolutions being very limited. In the last session at Poona we experienced that the first or second resolutions in the course of time by means of change of circumstances may become superfluous and the second or third may on account of the change of the circumstances become more important. Many circumstances may change after the notice is given, new circumstances may arise, and several things might happen which may necessitate that the first resolution may become superfluous and the third may become more important. But your rules restrict us although the circumstances have changed and from your point of view the second and third resolution would be possible, still your notice is there and you must stick to it. I cannot understand the reasonableness of this opposition. Even the last time we found, the non-official benches found, that a certain resolution set in the name of my honourable friend Dr. Velkar asking for an inquiry into the working of the civil hospital of Karachi

[Mr. K. F. Nariman]

was more important than resolution No. 1 which referred to the Lee Commission because the Assembly had passed the Lee Commission resolution, and there was another resolution also tabled, and therefore so far as the non-official side was concerned it was more important, namely, the resolution about the inquiry into the working of the Civil Hospital, Karachi, and from the public point of view we wanted it to be discussed then, but still I found that the Honourable Minister in charge would not budge an inch, he would not consent to that resolution being moved out of its turn. Of course we could understand the reason of his obstruction. It was because he did not want the facts to be brought before us.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member need not go into the details of the resolution. He is not making a speech on that resolution.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: I am only illustrating the point by showing how my honourable friend Dr. Velkar's resolution was not allowed to be discussed.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: You can do so without going into minute details.

Mr. G. A. THOMAS: Sir, I rise to a point of order. I see a stranger in the House.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Order, order. Strangers are not allowed on the floor of the House.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN: Therefore, I say from various circumstances and points it may happen that the first resolution may lose its importance and the second and the third will become more important. I am given to understand that this obstructive rule has been brought into force very recently, and that it was not in existence during the time of Sir Narayan Chandavarkar. Then, it was left to the honourable member to select the resolution he wanted to move out of the resolutions he had given notice. I do not know of any deliberative body where the choice is not left to the mover as to which resolution he should move: The notice of 15 days is there and the Government benches are supposed to prepare themselves and to be ready with all the business placed on the agenda. Therefore, 24 hours' notice is quite sufficient for them. I therefore hope that this obstruction on the part of the Government will be removed and the reasonable amendment proposed by this side of the House will be accepted.

Mr. V. A. GRANTHAM (Bombay Chamber of Commerce): Sir, the honourable member for Bombay, South, who has just spoken, has said a great deal about the privileges of the House which are lost by the opposition of Government. It might be a privilege to the mover of the resolution to choose which of his resolutions he wishes to move. But it would be no privilege to the other unfortunate members of the House who would have no time to study the subject so as to be in a position to offer properly considered opinions. I am not dealing with this question from the Government point of view, but I am looking at it purely from the point

[Mr. V. A. Grantham]

of view of a private member. The honourable member says that even 24 hours' notice would be sufficient. But I would point out that we are here to represent our constituencies and not merely as private members, and surely it would be impossible for us to consult our constituencies and ascertain their opinions within that time. Even in the House of Commons a member has to give proper notice in such matters even though there exists there proper party organization which enables members of the House to deal with matters of this sort ably and intelligently. Here in this House there are a number of scattered parties and units: there is no proper party organization; and consequently we cannot possibly deal with our business as efficiently as is done in the House of Commons. It is quite impossible for an individual member to study properly even at 15 days' notice the whole series of resolutions, that are invariably put forward. I therefore oppose the amendment.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University): Sir, I rise to support the amendment which has been accepted by the select committee. I must say that I feel considerably disappointed at the report of the select committee, although I support that report as the only thing that can be done under the circumstances. I do not mind mentioning to the House that I was one of those who gave notice of these amendments. I did so after consulting over 20 members including some members of the last Council, who have had considerable experience of this House and who were of opinion that these amendments were urgent. I can understand the Government opposing these amendments, for the simple reason that they enlarge the liberties and privileges of this House, and may cause a certain amount of inconvenience to the Government. But, I would say, Sir, that Government should not have minded a little inconvenience. Out of the several amendments I suggested, I find that only a few have been allowed by the select committee. I am surprised to find, however that out of these few that have been allowed, the very first one is being strongly opposed by the Government and the Leader of the House.

What does this amendment propose to do? I will illustrate it. Supposing three resolutions stand in my name and at the time when they come to be moved a number of things have occurred during the interval by reason of which my object in moving that resolution has been secured and it becomes unnecessary to move that resolution, then the amendment provides that I may move another resolution standing in my name. The agitation I want to make in this House and the stir I want to create here may have been secured by reason of many incidents which have happened during that interval; I want, under these circumstances, the privilege, after 24 hours' notice, to move another resolution standing in my name, subject to the permission of the President. The Hon'ble Leader of the House stated that it would cause considerable inconvenience to Government. My answer to that is that Government get fifteen days' notice—fifteen days' previous to the commencement of the session. That ought to suffice. The Government departments are so well manned—and we pay the Secretaries such high salaries—that they should be ready with all information within a fortnight's time. Government are claiming to act

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

like a lawyer relying on the plea that the case should not be taken out of its turn as the brief was delivered late. So he has not studied the case and would prefer to adhere to the order in the cause list. Government cannot do so. Government have no excuse of that kind. After a fortnight's notice ending with the commencement of the session they should be ready to go on with any resolution.

Another inconvenience felt by honourable members which I want to avoid by this amendment is this. The number of days for non-official business is very few under our present arrangements. We do not get through even 2 dozen resolutions in the course of the whole year. I do not think I am exaggerating (Some Honourable Members: No, no). Besides it is difficult to catch the ballot. Therefore, the simple device which my party has found very successful is to give notice, in order to catch the ballot successfully, of the same resolution in the name of say about ten people. Our secretary sends notices accordingly, of the same resolution in the name of ten people. All these ten people are not, however, equally competent to speak on the resolution. I shall take, for instance, the case of the resolution on the Lee Commission report. Nearly 6 or 7 members gave notice of the same resolution in order to catch the ballot successfully. If, for instance, that resolution on the Lee Commission comes on the effect of my amendment will be that only that honourable member who has made a special study of the subject and is in consequence competent to speak on the subject will move the resolution and not necessarily the man in whose name that resolution stands. He may pass on to some resolution on which he is competent to speak. Is it not an advantage to the House that by reason of such an arrangement, the most competent man, qualified by reason of his knowledge, and other qualifications will alone move a resolution? Under the present rules, the order of the resolutions is determined not by the relative competence of the nominal mover to speak on the merits of the resolutions, but by the exigencies of the ballot. If the House insists upon retaining the present rules, the result will be that it will force a man to move some resolution which stands in his name but about which he is not an adept, and the obvious disadvantage will be that he will not be able to help the House to form a correct decision by reason of his competent handling of the subject. Are we going to waste the time of the House in this way? Let us suppose that I had given notice of a resolution on Sukkur Barrage. Would the House insist for that reason upon my moving the resolution, or would it prefer that I gave the opportunity to my honourable friends Mr. Adwani or the honourable member the Deputy President who are far more competent to speak on that subject?

The second advantage is this. My honourable friends will bear me out that very often 8 or 10 days pass before these non-official resolutions are reached. During this session, *e.g.*, nearly a month passed before the resolutions were reached. During these intervals a number of things occur which alter the circumstances under which these resolutions are given notice of. Very often debates take place, explanations are given,

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

questions are asked, satisfaction is obtained, and altogether the circumstances change, under which the relative importance of the resolutions also changes. One resolution becomes more important than another, some resolution becomes unnecessary, or the member does not wish to move his resolution, because his object in tabling that resolution has been served in consequence of some explanation and satisfaction which have been obtained during the interval. Surely, the House ought to allow for some kind of provision, under which all these altered circumstances can be taken note of. Otherwise, we will be subjected to one stereotyped rule that he whose name stands over certain resolution must move the same exactly in the order in which they stand. Why make our rules as unalterable as the laws of the Medes and Persians? This is a matter to be determined entirely by the convenience of the House, and I cannot understand a perfect Government as this Government claims to be, with all their highly paid Secretaries behind them and the Secretariat only within three minutes' drive by a motor car from here, coming forward like an unprepared pleader, and wanting to have longer notice. Is this a court of law where the cases are notified in a particular order and have to be taken up in that order only? That may be all right for a pettifogging lawyer in a court. But why should a Government like the present one which has got all its Secretaries at its beck and call,—those gentlemen whom I see in the second row opposite, who are said to be capable of running any Government in this world—put forward that kind of excuse? Why should Government say “You have given notice that you would move a particular resolution first; we relied on that, and now if you are going to move the fifth resolution first, it will cause us a great deal of inconvenience”? If that is so, why do Government want all this paraphernalia of Secretaries, if they cannot keep ready the necessary information on a resolution, with the notice of a fortnight before the commencement of the Session? I will frankly own that there may be some inconvenience to Government in fact, this side of the House can never claim any privilege without causing some interference with or inconvenience to the other side—but I do submit in all seriousness that, in a matter of this kind, Government ought to take larger views, and not mind some slight inconvenience that may be caused to them.

Mr. P. E. PERCIVAL: Sir, the Honourable the Leader of the House has explained so fully the difficulties of Government in dealing with resolutions of this character that I do not wish to refer to that point; but I should like to refer to the question of the provisions on this subject in other Legislative Councils and in the Legislative Assembly. The honourable gentleman who moved the amendment referred, I understood, to some other Councils. He said that in some other Councils there was a similar provision. Well, Sir, I have looked up the provisions of all the other Councils on the subject, but I do not find anything of that character in any Council. If he would refer us to any Council where there is a provision of this character, that 24 hours' notice is sufficient, we shall be glad to look it up; but I do not think he will find that in any.....

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : I referred to this Council.

Mr. P. E. PERCIVAL : I do not understand that either. There was no such provision in our Standing Orders in the beginning, and there have not been any changes on the point since the previous President was in the Chair. The present provision has been in the Standing Orders from the beginning. In this connection, I may refer to the practice in the Legislative Assembly, on which our Rules and Standing Orders have been framed. In the Assembly the rule runs as follows : —

“Not less than seventeen days before each day allotted for the disposal of non-official business, the Secretary will cause to be placed in the Assembly Office a numbered list.”

Two days are then given during which any member who wishes to give or has given notice of a resolution may have his name entered against one number only. That is to say, the ballot takes place 15 days before the date on which the resolution is to be discussed, and the resolutions are selected. Finally, the rule runs as follows : —

“Provided that he shall then and there specify such Bill or Bills or such resolution.”

Therefore, in the Assembly not merely 8 days but 15 days are given, and there is no provision there of any kind to the effect that members can change the order of the resolutions afterwards. Why should this Council allow only one day's notice, while in the Assembly and in the other Councils they have got 15 days' notice? Surely, the burden of proof lies very strongly on the side of those who say that the time should be reduced from 15 days to simply one day.

Then the honourable the Leader of the Swaraj party went on to discuss the cases in courts. He apparently referred to the practice in courts where you find all the cases put down in a certain order. There you do not find that case No. 15 is taken up before case No. 1.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : I said that is all right in a court of law.

Mr. P. E. PERCIVAL : I would follow the courts in that respect. But the honourable member, I think, has made a mistake in another point, if I may say so. He refers to the fact, if I understood him right, that if one member has put down a resolution, some other member cannot move that resolution instead of the honourable member who has put it down. There has, however, been an amendment of the Standing Orders on that very point passed by the select committee in the report which we are now considering. I may note in passing that Government have accepted a great many of the amendments which were moved; there are one or two points on which Government members have written minutes of dissent, but a number of other points have been accepted, and where the amendments have not been accepted, they were rejected by the select committee. The particular amendment in question runs as follows : —

“Chapter X, Order 5 (2).—If the member when called on is absent any other member authorised by him in writing in this behalf may, with the permission of the President, move the resolution standing in his name. But if no member has been so authorised, or such permission is not granted, the resolution shall be deemed to have been withdrawn.”

So that if some member puts down a resolution, and he is not interested in the subject, he is not obliged to move it. Some other member can

[Mr. P. E. Percival]

move it. That is specially laid down in the rules, and so that objection does not prevail at all.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : The member may remain absent.

Mr. P. E. PERCIVAL : He has only got to state in writing " I authorise so and so to move the resolution ", and to withdraw from the room.

Coming to another point made by the mover of the amendment, I understood him to say that, supposing there was some objection to the first resolution, or that it had become useless for some reason or other, the member could move his second resolution. Supposing the first resolution had altogether disappeared, the Honourable the President will allow him to move the second resolution.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN : No.

Mr. P. E. PERCIVAL : When the first resolution is washed out altogether, the Honourable the President will have to allow the member to move his second resolution. Another point in regard to resolutions is that Government are under no obligation to accept a resolution. If the member who moves the resolution wishes.....

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : I rise to a point of order. The resolutions which are passed by this House are binding on the Government. That is the ruling which Sir Narayan Chandavarkar has given.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : No ruling can be given which is contrary to law.

Mr. P. E. PERCIVAL : A resolution is a request, a proposal.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : A recommendation.

Mr. P. E. PERCIVAL : a recommendation to Government. There is no obligation on Government to carry out the resolution. If a resolution comes before the House at only one day's notice, Government can say " We are not able to consider the matter properly, and we cannot carry out the resolution, because it was not properly discussed in the Council. " I therefore urge strongly that this amendment should not be carried.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD (Central Division) : Sir, I rise to oppose the amendment, and I do so in the interest of the private members. I may incidentally remark that my honourable friend on my right has administered eloquent flattery, when it suited him, to the opposite benches. Coming to the amendment, supposing there are 30 resolutions moved by the Swaraj party, each member of the party giving notice of the same resolution, they stand the best chance in the ballot and no one else will have an opportunity to move his resolution, as all the time will be taken up by the Swaraj party. A private member who is not a member of any organised party does not stand any chance as it is. In this particular instance, I think my honourable friend the leader of the Swaraj party has enumerated the difficulties of his party and so has let the cat out of the bag. This amendment is in the interest of the Swaraj party. But those who do not belong to the Swaraj party,

[Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad]

such as the Mahomedan members, who unfortunately have no party, must oppose the amendment.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA (Bombay City, North): Sir, I think every facility should be afforded to this House, to discharge its duty as the inquest of the nation. That is also what His Excellency the Governor pointed out in his opening speech. Therefore, I think all of us are agreed, or ought to agree, to facilitate matters so far as it is in our province to do so. Now, Sir, this amendment is one of the matters which should facilitate procedure and discussion in this House. I am afraid my honourable friend Mr. Grantham is under the impression that we may be able to spring a surprise upon him. That is not so. No resolution can be taken up except those which are already there for 15 days. Notice must be given of any proposition for 15 days. There is no change in that requirement, but it is only when the 15 days' notice is satisfied that any action can be taken under the proposed amendment, which would enable a member to take it out of its form now forbidden by the Standing Orders. So that, my honourable friend Mr. Grantham cannot be taken by surprise. He will have as ample a time to consult his constituency as the rest of us. The question again is: Will the Government be taken by surprise? They tell us, so far as I understand them to say, that they do not prepare themselves for all the propositions: they only prepare themselves for a few of those that have got priority of order in this hope that others will not be reached. I think I pointed out in the committee that we can by common agreement drop the first and take up the last one, and thus take the Government by surprise even now. And the House will be justified in dropping the first and taking up the last by common agreement if the attitude of Government is merely obstruction. If they mean to be reasonable there is ample protection in the amendment. Nothing can be done without the permission of the President. I should think that that is a sufficient guarantee. The President will not allow anything which would cause surprise or inconvenience to Government. I am surprised that Government do not rely on the sagacity and discretion of the President. I hope, Sir, Government will yield with grace and adopt this proposition.

On the face of it it appears that 24 hours' notice is inadequate; but we were quite ready to accept any amendment prolonging the period of notice to 2, 3 or 4 days. I believe the Honourable the Home Member remembers that. He moved no amendment to that effect. I hope this was not done in order merely to argue that 24 hours is too short a notice. I hope it was not his intention to strengthen his case and weaken ours by merely dwelling upon 24 hours as ignoring our willingness to make it 3 or 4 days.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I have not changed my views, Sir, in the slightest.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA: I did not expect the Honourable the Home Member to change his views considering the Home Member is not at Home but in exile. But he knows we were ready to extend the time and not insist upon 24 hours' notice only. Let him deny that if he can.

[Mr. J. Baptista]

If the President considers that three days' notice is necessary, then he can fix a day for the resolution so as to give three days. Sir, I think on grounds of reasonableness, on the ground that all of us should co-operate to facilitate the business of this House so far as we can,—and we all recognise that the time allotted is quite inadequate for private business,—I think, Sir, that Government ought to accept this with good grace and rely upon the discretion of the President.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Sir, I beg to oppose this amendment, on the ground that it will cause a great deal of injustice to the House. The chief complaint is that the House does not get sufficient days for discussion of private business especially resolutions. It is all the more necessary, therefore, that the little time that they get should be usefully spent and for this it is necessary that the large number of members who want to take part in the debate ought to be thoroughly prepared so that they may be ready to put forward the views of their constituents fully. Sir, the honourable member the leader of the Swaraj party has rightly pointed out that during the course of a year in all about 18 or 20 resolutions only were discussed. But if we look at the agenda, it will be found that some members have given notice of 7, 8 or even 12 resolutions for a session, knowing that they would not have the opportunity of moving more than one resolution. It appears, Sir, that some of the honourable members are in the habit of giving notice of a large number of resolutions in order to be able to put in their election manifestoes that they tabled and had an opportunity of moving so many resolutions, that they had asked so many questions.....

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : Sir, I rise to a point of order. Is it quite in order to attribute motives to honourable members saying that their object in giving notice of resolutions is to be able to say at the time of the election that they gave notice of so many resolutions ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The point is perfectly clear. "The use of temperate and decorous language is never more desirable than when a member is canvassing the opinions and conduct of his opponents in debate." "The imputation of bad motives, or motives different from those acknowledged" is clearly out of order.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I submit, Sir, it is not a bad motive to look to your electorate. It is a good motive.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The implication is obvious, that members are trying to mislead the electorates by showing more work than they know they have been able to do.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, they are trying to do their duty by the electorate.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : It means that members give notices of resolutions irrespective of their conviction on the merits that they should have the opportunity to move them, but merely with the object of misleading the electorate at the time of elections. That is really a bad motive.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I trust that the Honourable Minister will say that he had no intention of attributing any bad motives.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: I have no intention of making any insinuation of that sort against honourable members. But, Sir, I had to contest an election in 1923, and in that connection I had to read the election manifestoes of a number of past members who had worked for three years in this Council. I can say from the knowledge of those manifestoes that some of them, at all events, had put down the number of resolutions that they had given notice of and the number of questions that they had put. I think that those members who are sending five or even ten resolutions are doing it with some purpose, and from past experience I thought I had some strong grounds to raise this argument. However, I shall not dwell upon that point any further.

I think that if those honourable members who give notice of a number of resolutions will spend some time in considering which of them are of the greatest importance and indicate, then they will have no occasion at the last moment to change their minds. As to the difficulty placed before the House by the honourable member the leader of the Swaraj party, I think it is a great advantage that the party has in being properly organised, and in that way they can take advantage of the present rules and take up the resolutions that they want to move. A number of members of the party can each give notice of the two or three resolutions that they think are the most important, and when one of them gets the first place in the ballot, he can simply say "I move the resolution", and the other member who has really studied the question can deal with the matter in the best way possible, and in that way a vacancy can be created for the second resolution, the third resolution, the fourth resolution, and so on, and the party can probably, under the present rules and without the help of any amendment, determine which of the resolutions they care for. As to the right of reply also, I think the speakers might anticipate and give replies, so that there will be no great disadvantage. So I submit, Sir, to this House that the amendment is not in the best interests of the debate, because the other members will not be ready and even Government members will find it rather difficult to be ready in so short a time as 24 hours because it is very expensive to collect the information for the resolutions which are obviously not coming forward for discussion. At present, when notices of resolutions are received from members, I ask the Secretary to prepare only the first two resolutions and not to prepare the third and subsequent resolutions because in the ordinary course it can never be expected that those resolutions will come up for discussion that session. If 24 hours' notice be prescribed, then the Government will not be ready, and if it is insisted that Government should be ready on each of the 12 or 13 resolutions tabled by an honourable member, then it will be very costly to collect information. At the same time, I may point out, as has already been pointed out by one honourable member, that convenience of other persons who want to take part in the debate also ought to be consulted and even from their point of view there will be a very great inconvenience to them as they will not be ready

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav]

to take an intelligent part in the debate. The member who wants to propose a resolution may be ready with that resolution, but the others who are asked to take part in the debate at 24 hours' notice will be at a great disadvantage and in that way the discussion in this House will suffer a great deal. I therefore oppose this amendment.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : I move the closure, Sir. (Honourable Members : Closure, closure.)

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I see several honourable members standing on their legs. Two days are allowed by Government for non-official business. This is the first item on the agenda paper (excluding private bills). I will allow one more speech and then accept the closure.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I rise to speak because I was a member of the select committee appointed for the consideration of these Standing Orders and also because, Sir, the discussion of Standing Orders follows the procedure of a bill, and I think, Sir, you ruled that in the case of bills no limitation is to be allowed on speeches.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : No limitation on speeches but I have got perfect power to accept the closure at any time I deem fit to do so.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I only wish to point out, Sir, that this is very much in the nature of a bill and I think discussion will be useful. Sir, I think the facts that have been stated by the honourable the Legal Remembrancer clearly show that the onus of making out a case lies on those who want to make a change in the existing order of things. We are in very good company, Sir, because in all legislative bodies the rule is that 15 days' notice must be given. I think an honourable member said that either in the Council before this or in the pre-reform Council the practice used to be that a member was allowed to choose any resolution he liked. That, Sir, as you very well know, was not the case and the rules were very strictly followed in the pre-reform Council as well as in the last Council.

Sir, the honourable member the leader of the Swaraj party pointed out the real difficulty which his party apparently suffers from. Well, that was before the minds of the members of the select committee, and it has been very completely provided for in the change that is made in Chapter X, Order 5, which Government have accepted. It does not mean that an honourable member has to be outside this House for the whole day or that his vote may not be available when the resolution comes on to vote. He has simply to be absent from this House for a minute or two, and then anybody could move the resolution on his behalf if he were properly authorised. That, I think, Sir, completely takes away the main, indeed the only, reason why the honourable member wanted a change of these rules. I must point out, Sir, honestly that it will be very difficult for the Government to prepare resolutions at 24 hours' notice. It may not be realised that the number of resolutions has sometimes reached 145. In the present sessions there are 128 resolutions. Some of them are

[Mr. C. V. Mehta]

duplicates which have to come out. But there are about 100 resolutions moved by the different members of this House in the present sessions, and on one occasion so many as 47 different members gave notice of resolutions. The House has been very impatient about the answers given by the Government benches to questions. They have always complained that the answer "Information is being called for" or "Enquiry is being made" is most unsatisfactory. This morning, for instance, there were several questions to which an answer of this character had to be given. Now, honourable members can realise—it has been explained before—how much time it takes to get the information from the districts and this relates not to any one particular department but to all departments, and it is so difficult to get the information in time for questions being answered even in a long sessions like the budget session. Honourable members can easily realise how much more time must be required for gathering information from the districts on important matters which are the subject of resolutions. I think, Sir, if the House wants both sides of the case properly presented to it, in order that it may come to proper reasoned decision on it, it must allow sufficient time to both the Secretaries and to the Members to prepare the cases and to place all the facts before the House. It is very well, Sir, to say that highly paid Secretaries and highly paid Ministers or Members must be ready to place any information before the House at any notice however short. Well, what is the practice which is insisted on by practised lawyers, eminent lawyers, like my honourable friend opposite (Mr. M. R. Jayakar)? With all the facility which lawyers have of working up a case without ever looking at any papers and without making any preparation beforehand, if these gentlemen claim in the law court to have the order of business strictly adhered to, I think it is only fair to us humbler individuals and to the secretaries to allow them, Sir, the time necessary to place all the facts relative to a case on which the House can come to a reasoned decision....

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: On a point of information, I may tell my honourable friend that the lawyers get their briefs delivered the previous night at 11 o'clock.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: I see. I do not know that lawyers take their objection only in those cases where the briefs are delivered to them the previous night.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I think objection is sometimes taken even to adjournments.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: In any case the briefs have been most carefully prepared by solicitors beforehand. Sir, to make out really that hardship occurs under the present system, specific instances and stronger reasons will have to be discovered, for the difficulty which my honourable friends opposite pointed out has been fully met by the amendment which, I am afraid, he has lost sight of or perhaps not read. These amendments have been before the House for a very long time. (An Honourable Member: For a fortnight or more.) As it stands, the amendment is very hard and unfair to honourable members.

[Mr. C. V. Mehta]

One last point that was made by my honourable friend Mr. Baptista who saw no harm in the amendment because it is subject to the discretion of the Honourable the President. How is the President going to be guided? The rule will be there and if 24 hours' notice is given, how is the President to use his discretion? It only gives discretion to the President to give permission or not, not to vary the period of notice. I therefore think, Sir, that in these matters no responsibility should be cast upon the President.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City North) : Sir, I should be permitted to mention the difficulties of the non-official members of this House. In the first place the non-official members are scattered all over the presidency and they are not grouped together within the four walls of the Secretariat. The only time that they come here together is on the day session meets. Another difficulty is that the final agenda never reaches the honourable members at their homes, it is sent only about three days before the session meets. There are many honourable members in the mofussil who get their agenda in the pigeon-holes in the library. So the difficulty is the non-official side never gets any notice whatsoever as to which resolution is going to be moved at what time. That is our difficulty. When we meet here, then we might exchange our views and say that some resolution should be treated as a very important one. Now suppose that resolution stands in the name of the first man who is in the ballot, but there the precedence that he has given to that resolution is say 10th, and there is the 15th man in the ballot who has given the same resolution the first place in his list. Now the difficulty would arise that all the resolutions are moved according to the order placed down in the agenda. The first man cannot move that important resolution though all parties in this House may agree that that resolution should be treated as the most important, he cannot move it because it is the fifteenth, and the man who has given that resolution the precedence, the first place, cannot move it because he may never have the chance of moving in this House, because non-official days are so few, so in that case what would happen is that the resolution which was considered as the most important by all the non-official members may never have an opportunity of being placed before this House.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : May I ask the honourable member if priority cannot be asked for?

Mr. A. N. SURVE : I am coming to that point. So the difficulty would be that the important resolution can never be moved. Now about the priority, you see how many difficulties are placed in our way. Only last time and even in the session preceding to that several applications were made and in order to be fair to all the honourable members the Honourable the President has introduced certain rules, that for priority consent of everybody must be obtained, and several other rules also are there. Everybody may not consent to go through that procedure and even then last time when my honourable friend the honourable member Mr. Dev wanted to have a priority for his resolution it was not granted

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

Therefore the priority will not also come to our aid at times. Now as to the point that is made by Government that it creates great difficulties and that it would set up impossibilities, I think, the picture drawn there is a little over-drawn, because the moment the Secretary of the Council receives the notice of a resolution and if it is admitted by the President a copy is at once sent to Government. That is the ordinary practice of our Legislative Council and Government can there easily have more than 15 days' time and they will not at all be prejudiced if they act upon this principle that the moment a notice has been received from the Secretary of the Legislative Council they begin to collect information on it. As a matter of fact I am informed that Government collects information. I am stating this subject to correction that the moment Government receives notice of any resolution they actually begin to collect information from that day. So naturally Government will never be at a disadvantage just as we are.

Then the third point is that during the first two sessions the schedule which is given here at the end was not in existence. I am stating this, subject to correction, because I had not had the time to test whether what I am stating is quite correct. My idea is that this schedule which is given here was introduced at some later stage and in the second session of the reformed Council there have been instances where honourable members have moved resolutions just according to their own choice. So I think that on the whole if the House accepts the majority report no real hardship will be worked against Government and the non-official side will gain what it would get.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Mr. President, I am indebted to my honourable friend opposite for a very frank admission that the amendment proposed would cause very serious inconvenience to the members of the Secretariat. (Mr. M. R. Jayakar : Some inconvenience.) I have exceeded my brief in saying it was very serious—that it would cause some inconvenience to members of the Secretariat and of the Government. I am sorry that my honourable friend the mover was not able also to recognise this inconvenience. That is from lack of that experience which, Sir, is always so evident in the arguments of the honourable member opposite the leader of the Swaraj party. If he had had more experience, he would have agreed with me that there would be considerable inconvenience to the Secretariat and to the Members of Government. I submit, Sir, that it is plain on the face of it that a mere notice of 24 hours is impracticable. You cannot get your case ready within 24 hours. Even the best lawyer, if he gets his briefs at 11 o'clock at night, finds it difficult to get himself ready with all his cases for appearing in the court on the morrow. I have seen eminent lawyers appearing on the original side and laboriously reading out the whole plaint and the written statements and the issues ! Why ? Because he had practically not seen his brief before and required this process to study the case and to get himself ready.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR : Here the rules require that a fortnight's notice should be given of resolutions.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : That has nothing to do with the efforts of a lawyer. I am speaking from my personal experience as to what actually has occurred in the law courts. When I was on the bench I asked a lawyer once why he wasted time reading the whole plaint and the written statements. I was given a hint that it was the practice and was necessary.

I maintain that 24 hours' notice is impracticable also here. If honourable members want to have their resolutions properly discussed, they must maintain the rule of 14 days' notice, which is the rule not only in this House but in other legislative assemblies, including the House of Commons. My honourable friends who spoke in favour of this motion have overlooked altogether the inconvenience to private members, who have got nothing to do with the satanic Government. It is entirely impossible for private members, even for a well-organised Secretariat it is impossible, to study all the 150 resolutions, to master their contents and consult their constituencies as regards the opinion they have to put before the House. This practice of filing so large a number of resolutions does require this strict rule in order to make it practicable for any resolution to be properly discussed in this House. It is the practice here for each member to file a great many resolutions. I should like to put it to them whether it would not be better to restrict themselves to one or two resolutions, carefully selected and carefully got up, which would then have better prospect of being thoroughly discussed and placed before Government. What is the use of filing an enormous number of resolutions a majority of which could not be discussed even if we sat every day of the year including Sundays and Hindu and Mahomedan holidays? This practice of every member putting in a great number of resolutions is directly contrary to the rules of the House of Commons. There they have the ballot, but a member is not allowed to file a dozen resolutions. He is restricted to one resolution or to one bill.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA : Make such a rule.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : It seems to me that, if there is any difficulty in the present arrangement, it is partly due to the fact that all of us have not yet got that experience which has been obtained elsewhere in the matter of bringing resolutions before deliberative assemblies. I submit that so long as we each want to file a dozen resolutions every session, so long there is bound to be the same difficulty. The real way out of the difficulty would be to exercise rather more care in the selection of resolutions which honourable members want to bring up. If that were done, I submit there would be no reason for complaint on the part of any member of this honourable House. If the number of resolutions is reasonable, it would be perfectly easy for honourable members by arrangement among themselves to get priority for the particular resolution which they thought most important. It would be quite possible to do that as they have been doing under the present rules of this honourable House.

Then, I would briefly refer, Sir, to an argument of the honourable member for Bombay, Mr. Baptista, who said that the responsibility in these matters should be laid on the President. I think that has already been answered

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

by the honourable member to my right. I do not think in a matter of this sort it would be right to increase the responsibilities of the President which are already so heavy. It would be very difficult for him to decide whether a resolution would require only 24 hours or longer time to obtain the necessary information. I think it would be wrong and contrary to the general spirit of these orders to put upon him that responsibility which, under the present rules, is left to the head of the particular department of Government. Where members, moreover, want to move a resolution as a matter of urgency, they have got the remedy of moving the adjournment. If that cannot be done, they can arrange for the resolution to be brought up with the consent of the Member of Government in charge of the particular department. There is no difficulty under the present rules, and I submit that if they are altered they will further seriously interfere with the rights of members who get priority in the ballot. The effect of this amendment will be detrimental to the interests of private members who get priority and it would also be detrimental to public debate which would degenerate into a discussion without any due information. It would deprive the debates of all utility and value and would result in snap divisions which could never weigh with the Ministers or Members of Government. I submit, therefore, that this amendment ought not to be allowed by this House.

Question put. House divided. Ayes 30; Noes 40. Motion lost.

Division No. 14.

Ayes.

ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
DESAI, Rao Saheb D. P.
DEV, Mr. S. S.
DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
JOG, Mr. V. N.
JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.

NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
PATEL, Mr. A. E.
PATEL, Mr. D. N.
PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
PATIL, Mr. D. R.
POWAR, Mr. M. B.
PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSENALLY M.
SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
SHIVDASANI, Mr. H. B.
SURVE, Mr. A. N.
SURVE, Mr. V. A.
SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
VELKAR, Dr. M. B.

Tellers for the Ayes: Mr. P. G. JOSHI and Dr. M. B. VELKAR.

Noes.

ABDUL, LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN.
ATHAVLE, Mr. S. N.
BEDREKAR, Khan Bahadur I. M.
BOLE, Mr. S. K.
BRANDER, Mr. J. P.
COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
GHOSAL, Mr. J.

GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan
Bahadur SHAIKH.
GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
HARRISON, Mr. R. T.
HAYWARD, The Honourable Sir MAURICE
HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
HOTSON, Mr. J. E. B.
HUDSON, Mr. L. S.
JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
KAY, Mr. J. A.
LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
LENFORD, Mr. J. W.

MACKIE, Mr. A. W. W.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 OWEN, Mr. A. C.
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.

SARDESAI, Mr. S. A.
 SAYED SHAHJADE SAHEB HAIDAR SAHEB
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
 TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
 WILES, Mr. G.
 WOODS, Mr. E. E.

Tellers for the Noes: Mr. V. A. GRANTHAM and Mr. L. S. HUDSON.

Standing Order 4 (1) of Chapter IV ordered to stand part of the Standing Orders.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The other clauses have all amendments; we won't take them up now.

The Council is adjourned to 2 p.m. to-morrow, Thursday, the 19th March 1925.

Thursday, the 19th March 1925.

The Council re-assembled at the Town Hall, [Bombay, at 2 p.m. on Thursday, the 19th March 1925, the Honourable the President, Sir IBRAHIM RAHIMTOOLA, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., presiding.

Present :

ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN, Mr.
 ADDYMAN, Mr. J.
 ADWANI, Mr. D. B.
 AHMAD, MOULVI RAFIUDDIN
 ATHAVLE, Mr. S. N.
 BAPTISTA, Mr. J.
 BEDREKAR, Khan Bahadur I. M.
 BHOPATKAR, Mr. L. B.
 BOLE, Mr. S. K.
 BRANDER, Mr. J. P.
 COOPER, Khan Bahadur D. B.
 DABHOLKAR, Mr. V. A.
 DADACHANJI, Dr. K. E.
 DEHLAVI, the Honourable Mr. A. M. K.
 DEV, Mr. S. S.
 DIXIT, Dr. M. K.
 FERNANDEZ, Dr. COSMAS
 FRAMJI, Mr. K. S.
 GHOSAL, Mr. J.
 GHULAM HUSSAIN, the Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH
 GRANTHAM, Mr. V. A.
 GUNJAL, Mr. N. R.
 HAYWARD, the Honourable Sir MAURICE
 HEPPER, Sir LAWLESS
 HOTSON, Mr. E. B.
 HUDSON, Mr. L. S.
 JADHAV, the Honourable Mr. B. V.
 JAYAKAR, Mr. M. R.
 JEHANGIR, the Honourable Mr. COWASJI
 JOG, Mr. V. N.
 JOSHI, Mr. P. G.
 KALBHOR, Mr. G. M.
 KARKI, Mr. M. D.
 KAY, Mr. J. A.
 KAZI INAITULLAKHAN
 KOTHARI, Mr. V. R.
 LALJI NARANJI, Mr.
 LALLJEE, Mr. HOOSEINBHOY A.
 LAWRENCE, the Honourable Mr. H. S.
 LINFORD, Mr. J. W.
 MACKIE, Mr. A. W. W.
 MEHTA, the Honourable Mr. C. V.

MEHTA, Dr. M. M.
 MONTGOMERIE, Mr. A.
 MOUNTFORD, Mr. L. J.
 MUJUMDAR, Sardar G. N.
 MUKADAM, Mr. W. S.
 MUKHI JETHANAND PRITAMDAS
 NARIELVALA, Mr. H. H.
 NARIMAN, Mr. K. F.
 NAVLE, Mr. N. E.
 NEKALJAY, Mr. R. S.
 OWEN, Mr. A. C.
 PATEL, Mr. A. E.
 PATEL, Mr. D. N.
 PATHAN, Mr. A. F. I. K.
 PATIL, Mr. D. R.
 PERCIVAL, Mr. P. E.
 POWAR, Mr. M. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. G. B.
 PRADHAN, Mr. R. G.
 RAHIMTOOLA, Mr. HOOSENALLY M.
 SAHEBA, Mr. H. D.
 SARDESAL, Mr. S. A.
 SAYED SHAHJADE SAHER HAIDAR SAHEB
 SHINDE, Mr. R. D.
 SHIVDASANI, Mr. H. B.
 SURVE, Mr. A. N.
 SURVE, Mr. V. A.
 SWAMINARAYAN, Mr. J. C.
 THAKERSI, Mr. PUNJABHAI
 THOMAS, Mr. G. A.
 TURNER, Mr. C. W. A.
 VELKAR, Dr. M. B.
 WILES, Mr. G.
 WOODS, Mr. E. E.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Questions.

GRAZING FEE IN EAST KHANDESH.

Mr. D. R. PATIL on behalf of Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state whether the levy of grazing fee of four annas per village cattle in East Khandesh is based upon any other consideration except that mentioned in the definition of village cattle given in Forest Manual, Volume II?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: No.

REALIZATION FROM GRAZING FEE IN EAST KHANDESH.

Mr. D. R. PATIL on behalf of Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the sum realised from grazing fee in the years 1923-24 and 1924-25, and

(b) the sum realised by the auction of the *Kurans* in the years 1923-24 and 1924-25 in East Khandesh ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Information has been called for.

AVERAGE RATE OF ASSESSMENT ON THE INDUS RIGHT
BANK CANALS.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the present average rate of assessment on the Indus Right Bank Canals is Rs. 5-12-0 per acre and that it is proposed to increase it to Rs. 10 during the third ten years after the Sukkur Barrage is built ?

(b) If the reply to the above be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state whether the zamindars of the Larkana district have been informed of this and whether they have consented to give this increased rate ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Information is being called for.

SERVING OF SUMMONS IN CIVIL SUITS.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware of the trouble and delay caused in getting a summons served on a defendant in a civil case ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Government are aware of the difficulties in effecting service on defendants.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR : Are Government considering measures to remove the difficulties ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : It is a difficult matter to effect service on defendants. If the honourable member can suggest a method by which defendants can be brought forward more rapidly we shall be very glad of the suggestion.

FOREST LAND SUITABLE FOR CULTIVATION IN THE
POONA DISTRICT.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the total area of forest land in the Poona District which is suitable for cultivation in each taluka ?

(b) the steps taken by Government to make such lands available to very poor cultivators who have very little or no land for cultivation ;

(c) the area of pasture or forest lands wherein cattle are allowed to graze on payment of grazing fees and the extent of such lands in charge of Forest and Revenue Departments separately in each taluka of the Poona District ;

(d) the number of cattle in each taluka and petha according to last available figures ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Information has been called for.

RECORDS OF INAM VILLAGES IN THE POONA DISTRICT.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state the orders, if any, in force as to the safe custody of the records of inam villages, in which there are many sharers, belonging to inamdars, and which are consequently not sent to Government taluka office in the Poona district; and as regards the way in which the public can have access to such records?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Information is being collected.

HANDLOOM INDUSTRY IN POONA DISTRICT.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of working handlooms during the year ending December 1924 in the Poona district according to talukas;

(b) the principal villages in each taluka of the Poona district in which handloom industry is working to any considerable extent;

(c) what steps have Government taken in promoting weaving industry in the Poona district;

(d) whether yarn used in these looms is of Indian or foreign manufacture;

(e) the number of handlooms in which handspun yarn only is manufactured;

(f) whether Government have taken any, and if so what, steps to encourage handspinning in the Poona district?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The information is being obtained.

PASTURE LAND IN MIRPUR BATHORO TALUKA.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of Mr. HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) what the quantity of pasture land available for the grazing of cattle in each of the villages of the Mirpur Bathoro Taluka in Karachi District is;

(b) what minimum of pasture land, according to the scale laid down by Government, is necessary for each 100 head of cattle in a village;

(c) how many villages in the Mirpur Bathoro Taluka have and how many have not the minimum quantity of pasture land necessary for their cattle;

(d) whether it is a fact that by Bombay Government Notification No. S. 35-20-43, dated the 20th January 1923, the pasture land available for the grazing of cattle of village Banno in Mirpur Bathoro Taluka, has been taken over by the Forest Department?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Information has been called for.

ACQUISITION OF LAND OF MAHOMEDAN COMMUNITY.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of Mr. HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City): Will Government be

pleased to furnish, in a tabular form, a statement of the amount deposited during the last ten years with the District Court of Karachi and any other Government authority in Karachi, as being the sale proceeds of or compensation paid for wakf properties belonging to the Mahomedan community and later acquired by the Land Acquisition Officer of Karachi, or sold by any Government authority, giving the following details in each case:—

- (a) the amount of money and the name and details of the property from which it was realised;
- (b) the names of the claimants;
- (c) the names of the persons or associations to whom the amount was entrusted; and the purpose for which and the conditions on which it was so entrusted;
- (d) the amounts regarding which no discussion has yet been made.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Information has been called for.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE RETRENCHMENT COMMITTEE.

Mr. HOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of Mr. HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to furnish, in a tabular form, a statement showing the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee, which were stated, in October last, to be still under consideration (*vide* Appendix No. 53 of Bombay Legislative Council Debates, Volume XIII) and to state what action has been taken thereon.

The Honourable Mr. LAWRENCE : A statement* is placed on the table.

SUKKUR BARRAGE APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. HOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact:

- (a) that in the Sukkur Barrage establishment, not a single Mussalman occupies any administrative post or any post of Executive Engineer;
- (b) that out of the 51 lower posts, *i.e.*, those of Assistant Engineers, only 4 are held by Mussalmans;
- (c) that several qualified Mussalmans have applied for the post unsuccessfully;
- (d) whether any of such unsuccessful candidates has, before this, served Government, or anywhere else, in the Engineering Department?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : The information is being collected.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : May I ask the honourable member if he will see to it that Mahomedans are appointed?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : Mr. President, I can make a statement on this question asked, but I do not think this is quite

* *Vide* Appendix 91.

the proper time. But my honourable friend may rest assured that in Sind the Mahomedans will be given proper representation.

SHAH-BUNDER.

* Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of HAJI ABDUL-LAH HAROON (Karachi City): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether their attention has been drawn to the letter of Mr. Wadhmal Lilaram, zamindar of Shah-Bunder, appearing at page 4 of the *New Times* of Karachi dated the 27th August 1924?

(b) If so, do Government intend to take any steps to avert the possible danger of the town of Shah-Bunder and the surrounding lands being submerged under the sea, and if so, what steps do they intend to take?

(c) Have Government ever considered the practicability and the utility of making Shah-Bunder a seaport? If so, with what result?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) Already answered.

(b) As the town of Shah-Bunder stands on fairly high ground, Government do not consider that it is in serious danger. It is reported that a new creek, which has been approaching the town, is now turning westwards and is not likely to come nearer. No steps therefore appear necessary at present.

(c) Already answered.

ABKARI CLERKS TO COLLECTORS.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the collectors in this presidency are provided with Abkari clerks?

(b) If so, since when have they been provided with such clerks, what is their total number and what are their duties?

(c) whether any portion of the expenditure on these clerks is borne by the Abkari Department, and if so, to what extent?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Information has been called for.

ABKARI CLERKS TO HUZUR DEPUTY COLLECTORS.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that huzur deputy collectors in this presidency are provided with Abkari clerks.

(b) if so, (i) since when have they been provided with such clerks,

(ii) what is their total number, and

(iii) what are their duties?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Information has been called for.

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

ABKARI CLERKS TO MAMLATDARS AND MUKHTIARKARS.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the mamlatdars and mukhtiarkars in this presidency are provided with Abkari clerks ?

(b) If so, what is their total number and what are their duties ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Information has been called for.

EXPENDITURE ON ABKARI CLERKS.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state whether any part of the expenditure incurred on the abkari clerks attached to *huzur* deputy collectors and mamlatdars and mukhtiarkars is borne by Abkari Department, and if so, to what extent ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Information has been called for.

PURCHASE OF SOUTH AFRICAN COAL.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any South African coal has been purchased during 1924-25 by the Karachi Port Trust and if so, on what date or dates, how much and at what rates ;

(b) the rates of first class Bengal coal, when those purchases were made ;

(c) whether these contracts for the purchase of South African coal were entered into with the *previous* sanction of the Karachi Port Trust or whether these contracts were ratified by that body after they were entered into ;

(d) the approximate savings that could have been made if Bengal coal had been purchased instead of South African ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR: (a) The Karachi Port Trust purchased—

(1) On 23rd May 1924, 615 tons South African coal at Rs. 27-3-0 per ton immediate delivery, and 2,313 tons Natal coal at Rs. 24-11-0 per ton, forward delivery.

(2) On 8th August 1924, 2,211 tons screened Transvaal coal at Rs. 20-15-0 per ton, forward delivery.

(3) On 22nd August 1924, 6,000 tons Transvaal coal at Rs. 21-3-3 per ton, forward delivery.

(4) On 26th September 1924, 1,209 tons Natal coal for immediate use at Rs. 26-8-0 per ton.

(b) The lowest quotations for first class Bengal coal received at the time were—

(1) Rs. 22-8-0 per ton,

(2) Rs. 23-4-0 per ton,

(3) Rs. 20-4-0 per ton.

- (4) Offers were invited for Bengal coal, among other coal, but none was received.
- (c) The purchases were made with the previous sanction of the Board.
- (d) Considering the high calorific value of South African coal, the Board would have lost considerably had they purchased Bengal coal.

CULTIVATED, UNCULTIVATED AND FREE GRAZING AREA
IN DHARWAR DISTRICT.

Mr. V. N. JOG on behalf of Mr. S. T. KAMBLI (Dharwar District): Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) the total cultivated area in the Dharwar district,
 (b) the total uncultivated area in the said district,
 (c) the total area available for free grazing in each of the talukas of the said district ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) and (b) The attention of the honourable member is invited to Table II appended to the annual Season and Crop report.

- (c) Information has been called for.

MARKET PRICE OF SALT.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have authority to control the market price of salt where dealers in salt combine to obtain huge profits ?

(b) Are they aware that market price of salt is always higher in Kanara than in most of the remaining districts of the province ?

(c) If so, what are the reasons for such a higher price in Kanara ?

(d) Have Government done anything up till now to stop profiteering in salt trade ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) No. But Government can use palliatives such as the opening of depôts for distributing cheaper salt should such a contingency arise.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) In the past the mere fact that Government were able to open new works was sufficient to keep down prices to a reasonable level. At the present time the salt market is over-stocked and has slumped.

Mr. M. D. KARKI: May I know whether any enquiries have been made as regards the market price of salt in Kanara ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Yes.

Mr. M. D. KARKI: The statement in the administration report for 1923-24 will clearly show that the rate is higher.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Because that report relates to 1923-24. The honourable member's question was "Are they aware that market price of salt is always higher in Kanara than in most of the remaining districts of the province ?" The answer is that is not so.

Mr. M. D. KARKI : For the years ending 1923-24 the rate is higher.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : It may be so. The information supplied by the Collector of Salt showed that it was high for a number of years, but the price was not always higher.

Mr. M. D. KARKI : Talking of the recent five years ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I think the information has already been supplied to the honourable member.

Mr. M. D. KARKI : What are the reasons for the high price in Kanara ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I am afraid I have given the honourable member all the information that I possess.

SALE OF WOOD BY MESSRS. HOWARD BROTHERS.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the rate at which one ton of teak, matti and rose-wood was respectively sold by Messrs. Howard Brothers in each of the last three years ;

(b) the rate at which the same quantity of timber of that description was sold at Dandeli depôt in Kanara in those years ?

(c) the description and quantity of timber now remaining with the said firm ;

(d) the sum received from them by Government in each of those years ;

(e) the amount, if any, lying with the said firm ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Information has been called for.

GRAZING FOR MUNDGOD CATTLE.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that forest coupes lying within from two to five furlongs from the town limit of Mundgod are closed for grazing and that the forest coupes which have been kept open for grazing lie close to or between the closed forest coupes ?

(b) Are the closed coupes in any way fenced ?

(c) Is it a fact that the coupes which are open for grazing are overgrown with trees and shrubs and contain little or no fodder for grazing ?

(d) Has any minor forest area been assigned for the cattle of Mundgod for grazing, and if so, what is its total extent and the ratio it bears for every head of cattle of the Mundgod town ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Inquiry is being made.

GRAZING FEES IN THE PRESIDENCY.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the present and the past rates of grazing fees levied under the system known as " Kanara system " with regard to village and non-village cattle ;

(b) the names of the districts or localities where the "Kanara system" of grazing fees prevailed and now prevails;

(c) the present and the past rates of grazing fees with regard to village and non-village cattle levied under other system or systems together with the name or names of the systems;

(d) the names of the district or localities where such system or systems prevail?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Information has been called for.

AUCTION SALE OF LIQUOR SHOPS AT AHMEDABAD.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA on behalf of Mr. G. K. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that at the auctions held at Ahmedabad in 1921, the sales of the Behrampur and Saraspur liquor shops were not confirmed by Government?

(b) If so, for what reason?

(c) Whether it is a fact that when these two shops were re-auctioned they were taken up by Mr. Fanibanda's combination for about one-fifth of the amounts originally offered?

(d) Whether it is a fact that at the liquor shop auctions held at Ahmedabad in 1922 four competitors were debarred from bidding provisionally for that year alone?

(e) If so, what was the reason?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) and (b) The auction of these shops was held on 17th March 1921 and when the amount of the bid reached Rs. 27,500 for the Behrampur shop and Rs. 30,300 for the Saraspur shop, further bids were stopped as the Collector considered that the price offered was reasonable. On the Commissioner of Excise informing the Collector that the auction was unrestricted a notice was issued that the two shops would be re-auctioned.

(c) When the shops were re-auctioned they were taken by Mr. E. R. Fanibanda for Rs. 5,200 and Rs. 5,000 respectively, the reason for the low bids being that the picketing movement had then assumed a serious form and the old licensees thought it better to keep out.

(d) and (e) Yes, because the persons were suspected of acting in collusion with the organizers of the picketing movement.

AUCTION SALE OF EXCISE CONTRACT IN 1922.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA on behalf of Mr. G. K. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that at the time of the auction sale of the liquor licenses for 1922 at Ahmedabad the whole license fee was taken instead of in quarterly instalments and that the auction sale was held only a few days before the commencement of the new year? If so, what are the reasons therefor?

(b) Are they aware that the effect of holding the sales so late was that the competitors of the persons already owning shops had no sufficient time to rent shops?

(c) Is it a fact that the Government officers concerned closed some of the liquor shops? If so, why was this done?

(d) Is it a fact that some names were added to the black list shortly before the auction sale? If so, what are the reasons therefor?

(e) Have Government made any enquiries as to whether any combinations existed subsequent to 1918 among any of the bidders for liquor licenses at Ahmedabad? If so, what has been the result of such enquiry and what action, if any, has been taken thereon?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) In view of the severe picketing movement and the open attempts of non-co-operators to boycott auctions and thereby cause loss of revenue to Government it was considered advisable to order full recovery of the vend fee in respect of all important head-quarter town shops in the Ahmedabad District. It was believed that this would lessen the chances of licensees playing into the hands of picketers or neglecting their shops. The auction was held so late as on 28th March 1922 in order to give the public time to consider the orders regarding the newly introduced ration system and in view of the position created by the picketing movement which was then in full swing.

(b) No.

(c) The Jordon Road country spirit shop was closed in response to the representations made more than once by the residents of the locality for its closure.

(d) Yes. The licensees of the Jordon Road shop were black-listed as they appeared to be in league with the organizers of the picketing movement and had committed a deliberate breach of clause 20 of the shop license by taking unauthorised persons into the business.

(e) The old resident licensees formed themselves into a party to guard their own interests. This dates from the commencement of the newly introduced auction system and continues till the present day. It is not possible to prevent such combinations. In this connection the honourable member is referred to the reply given by Government to the next question.

PREVENTION OF COMBINATIONS IN EXCISE CONTRACTS.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA on behalf of Mr. G. K. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad City): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they adhere to the policy enunciated in the Government Press Note No. 15080, dated the 13th December 1917?

(b) If so, are they aware that in the sale of liquor licenses held in Ahmedabad in the year 1918, they were bought by a combination as was admitted by the Honourable Mr. G. Carmichael in this Council?

(c) If so, will Government be pleased to state whether the persons in this combination were put on the black list as regards subsequent auctions?

(d) If not, what are the reasons therefor?

(e) Will Government be pleased to state whether they received any complaints regarding the formation of such combinations during 1923-24?

(f) If so, did they make any inquiry into such combinations and, if so, with what result?

(g) What safeguards do Government propose to place on the "auction system" in order to prevent combinations of this nature?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) It is presumed that the inquiry relates to the policy regarding the prevention of combinations and the exclusion of bad characters from bidding at auctions. If so, the reply is in the affirmative.

(b) Yes. Fifteen out of the 18 shops were bought by licensees who were related to one another.

(c) and (d). The combination referred to was correctly speaking not a syndicate. The bidders were split up into groups or factions and it was not possible to blacklist such parties.

(e) No complaint appears to have been received in 1923-24 but certain complaints were made in 1922.

(f) Yes, an enquiry was made which showed that 5 out of the 6 shops in Ahmedabad City were held by two individuals who had a joint bank account.

(g) The present orders on the subject are as follows:—

"Where there are two or more shops in effective competition with one another all should not be knocked down to a single bidder or to bidders whom the Collector believes to have combined." In the opinion of Government no further safeguard is required.

HOUSE BUILDING ADVANCES TO INDIAN OFFICERS.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars): Will Government be pleased to give the names of Indian officers in the Indian Civil Service, the Indian Agricultural Service and the Indian Police Service, the Indian Ministers and Executive Councillors that applied for and were granted loans for building their houses since January 1921, the amount advanced and the rate of interest it bore, and also whether the loan has been repaid and if so, in how many instalments, and when was the last instalment paid?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: The information is being obtained.

CONVENIENCES OF RAILWAY PASSENGERS.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether there are any provisions about the conveniences of passengers, specially third class, which a railway company is bound to make on important stations?

(b) Are there any visiting committee, officials (railway) and unofficials, to observe whether the required arrangements are made on railway stations and rules observed?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) and (b) The question relates to a Central subject and the honourable member may obtain the information from the Government of India.

DECCAN SARDARS.

3, Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars): Will Government be pleased to supply a list of persons (other than

hereditary sardars) who were created sardars and added to the list of the Deccan Sardars of 1827 by the British Government with the kinds of services rendered by them to the State or to the public and the year in which they were so enlisted?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Government are not prepared to supply the information, as the expenditure of time and labour in collecting it would be out of all proportion to any purpose it appears likely to serve.

COWASJI JEHANGIR HALL, BOMBAY.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South): (i) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Sir Cowasji Jehangir Hall in Bombay is not allowed to be used for political meetings?

(ii) If so, is there any clause in the trust deed prohibiting the use of the Hall for political meetings?

(iii) If so, will they be pleased to put a copy of the clause on the Council table?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Enquiries are being made.

COWASJI JEHANGIR HALL, BOMBAY.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South): (a) Will Government be pleased to state who is authorised to decide whether the object of a meeting to be held in the Cowasji Jehangir Hall is political or not?

(b) Is it a fact that the use of the Hall was refused to such a responsible and respectable body as the Presidency Association and when Sir Dinshaw Petit or Sir Chimanlal Setalvad was to preside?

(c) Was the said refusal in accordance with the terms of the trust deed or imposed at the discretion of Government?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: Enquiries are being made.

RESTORATION OF VOTABLE GRANTS REJECTED BY COUNCIL.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the Accountant General has the power to restore a votable grant that has been rejected by the Council?

(b) If the answer to the above is in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to give reference to any authority in support of the answer?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state whether the Accountant General partially restored a grant with respect to the establishment charges of the Director of Information, although the Council totally rejected the said grant during the budget discussion?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: (a) and (b) No.

(c) The honourable member is referred to the answer given to the question asked by him on 20th February 1925.

CATTLE POUNDS IN THE KAIRA DISTRICT.

Mr. D. N. PATEL (Kaira District): (a) Are Government aware that the Commissioner of Revenue, N. D., has ordered the municipalities of the Kaira district to hand over the charge of the cattle pounds within their limits to the police patels of their respective villages;

(b) if so, do Government intend to take steps to restore the control of the cattle pounds to the municipalities?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: No such orders as have been referred to have been issued by the Commissioner, N. D. The only thing that has been pointed out by him to the municipalities concerned is that under the proviso to section 6 of the Cattle Trespass Act, I of 1871, as it stands at present, the police patel must be the *ex-officio* keeper of the pounds. The question of amending the proviso is under the consideration of Government.

PASTURE LAND IN THE KAIRA DISTRICT.

Mr. D. N. PATEL (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many acres of lands are at present reserved as pasture lands for grazing cattle in each of the talukas of the Kaira District;

(b) whether it is a fact that most of the pasture lands in Thasra, Kapadvanj and Matar talukas of the Kaira district have been disposed of by the Government to be converted into cultivable lands, and have been so converted in the last few years?

(c) Are Government aware that the people of the above talukas have been bitterly complaining of scarcity of pasture lands; if so, what steps do they intend to take to alleviate their grievances?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Information has been called for.

WATER SUPPLY IN THE KAIRA DISTRICT.

Mr. D. N. PATEL (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that the supply of water both for drinking and agricultural purposes has become quite insufficient in the Kaira district owing to the sub-soil water going very deep; if so, what steps do they intend to take to remedy that evil?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: It is true that the level of sub-soil-water has gone down in parts of North Gujarat including the Kaira district. Government are not aware that the supply of water for drinking and agricultural purposes has become quite insufficient on that account. They are however taking steps to improve the supply by means of boring operations. Government have placed some boring machines at the disposal of the District Local Board, Kaira.

NYAHADI POLICE OUTPOST.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts): Are Government aware of the great hardship and the risk to which the

neighbouring villagers are put owing to the abolition of the Nyshadi police outpost in Murbad taluka ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Enquiry is being made.

LIQUOR SHOPS AT THE MAHIM AGAR, THANA DISTRICT.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts) : Are Government aware that there are two liquor shops within a distance of one mile at the Mahim Agar in the Thana district ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Information has been called for.

OFFICE DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, THANA.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state since what time there has been no office Deputy Superintendent of Police (Head Quarters Deputy Superintendent) for the office of the District Superintendent of Police, Thana ?

(b) Has any part of the Office Deputy's clerical work fallen on any member of the District Superintendent of Police's clerical establishment ?

(c) Do they intend to abolish the post for Thana ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : (a) There has been none from November 21st, 1923, to February 20th, 1925.

(b) The reply is in the affirmative.

(c) Under the Sub-Divisional scheme recently sanctioned, the present Head Quarters Deputy Superintendent will be replaced by a Home Inspector.

DISPOSAL OF BAMBOO, BUNDI, ETC.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether they are aware that the old practice of taking fees and allowing bamboo, bundi, etc., to be cut, by the villagers for betel leaves plantation and for fencing plantain plantations has been discontinued in Bassein and Mahim talukas in the Thana district and the bamboos, bundis, etc., are sold by public auction to outside merchants ;

(b) that such discontinuance causes enormous hardship to the cultivators ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Inquiry is being made.

LIQUOR SHOP CONTRACTS IN PEINT TALUKA.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that when the Madras system was introduced in 1905 in the taluka of Peint in Nasik District, no one came forward to bid and in consequence thereof the liquor shops were given out to a selected and approved person ;

(b) whether it is a fact that last year instead of continuing the contract to the selected person as usual, the shops were put to auction? If so, what were the reasons for so doing and whether the change of system benefited Government;

(c) What the average yearly revenue from excise of the Peint taluka was prior to the introduction of the Madras system, and whether the new system resulted in loss of revenue?

(d) What is regarded as the chief and primary source of excise revenue, vend fee or the still-head duty? If the latter, is any loss in its normal revenue realisation anticipated owing to the introduction of the new system?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Information has been called for.

FAILURE OF CROPS IN PIMPALGAON BASAWANT, TALUKA NIPHAD, DISTRICT NASIK.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to state whether they or the local revenue authorities have received from the agriculturists of *Pimpalgaon Basawant*, Taluka Niphad, District Nasik, a petition stating that both *Rabi* and *Kharif* crops in that village have failed, and praying for suspension of land revenue and remission of water cess? If so, what action has been taken thereon?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Such a petition was received by the Collector. The village was carefully inspected thereafter by the Mamlatdar, Prant Officer and the Collector who all visited it more than once during the kharif and rabi seasons. Half of the water assessment on a pát which partially failed has been remitted. No suspension of the land revenue is called for.

FOREST AREA FOR GRAZING CATTLE IN KOLABA AND THANA DISTRICTS.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN on behalf of Mr. SHANKARRAO JAYARAM-
RAO ZUNJARRAO (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the hilly area on the boundary between the Panvel taluka of Kolaba District and the Kalyan taluka of the Thana district has been declared to be a reserved forest?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the said forest is open for grazing for the cattle of the agriculturists of the villages of Kiravli-Raita, Birova Kharghar, Kopar and Agroni of the Panvel taluka?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the agriculturists of the villages of Mumbra, Kaose, Sheel, Daighar, Gotheghar, Bhandarli and Dahisar of the Kalyan Taluka are not permitted to graze their cattle in this forest?

(d) If the reply to (c) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state the reasons?

(e) Whether Government is aware of the serious difficulties of the agriculturists of the villages mentioned in (c) resulting from this prohibition?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Information has been called for.

COAL FOR SUKKUR BARRAGE.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to state whether they have placed an order for 60,000 tons of coal for the Sukkur Barrage in South Africa in contravention of their solemn undertaking to use Swadeshi materials for the work when the scheme was promulgated?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: An order has been placed in India not for 60,000 but for 22,000 tons of Transvaal coal. The undertaking given and which has been fulfilled and will continue to be fulfilled was that the materials of India should be employed as far as possible—that is subject to comparisons of quality, guarantee and price. In this case not only would the price of Indian article have been more, but neither quality nor guarantee of delivery were assured.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN: Will the honourable member refer to the reply which he has given to a question regarding purchase of coal by the Karachi Port Trust, from which it will be seen that the quotations received for first class Bengal coal were much lower than for the South African coal that was purchased by the Port Trust? The quotations for first class Bengal coal were Rs. 22-8-0 per ton; Rs. 23-4-0 per ton; and Rs. 20-4-0 per ton, while for the African coal the quotations were Rs. 27-3-0 per ton, and so forth.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Government has no direct control over the Karachi Port Trust. The honourable member will see from the answer that he has just quoted, that the approval of the Trustees of the Karachi Port Trust was obtained before the purchase was made.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI: Will the honourable member give an assurance about the coal required for the Sukkur Barrage?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: I have made a statement to this honourable House already and have nothing to add to the statement I have made.

INSULT OFFERED BY EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, NORTHERN JAMRAO CANAL.

Khan Sahab SAYED GHULAM NABI SHAH (Thar and Parkar District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that Haji Punhoon Khan, a Zamindar, was called a "badmash" by the Executive Engineer, Northern Jamrao Canal, in the presence of the Superintending Engineer in an open conference held at Mirpurkhas on the 5th July 1924?

If so, have Government taken or do they intend to take any action in this connexion?

(b) Is it a fact that the said Haji Punhoon was granted the *pich* for *deh* No. 104?

(c) Are they aware that he incurred substantial expenditure on its excavation ?

(d) Is it a fact that the grant of the *pick* was cancelled shortly after it had been made ? If so, what are the reasons therefor.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : (a), (b), (c) and (d) The information has been called for.

TALUKDARS AS SOVEREIGN PRINCES.

Mr. H. D. SOHERA on behalf of The THAKOR of KERWADA (Gujarat Sardars and Inamdars) : Will Government be pleased to state whether the Honourable Mr. Elphinstone, the then Governor of Bombay, recorded in his minute dated 6th April 1821 that talukdars were sovereign princes with whom they had no right to interfere beyond the collection or tribute ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : The Honourable Mr. Elphinstone merely recorded in the minute referred to that Colonel Walker had made a statement to that effect.

HOUSE-BREAKING AND THEFT IN SHOLAPUR CITY.

Mr. ABDUL LATIF HAJI HAJRAT KHAN (Poona and Sholapur Cities) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the yearly number of offences of house-breaking and theft in Sholapur City from 1920-21 to 1924-25 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the number of offences of theft and house-breaking has increased in the last two years ;

(c) if so, what the cause of it is ;

(d) what steps do Government intend to take for the security of the life and property of the public ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Information is being obtained.

UNITS OF TERRITORIAL FORCE IN THE PRESIDENCY.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The total number of units of the Territorial Force in the Presidency ;

(b) The total number of persons constituting the said units according to the communities to which they belong ?

(c) The places where the said units are located ?

(d) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table all the Government Notifications and Resolutions issued by the Government of Bombay or the Government of India regarding the formation of the Territorial Force ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : The information has been obtained, but apparently too late for printing.

CIVIL COURTS BUILDINGS AT POONA.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the cost of the plinth of the proposed new buildings for civil courts at Poona;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have abandoned the idea of constructing any buildings on the said plinth? If so, why?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Rs. 68,179 up to plinth level. Rs. 58,000 is the estimated expenditure above plinth level up to 31st March 1925.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR: Will the Government let us know as to why construction of the buildings above plinth level has been abandoned?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: It has not been abandoned. The buildings are in progress.

GRADUATES' PAY IN MOFUSSIL.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that paragraph 8 of Government Circular, Finance Department, No. 438, dated the 25th June 1920, directs the heads of offices to pay Rs. 70 per mensem to graduates serving in their offices in the mofussil;

(b) whether there are any cases of heads of offices in Bombay giving less than Rs. 70 per mensem to graduates serving in their offices?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a) Yes.

(b) All Heads of Offices in Bombay are authorised to pay an initial salary of Rs. 90 to all graduates except those in the Lower Division in those offices in which the establishment is divided into Upper and Lower Divisions.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: May I know what are the salaries paid to graduates serving in the lower division?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I am afraid I cannot answer that question, in the absence of the Honourable Member in charge (Mr. Lawrence), who has been prevented, through indisposition, from being present in the House.

HINDU BACKWARD CLASS CANDIDATES FOR POLICE TRAINING SCHOOL, NASIK.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the caste and qualifications of candidates selected by the Inspector General of Police for admission into the Police Training School at Nasik at the last selection.

(b) the number of Hindu backward class candidates and their qualifications that applied for admission?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Information is being obtained.

AUTHORITY SANCTIONING GRAZING FEES.

Mr. D. R. PATIL on behalf of Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) who finally sanctions the rates of grazing fees to be levied in a particular year;
- (b) whether the rates of grazing fees levied in the year 1924-25 were sanctioned by Government?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) and (b) The rates of grazing fees charged for different classes of cattle are specified in the grazing rules sanctioned by Government for the various districts in the Presidency. The grazing rules are printed at pages 332 to 356 of Volume II of the Bombay Forest Manual. The Commissioners are empowered to enhance fees in consideration of the value of grazing obtainable in such forest or of the interests of forest conservancy or to relax the rules as regards fees in certain cases.

INCREASED LOCAL FUND CESS IN EAST KHANDESH.

Mr. D. R. PATIL on behalf of Mr. L. S. CHAUDHARI (East Khandesh): Will Government be pleased to state the number of applications received from persons in East Khandesh protesting against the increased local fund cess?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: 128 applications were received by the Collector.

COUNTRY CRAFTS.

Mr. V. A. DABHOLKAR: (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that for want of lights some country crafts were sunk by ferry boats on the Konkan line?

(b) How many prosecutions were undertaken against country crafts plying without lights at night?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Information has been called for.

STAFF OF THE SIR J. J. SCHOOL OF ART, BOMBAY.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(1) whether it is a fact that the School of Art, Bombay (Sir J. J. School of Art), is not provided with the full complement of scheduled staff;

(2) whether it is true that there is no Vice-principal and that the principal's time is taken up by other duties than those of teaching;

(3) how long the post of Vice-principal has remained vacant?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (1) The only post on the sanctioned establishment not at present effectively occupied is that of the Professor of Architecture and Design. During the temporary absence of the permanent incumbent of that post, his duties are being performed by a half-time officer.

(2) and (3) The post of Vice-Principal was in 1914 converted into one of Professor of Architecture and Design.

The Principal's duties comprise both teaching and the administration and direction of the School of Art and the Reay Art Workshops. During the temporary absence of the Professor of Architecture and Design, whose duty it is to assist the Principal in the administrative work of the College a temporary post of Personal Assistant will shortly be created.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: It is stated in the answer "During the temporary absence of the permanent incumbent of that post, his duties are being performed by a half-time officer". How long is this temporary absence to continue?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: If the honourable member will kindly give me notice, I shall find that out.

INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS BY INSPECTOR OF DRAWING AND CRAFT WORK.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state how many schools the present Inspector of Drawing and Craft Work visited in the year 1923-24?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: The present Inspector of Drawing and Craft Work was on leave for more than seven months during 1923-24 and during the period of less than five months for which he was on duty in that year he visited 73 schools.

GOMTI TANK AT DAKOR.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state what amount the Irrigation Department charged for supply of water for filling the "Gomti" tank at Dakor and what part of it was borne by Government?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: The Irrigation Department charged the minimum rate of Rs. 2 per 10,000 cubic feet which amounted to Rs. 4,000 for the supply of water for filling the "Gomti" tank at Dakor. No part of this amount was borne by Government.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI: Are Government aware that the tank is a public tank and the water is being drunk by the people of Dakor and by the innumerable pilgrims that go to Dakor?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: I would require notice.

ACCOUNTS IN INAM VILLAGES.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that revenue officers visiting inam villages ordinarily pay no attention to the accounts kept between inamdars and ryots in such villages notwithstanding the circular orders of the Commissioner, C. D., dated 8th April 1909, in this behalf?

(b) If so, do they intend to take any action in this connection ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) No.

(b) The question does not arise.

IRRIGATION SURVEY WORK IN THE POONA DISTRICT.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether any irrigation survey work is in progress in the Poona district ?

(b) If so, what kind of work was done till the end of December ?

(c) What is the object of taking measurements of the river water at Chas and Bhimashankar villages of the Khed Taluka of the Poona District on the river Bhima ?

(d) How long has the experimental test work lasted and how much longer will it continue ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : (a) Yes.

(b) Survey in connection with the preparation of detailed plans for remodelling the Nira Left Bank Canal and taking cross sections and preparing plans of a certain length of the Mutha Right Bank Canal which is to be lined to prevent leakage and so save the water.

(c) and (d) There are no river gauges at either Chas or Bhimashankar but rain gauges have been erected there. There is a river gauge at Kaman erected in 1906. Information is being collected at these river and rain gauges for investigating the Bhima river project. The river gauging at Kaman will continue till such time as some definite decision is arrived at in respect of this project.

APPOINTMENTS OF HONORARY MAGISTRATES.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) What principle is observed by Government in the selection of honorary magistrates—what are considered qualifications and disqualifications of such nominees ? Is punishment of fine by a criminal court considered a disqualification ?

(b) What are the educational qualifications of such magistrates who have been nominated in the Poona district and whose names are published at pages 2776 and 2777, Part I of the *Bombay Government Gazette*, dated the 13th November 1924 ?

(c) Whether any of these honorary magistrates had applied to Government for being appointed as such ?

(d) Whether any one of them has been fined by a criminal court ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Information is being obtained.

INAMDARS AND JAHAGIRDARS EXERCISING POWERS OF SUBORDINATE JUDGES.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to supply the following information—

(a) the names and jurisdiction of the four inamdars and jahagirdars who exercise the powers of subordinate judges under Regulation XIII of 1830 with the extent of powers exercised by each ?

(b) the number of civil cases decided by each during the year ending 31st December 1924 ?

(c) Are the same rules applicable to the courts of these Jahagirdars in the matter of stamps, court-fees and other process fees as are applicable in the British territory ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Information is being obtained.

MEDICAL RELIEF IN VILLAGES THROUGH THE AGENCY OF SCHOOL MASTERS.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the names and villages of the school masters in the Poona district who have been selected to carry out the experimental scheme of giving medical relief in certain villages ;

(b) whether the villages so selected are on the high roads or in the interior of talukas ;

(c) what the result of the experiment has been and whether Government intend to extend the scheme to other villages during the next year ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Information is being obtained.

ANTI-RABIC TREATMENT.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The number of patients treated for anti-rabic treatment in each centre of this presidency from 1st January 1924 to 31st December 1924 ?

(b) How many of them were Government servants and how many were private persons ?

(c) The number of patients who are reported to have died even after having received the treatment ?

(d) What is the total amount of fees recovered from the patients during year ending 31st December 1924 ?

(e) How many patients were treated free ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : Information is being obtained.

REMUNERATION OF WATANDAR PATILS IN POONA DISTRICT.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): What is the minimum and what is the maximum amount of annual remuneration given to any individual watandar patil in the Poona district :—

(a) In the case of those who have watan lands ?

(b) In the case of those who have not got watan lands ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Information been called for

SARDARS, INAMDARS AND JAHAGIRDARS EXERCISING
MAGISTERIAL POWERS.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state whether there are any sardars, inamdars or jahagirdars who are allowed to exercise magisterial powers within their inam villages in the Bombay Presidency? If so, who are they?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Information is being obtained.

MAHOMEDAN HOLIDAYS.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of HAJI ABDULLA HAROON (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether their attention has been drawn to an article in the *Sind Zamindar* of Sukkur, dated the 3rd December 1924, wherein at the foot of column 1 on page 3 it is suggested that the General Holidays for Mussalmans should be Muharram 3, Shabe Barat 1, Idd Ramzan 3 and Idd-uz-Zuha 3, and that sectional holidays for them should be one each for Chahar Shamba, Shabi-Mairaj, Shabi-Qudar, Juma-tul-wida and Haj;

(b) whether Government propose to take any action in the matter?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA: How can the attention of Government be drawn? If the question has not drawn the attention of Government, what is the procedure which should be followed in order to draw the attention of Government?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Attention can be drawn by the honourable member.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA: The honourable member has drawn the attention of Government by asking a question. Government say their attention has not been drawn.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: The question is: "Has the attention been drawn?" The answer is "No". That is a fair answer, surely.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA: What should we do to draw the attention of Government?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Send a copy. As a matter of fact, the Sindhi Translator brings to our notice those articles which he thinks we ought to know of. But apparently this is one of those articles which he did not consider worth drawing our attention to, so that the attention of Government was not drawn.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA: Do not Government send for copies of these newspapers when questions are asked by honourable members?

Scheyhe Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Not always; very for then there isn't time.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA: Do not Government send for the copies of these newspapers when questions are asked with reference to them?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: That is not the practice.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: May I ask whether it has not been the practice all these years that when a question of this kind is asked Government calls for the copies of newspapers in order to give reply?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Not within my experience. The general practice is to enquire whether there is any copy in the office. If there is, attention is drawn to it.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM: Will Government introduce this practice now?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Which practice?

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM: Of calling for the newspapers.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: That is a suggestion for action.

MONEY-LENDERS IN SIND.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to supply the following information for the last ten years, for each of the civil courts, in Sind, respectively:

(a) the number of civil suits filed by money-lenders, such as suits for money or mortgage suits, etc.;

(b) the total cash value of the claims for which such suits were filed;

(c) the total cash value of the claims decreed in favour of the plaintiffs;

(d) the total cash value of the claims rejected by the courts?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Information is being obtained.

GARRIWALAS IN KARACHI.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) How many police cases were filed against motor car drivers and garriwalas in Karachi, in the last two years;

(b) How many of them resulted in conviction and how many of them in acquittal of the accused;

(c) whether it is a fact that garriwalas have been complaining against police zulum, and on that account went on strike in Karachi last year.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a), (b) and (c) Information is being obtained.

COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of HAJI A. DULLAH HAROON (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state what action they have taken in connection with the Resolutions that this Council passed at its last session (in October 1924) giving in a tabular form the serial number, the name of the mover and the subject-matter of each resolution and the action taken thereon?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Information is being collected.

Mr. H. H. NARIELVALA: The resolutions were passed at the last October session. Has not sufficient time lapsed for getting the information?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: This question was asked not many days ago. The information from the several departments has to be collected and then printed.

GOA LOTTERY TICKETS.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state (a) whether their attention has been drawn to the continuance of the extensive sale of Goa lottery tickets in the city of Karachi, especially in pan (betal leaves) shops, even after Government expressed, in this Council in February 1924, an intention to launch prosecutions in this connection;

(b) whether Government propose to take any action to put a stop to the sale of these lottery tickets?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Goa lottery tickets are reported to be sold in shops in Karachi City. Instructions as to taking legal action have been issued to the District Magistrate, Karachi.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: Are Government aware that the Goa lottery tickets are being sold in the city of Bombay?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I do not quite recollect. I think a question was asked last session to this effect and it was answered.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: Have Government taken any steps in the matter?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I am quite sure that a similar question was asked and replied to. Instructions were issued to the Commissioner of Police.

SUKKUR BARRAGE LAND ACQUISITION.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Gulab Mahar and others whose agricultural lands in Deh Ruk, taluka Garhi Yashin, district Sukkur, are being acquired by Government for the purposes of Sukkur Barrage

Scheme, have sent a joint application to the Revenue Officer, praying for compensation not in the form of money but in the form of other agricultural land near their lands ;

(b) whether it is a fact that near the present lands of the applicants there is a large plot of Government agricultural land which had been previously reserved for the Military Dairy near Ruk and which is no longer required for that purpose ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Information has been called for.

MUSLIM WAKF PROPERTIES IN KARACHI.

Mr. HOOSENALLY M. RAHIMTOOLA on behalf of HAJI ABDULLAH HAROON (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to furnish, in a tabular form, a statement of wakf properties created or held for charitable or educational or religious purposes pertaining to the Mussalman community, including cash amounts, in Karachi, which may have come within the cognizance of any law court or other Government authority during the last ten years, giving the following details in each case :

(a) the purpose for which the wakf property is to be utilised and whether it continue to be so utilised,

(b) the estimated value of the property,

(c) the net annual income from the same,

(d) the names of the trustees ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV : The labour involved in the collection of materials for answering the question is incommensurate with the benefit likely to be derived therefrom.

FORWARDING OF PROPOSALS FROM LOCAL BODIES TO GOVERNMENT.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether their attention has been drawn to a note in "Kolaba Samachar" (Pen) of 27th September 1924, regarding collectors and local bodies ;

(b) in how many cases during the last two years, the collectors in this Presidency refused to forward proposals from local bodies to Government and the nature of every such proposal ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur GHULAM HUSSAIN : (a) The answer to part (a) is in the affirmative.

(b) Enquiries are being made.

POLICE PATIL OF DHARANGAON.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether there are any rules as regards a police patil being invested with special powers under sections 15 and 16 of the Village Police Act VIII of 1867, and whether the rules provide under what circumstances such powers, when conferred, can be withdrawn ?

(b) Is it a fact that the present police patil of Dharangaon in East Khandesh was invested with such powers, that later on his powers were withdrawn and that again they were re-conferred on him? If so, on what grounds were they withdrawn and re-conferred, respectively?

(c) Have any complaints been received against him during the last 5 years by the district authorities? If so, of what nature were they, and if any inquiry into them has been made, what has been its result?

(d) Has he been nominated as a police patil by the representative watandar or appointed by Government?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Information is being obtained.

EXCESS NUMBER OF I. C. S. OFFICERS UNDER THE BOMBAY GOVERNMENT.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of I. C. S. officers in the employ of the Bombay Government in excess of the provision made in section 98 of the Government of India Act;

(b) the approximate yearly expenditure incurred on their account?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a) and (b) Section 98 of the Government of India Act does not fix the numbers of the Indian Civil service. It directs that certain offices shall be filled from amongst the members of that service. The cadre of the Service is fixed by the Secretary of State in such a way as to provide not only for the superior posts open to the service but for training and for vacancies due to leave and deputation.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: Are Government aware that section 98 of the Government of India Act makes mention of schedule 3 which enumerates the posts which should be occupied by I.C.S. members?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Government are aware.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: I want to know how many offices outside the 32 offices mentioned in this schedule are held by I.C.S. members?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I understand that a separate question has been asked on this subject and the reply to it will be given in due course.

GOVERNMENT TANKS IRRIGATING PRIVATE HOLDINGS IN KANARA.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that they called, some years ago, for a statement of Government tanks in each of the villages of Kanara, containing information about the number of tanks, the conditions in which they existed, the amounts required for repairing them, etc.?

(b) If so, with what object was such a statement called for?

(c) Will Government be pleased to place on the Council table a copy of the consolidated statement of such tanks, etc., for the whole district?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: (a) No statement of Government tanks in *each* of the villages of the Kanara district containing information about the number of tanks, the condition then in which they existed, the amounts required for repairing them, etc., was called for by Government. But a report showing the *total* number of tanks in the Kanara district which required repairs and the amount required to repair them was called for in 1892.

(b) Prior to 1892 no definite policy was settled to deal systematically with the irrigation tanks in the Southern Maratha country which at the time of survey were assessed on consideration of the irrigational facilities then enjoyed. In 1892, with the object of laying down a policy to deal with such tanks Government laid down certain principles and at the same time appointed a Committee to enquire into the then conditions and roughly the cost of repairing the tanks in Dharwar and Belgaum districts and to submit a report. On receipt of the report of the Committee more definite orders were issued in 1895, for the systematic treatment of all irrigation tanks.

(c) As stated in clause (a) no statement containing information about the number of tanks, the conditions then in which they existed, etc., for *each* of the villages of Kanara was called for. The total number of tanks which were reported requiring repairs was 1,314. The expenditure estimated to repair them was about Rs. 6,00,000. Lists of tanks* in some of the talukas of Kanara district are placed on the Council table. Others are not yet available.

Mr. M. D. KARKI: With reference to what tanks statement was called for?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: I will read out the answer:—

“...But a report showing the total number of tanks in the Kanara district which required repairs and the amount required to repair them was called for in 1892.”

Mr. M. D. KARKI: Do they belong to private individuals or Government?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: They must belong to Government, because the question was with reference to Government tanks.

Mr. M. D. KARKI: What policy do Government intend to lay down with regard to the tanks in respect of which the statement was called for?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: I want notice.

GOVERNMENT TANK USED FOR CULTIVATION.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government survey No. 36 of Manajwalli in Sirsi taluka was once a public tank for irrigating the whole area of the garden land in that village, but that on its silting up in course of time it was given out by them to a private individual for cultivation?

* Kept in Secretary's office.

(b) Did Government ever repair the tank since the original settlement?

(c) Was the facility for irrigation provided by this tank considered at the time of assessing the garden land at the time of the original settlement?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Information has been called for.

DRY PLANTAIN INDUSTRY.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state at how many places in the Kanara District the industry of drying bananas on a systematic basis is carried on by cultivators?

(b) Have Government done anything to help this industry? If so, how?

(c) Has the Agricultural Department investigated the possibilities of this industry? If so, what has been the result of such investigation?

(d) Does the industry exist in any other part of the presidency? If so, where does it exist?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (a) At Siddapur and Sirsi.

(b) No.

(c) Results of the investigations made hitherto will be found in Volume XV, Part II, of the Agricultural Journal of India. Further investigations are in progress.

(d) Yes. At Bassein and Agashi.

Mr. S. K. BOLE: Are Government aware that the industry is declining in Agashi?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: (Inaudible).

Mr. S. K. BOLE: Will Government please take steps to give an impetus to that industry?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Government have that in view.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SALT REVENUE, GOA FRONTIER AND KANARA.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of cases of smuggling of articles liable to duty from Goa into Kanara and elsewhere that were detected by the Superintendent of Salt Revenue, Goa Frontier and Kanara, during the year 1923-24;

(b) the names and places of the smugglers and the places into which those articles were imported;

(c) the methods employed by each of them in effecting the smuggling;

(d) the commodities that were smuggled by each of them;

(e) the penalty inflicted on and realised from each of them?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Information has been called for.

OFFICERS INFLICTING CHAUTHAI FINE IN KANARA.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state what officers are empowered to inflict the one-fourth fine in Kanara?

(b) Is it a fact that there is an order issued by the Collector of Kanara to the effect that the power of inflicting such fines should be exercised either by himself or assistant collectors or deputy collectors, and not by mamlatdars and mahalkaris?

(c) Are there any instructions issued by the Collector of Kanara prescribing in what circumstances such fines are to be inflicted?

(d) If the reply to (b) or (c) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to place on the Council table copies of such order or instructions?

(e) If the reply to (b) or (c) be in the affirmative, have any such orders been issued by any other collectors in the presidency?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) Collector, sub-divisional officers and mamlatdars and mahalkaris are empowered to levy one-fourth fine.

(b) No.

(c) and (d) Yes. A copy of the circular* issued by the collector is placed on the Council table.

(e) In no district of the Southern Division have special orders of the kind mentioned in clause (b) been issued. Enquiry has been made as regards the districts in the other Divisions and in Sind.

Mr. M. D. KARKI: How is that mamlatdars and mahalkaris are not allowed to pass orders of one-fourth penalty?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: It is stated in the reply that Collector, sub-divisional officers and mamlatdars and mahalkaris are empowered to levy one-fourth fine.

Mr. M. D. KARKI: As a matter of fact, mamlatdars and mahalkaris are not passing orders in Kanara but they simply send a report to the sub-divisional officer or collector.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: I wish to know what his desire is whether it should be passed by the mamlatdars or not?

Mr. M. D. KARKI: I want to know from the honourable member why the mamlatdars and mahalkaris are not allowed to pass orders of one-fourth penalty in Kanara?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: The honourable member will have an opportunity of debating that question on the honourable member Mr. Shiade's bill.

MANGANESE DEPOSITS IN THE PRESIDENCY.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the place or places where there are manganese deposits in Kanara particularly and in the rest of the province generally;

(b) the number of prospecting licenses issued in that behalf up till now;

(c) the names of persons to whom and of places in respect of which such licenses were issued;

* *Vide* Appendix 69.

(d) the percentage of manganese available in each case ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Information has been called for.

MANGANESE MINING LEASES.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether any mining leases for manganese either in Kanara or elsewhere in the presidency were applied for up till now by any persons and when did they apply ?

(b) If the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state (i) the names of persons who applied, (ii) to whom such leases were granted, (iii) to whom they were refused, and the time when they applied and when the leases were granted ?

(c) If the cases of any of them are still under consideration, will they be pleased to state the names of such persons and what orders they propose to pass in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Information has been called for.

MOTOR TRAFFIC IN AHMEDABAD.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD on behalf of Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities)

(a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of motor vehicles, motor taxis, motor busses and motor lorries in the city of Ahmedabad ?

(b) Are Government aware that almost all the motor taxis and motor busses run on only one main road, viz., from railway station to Bhadra, *via* Panchkuva and Three Gates ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state how many accidents were caused by motor taxis, lorries and busses during the year from 1st January 1924 to 31st August 1924 ?

(d) How many of the defaulters were brought to book before the magistrates ?

(e) How many of the defaulters who were tried before the magistrates were (i) convicted, (ii) the nature of sentence passed, and (iii) how many were acquitted ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Information is being obtained.

MOTOR TRAFFIC IN AHMEDABAD.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD on behalf of Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities) :

(a) Will Government be pleased to state what arrangements have been made by the police to enforce the regular stopping of the motor busses for passengers at the stoppage stations at Ahmedabad ?

(b) Are Government aware that rules about stoppage at the stations fixed are not observed ?

(c) If the reply to (b) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state how many of these defaulters have been brought to book before the magistrates and with what result?

(d) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the fact that some of the motor busses ran a race on the said main road from railway station to Bhadra when the police constable was not on duty?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Information is being obtained.

AUCTION SALE OF GOVERNMENT TREES IN SOUTH DASKROI
TALUKA.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD on behalf of Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities):

(a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that trees in the village of Kuva in the South Daskroi taluka of Ahmedabad were auctioned for Rs. 6,500 by the prant officer and that the period fixed for cutting the trees was short and no instalments were allowed?

(b) Whether they are aware that the said trees were tendered to be purchased for Rs. 10,000 by one of the purchasers, provided the period for cutting and removal of the trees was allowed to be two years and the price to be paid by four instalments?

(c) Whether it is true that the trees in the village of Pasunj in the South Daskroi taluka of Ahmedabad were sold for Rs. 4,200 by the Prant Officer while the offer of another contractor was for Rs. 6,000, if the payment was by instalments and the period allowed for cutting and removal of the trees was three years?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Inquiry is being made.

TOLL ON PILGRIMS TO SARKHEJ DURGHAH.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD on behalf of Khan Saheb A. M. MANSURI (Ahmedabad and Surat Cities): Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware of the great hardship caused to pilgrims visiting the Sarkhej Durgah by the levy of toll at the Vasna toll bar on the Ahmedabad-Sanand road?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: There is no hardship caused to pilgrims visiting Sarkhej. Those who go in motors, carriages or carts pay toll according to the nature of the conveyance, but those going by rail avoid such payment.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: Will the Honourable Minister take steps to abolish this toll in consideration of the pilgrims, who are generally very poor people?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN: I have informed the House that I am trying to abolish tolls gradually.

... COUNTRY LIQUOR SHOPS AT MADHAVPURA, AHMEDABAD.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA on behalf of Mr. G. K. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad City): Was there a complaint by Mr. Abdul Latif and others re short sale at Madhavpura country liquor shop lodged before

the Collector of Ahmedabad in December 1923? If so, what was the result of the enquiry?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Information has been called for.

NEW LICENSEES IN PLACE OF OLD ONES.

Dr. M. M. MEHTA (Surat City): Will Government be pleased to state how many persons holding previous licenses of toddy were replaced by new licensees in the Surat district during the years 1922, 1923 and 1924 respectively?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Information has been called for.

TAX ON TODDY IN SURAT.

Dr. M. M. MEHTA (Surat City): Will Government be pleased to state what amount was recovered from the Surat district during the years 1922, 1923 and 1924 respectively on account of—

- (a) Toddy tree tax,
- (b) License fees on toddy shops and booths.
- (c) domestic consumption licenses,
- (d) kaliparaj passes?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: The subjoined statement* furnishes the information required by the honourable member. The figures are for the toddy year which commences from 1st August.

AVERAGE EXPENSE PER TODDY TREE TO OWNERS.

Dr. M. M. MEHTA (Surat City): Will Government be pleased to state what was the average expense which a toddy tree owner who was a cultivator had to incur for drawing toddy from a single date tree in the Surat district inclusive of tree tax, labour, license fees, land tax, etc., during the years 1922, 1923 and 1924 respectively?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: The subjoined statement† furnishes the information required by the honourable member.

PATHAN DACOITIES IN POONA.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars):

(a) Are Government aware of the fact that several Pathan dacoities have recently taken place in and round Poona?

(b) Will they be pleased to state what steps they have taken to prevent them?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Enquiries are being made. I believe some of them have been arrested and put up for trial.

LIGHTING AND CLEANING OF LLOYD BRIDGE.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars): Will Government be pleased to state what arrangements they have made for lighting the Lloyd Bridge at night and for keeping it clean?

* Vide Appendix 87.

† Vide Appendix 82.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : The necessary information has been called for.

MURDERS IN THE DOHAD AND JHALOD TALUKAS.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District): Will Government be pleased to state : (a) how many murders were committed in the Dohad and Jhalod talukas of the Panch Mahals district from April 1924 to July 1924 ?

(b) How many of the culprits have been traced and in how many cases have the offenders been convicted ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Information is being obtained.

PLANTATION WORK, PANCH MAHALS.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District): Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Divisional Forest Officer, Panch Mahals, has given rewards to the Range Forest Officers who exacted more work of plantation from the villagers engaged in that work ?

(a) If it is a fact whether the Government have authorised such action ?

(b) If the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, will they put that correspondence on the Council table ?

(c) If such rewards were paid will they state from what source the amount was obtained ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Enquiry is being made.

AREA UNCULTIVATED IN THANA DISTRICT ON ACCOUNT OF TEAK TREES.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District): Will Government be pleased to state how many acres of land the khatedars of the Thana district have to leave uncultivated on account of teak trees standing on them though the assessment for that uncultivated land has to be paid by the khatedars ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Informatic has been called for.

LIQUOR SHOPS AND SCHOOLS IN JHALOD MAHAL.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District): Will Government be pleased to state separately the number of liquor shops and schools in Jhalod Mahal of Panch Mahals district stating in what village each is situated ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : As regards liquor shops information has been called for. With regard to schools, the Honourable Member is referred to the Honourable Minister for Education.

VISIT OF H. E. THE GOVERNOR TO THE NAVAPUR FOREST,
WEST KHANDESH.

Mr. H. H. NARIELVALA (Broach District): (1) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that His Excellency the late Governor of Bombay visited the Navapur forest in the West Khandesh district in the year 1923?

(2) If so, will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) the period of the visit;
- (b) the cost incurred on account of it;
- (c) the amount which the taluka local board of Navapur sanctioned for clearing and repairing the roads on that occasion and the number of men employed for the purpose;
- (d) whether it is a fact that these roads were closed to vehicular traffic for some time during the visit; if so, for how long;
- (e) whether it is a fact that the booking of goods at Navapur railway station was closed for some time owing to H. E. Sir George Lloyd's visit; if so, for how many days?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (1) Yes.

(2) (a) 5 days.

(b) Rs. 789.

(c), (d) and (e) Government have no information, and do not consider that any useful purpose would now be served by an enquiry into matters which occurred over two years ago.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM: Is it a fact that a poisoned tiger was given to His Excellency for shooting in this *shikar*?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I have no information.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM: Is it a fact that a band of C. I. D. people was specially engaged to find out who organised this mischief?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I have no information.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM: Is it a fact that an officer of the Excise Department was transferred from that place as a result of this enquiry?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I have no information.

TEACHERS IN SIND.

*MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMED on behalf of Mr. NOOR MAHOMED (Hyderabad District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of trained, untrained and qualified primary school teachers respectively in the primary local board schools in each of the districts and municipal towns of Sind;

(b) the number of taluka masters in each district of Sind and how many of them are Hindus and how many Mussalmans?

(c) the number of teachers in each district who draw postal allowance and how many of them are Muslims and how many Hindus?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a), (b) and (c) The accompanying statements* furnishing the information required are placed on the Council table.

CLASSIFICATION OF NON-OFFICIALS IN SIND.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD on behalf of Mr. NOOR MAHOMED (Hyderabad District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Circular No. 3552 of the 8th December 1917 issued by the Commissioner in Sind laying down the form of address to be employed by officials in their vernacular correspondence among themselves is being applied to non-officials by the officials in Sind?

(b) Is it a fact that non-officials are being classified in the official correspondence as officials of the non-gazetted grade?

(c) Are Government further aware that respectable zamindars paying very large amounts of land revenue are addressed by officials in their correspondence as inferior persons belonging to the non-gazetted grade and that this form of address is being resented by the zamindars?

(d) Are Government aware that the acting mukhtiarkar of Badin insisted on addressing the non-official chairman of the Badin Sanitary Board, a big zamindar, as merely "Manwaro" and that when the latter protested the mukhtiarkar quoted the Commissioner's Circular and obtained the approval of the Assistant Collector, Tando, to his being classified as a third grade non-gazetted official?

(e) Do Government intend to take any action in connection with such practice?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) The Circular referred to is not applied to non-officials.

(b) No.

(c) The forms of address in the vernacular laid down by the Commissioner have no application to correspondence with non-officials. The non-officials are addressed as "Manwaro", "Wademanwaro", "Mushfiqmehrban" or "Dostmehrban" as befits their status, and so far as is known they have not taken any exception to the use of these forms of address.

(d) The Chairman of the Sanitary Board, Badin, is an *ex-Sub-Inspector* of Police. He is not entitled to be addressed as an official. The Assistant Collector decided that "Manwaro" was the appropriate form of address in his case.

(e) No action is called for.

AGRICULTURAL CLASSES.

Mr. D. N. PATEL (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many agricultural classes have been opened in the Presidency proper in the year 1924-25, in order to adapt primary education more closely to the needs of the agricultural population?

*Vide Appendix 83.

(b) what is the total number of such classes in the presidency proper, and at what places have they been opened ?

The Honourable Mr. B. V. JADHAV: (a) 15 ;

(b) 19 as under :—

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| (1) Tarkhod | Thana District. |
| (2) Ozar | Nasik District. |
| (3) Masura | Ratnagiri District. |
| (4) Hashivra | Kolaba District. |
| (5) Narayangaon | Poona District. |
| (6) Peth | Satara District. |
| (7) Mohol | Sholapur District. |
| (8) Devlali | Ahmednagar District. |
| (9) Asoda | East Khandesh District. |
| (10) Kusumbe | West Khandesh District. |
| (11) Waghchhipa | Surat District. |
| (12) Suklatirth | Broach District. |
| (13) Uttarsand | Kaira District. |
| (14) Kanbha | Ahmedabad District. |
| (15) Nadisar | Panch Mahals District. |
| (16) Kongnolli | Belgaum District. |
| (17) Hulkoti | Dharwar District. |
| (18) Bhatgunki | Bijapur District. |
| (19) Hegade | Kanara District. |

IRRIGATION BY TANK WATER IN THE KAIRA DISTRICT.

Mr. D. N. PATEL (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of tanks meant for irrigation purposes in the Kaira district ;

(b) the total acreage of lands irrigated from these tanks in each of the last five years ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Information has been called for.

FAILURE OF CROPS IN THE MATAR TALUKA.

Mr. D. N. PATEL (Kaira District): (a) Are Government aware that the principal crops of cotton and rice have materially failed in all the villages of the Matar taluka in the Kaira district which used to be irrigated from the Khari canal ?

(b) Is such failure due to want of sufficient water owing to the water higher up in the canal being diverted into the Kharicut by the Irrigation Department ?

(c) If so, do Government intend to pass necessary orders for remission and suspension of land revenue for the current year in those villages ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangir: (a), (b) and (c) Information has been called for.

RAILWAY THEFTS IN AHMEDABAD RAILWAY YARD.

MR. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN on behalf of Mr. G. I. PATEL (Ahmedabad Millowners' Association) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) (i) the number of railway thefts detected in the Ahmedabad railway yard from June to December 1924 ?

(ii) the number of watchmen convicted for such thefts in the year 1924 ?

(iii) the nature of the precautions taken to prevent further thefts ?

(iv) the number and nature of cases in which goods were found from houses of the watchmen or their confederates ?

(b) Do Government propose to take any steps to remove the dual control in such matters of the railway police and the Watch and Ward Department ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Information is being obtained.

DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT SUBURBAN PLOTS.

MR. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts) :

(a) Will Government be pleased to state the total area of land available for building sites prepared by the Development Department at Chembur, Ghatkopar, Kurla and Khari (Bandra) respectively ?

(b) How much of this land has been sold ?

(c) What are the total costs of acquisition, road-making, water supply, drainage, etc., respectively ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : A statement* giving the information is appended.

MR. G. B. PRADHAN : May I know the rates at which the lands have been sold ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : I could not give the rates off-hand.) the honourable member will come to me, I shall be very glad to let him have the information, or he can give notice.

UTILIZATION OF THE FEES FOR FERRY CONTRACTS
ON THE ULHAS RIVER.

MR. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts) :

(a) Will Government be pleased to state how far the money which they have recovered in the shape of fees for ferry contracts has been utilized in improving means of communication on the Ulhas river near Badlapur ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : The information has been called for.

ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS IN THE IMPROVEMENT TRUST, BOMBAY

MR. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts) :

* Vide Appendix 88.

(a) Will Government be pleased to state what qualifications are necessary for being enrolled as an architect and engineer in the Improvement Trust ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to place on the Council table a list showing the names of the different firms that are recognised by the Improvement Trust with the qualifications of their partners ?

(c) Are Government aware that persons who are Bachelors or Licentiates of Civil Engineering of the Poona Engineering College are refused such recognition on the ground that they are not architects ?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state the qualifications of the present Architect of the Improvement Trust and the degrees he holds and from what college ?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur SHAIKH GHULAM HUSSAIN : Information is being obtained.

HEAD CLERKS TO THE COLLECTORS.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): (a) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing (1) the total number of head clerks to the Collectors in the Presidency ; (2) how many of them are Hindus, Brahmins, non-Brahmin Hindus excluding Lingayats and Jains, Lingayats, Jains, Mahomedans, Parsees, Christians, Jews, and Buddhists respectively ; (3) how many of them have been appointed during the last ten years and how many of those appointed during that period belong to each of the different communities mentioned in (2) above ?

(b) Is it a fact that the percentages of Hindu and Mahomedan head clerks to the total number are extremely small, and if so, what are the reasons therefor ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) The accompanying statement* furnishes the required information.

(b) Not in the case of Hindus. In the case of Mahomedans the reason for the small percentage is that there are no suitable candidates for appointment to the post.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : May I understand that these posts are advertised or any attempts are being made for Mahomedans to come in ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I have no information, but if the honourable member will give notice, I shall be glad to find out.

LAND REVENUE INCOME AND ASSESSMENT.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): Will Government be pleased to state the number of persons in this Presidency whose income from land is Rs. 2,000 or upwards, and the total amount of land revenue derived from such persons ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Government regret they have not the information.

* Vide Appendix 84.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN : Did Government consider the question of collecting the information ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Government did consider it, but they thought that it would be extremely difficult to obtain this information, and any attempt in that direction would involve an inquisitorial enquiry which would not be relished by the public.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN : Does not the honourable member think that it is a matter which is very important ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : I agree with the honourable member that it is important, but I cannot see my way to get this information.

APPOINTMENT OF MR. H. N. SHINDORE AS HONORARY MAGISTRATE.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District) : (1) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Mr. Hiranman Narayan Shindore has been appointed an honorary magistrate at Nasik ?

(2) If so, were they aware, when they made the appointment, of the facts stated in the reply given by the Honourable the Minister of Excise and Forests to the question put by Mr. R. G. Pradhan in the February session of 1924, printed at page 336 of Vol. XI, Pt. VII of the Council Debat ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : (1) He has for a number of years been an honorary bench magistrate.

(2) The incident was considered closed by the refund mentioned in the previous question of the honourable member for the Nasik District.

WATER FACILITIES BILL.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District) : Will Government be pleased to state when they propose to introduce the Water Facilities Bill which they have prepared into the Legislative Council ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : The proposals are still under the consideration of Government and no definite information can yet be given as to when the Bill will be introduced into the Legislative Council.

THE GHATAPRABHA SCHEME FOR BIJAPUR DISTRICT.

Mr. S. A. SARDESAL (Bijapur District) : Will Government be pleased to state what progress, if any, has been made in the Ghataprabha scheme referred to in His Excellency the Governor's reply to the address presented by the district local board, Bijapur ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHANGIR : Preliminary investigations in connection with the project have been completed. Further details of the scheme are under scrutiny by the Superintending Engineer, Deccan Irrigation Division, and receipt of the final complete project is awaited by Government.

Mr. S. A. SARDESAI : May I know when this project will be completed ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : The honourable member should realise that the scheme has first to be sent to the Secretary of State for sanction, then it has to come to this House, and then the scheme will begin if it is sanctioned by all parties. The cost is rather prohibitive, and it will very much depend on this House.

GOKAK CANAL SCHEME IN BAGALKOT TALUKA.

Mr. S. A. SARDESAI (Bijapur District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) what they propose to do in connection with the Gokak Canal scheme ?

(b) whether Government can make the tail water available for irrigation purposes by letting it into the Muchkundi tank near Bagalkot in the Bijapur district ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : (a) No decision has been made as the final complete project now known as the Ghatprabha Project is awaited by Government.

(b) It is not intended neither is it practicable to make the tail water of the proposed Ghatprabha Left Bank Canal available for irrigation purposes by letting it into the Muchkundi tank as that canal and the tank will be on different banks of the Ghatprabha river.

Mr. S. A. SARDESAI : May I know whether the tail water is available ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : From the printed answer it is evident that it is, but I won't say so definitely. I would ask for notice.

TRANSFER OF LIQUOR SHOP FROM WORLI TO MAZGAON.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN on behalf of Mr. SHANKARRAO JAYARAM-RAO ZUNZARRAO (Thana and Bombay Suburban districts) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a liquor shop was transferred from Worli in "G" ward to Mazgaon in "E" ward in the City of Bombay ;

(b) If so, which authority has transferred it, and why ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : (a) Yes.

(b) The Collector of Bombay sanctioned the transfer after consulting the Advisory Committee, the Municipal Commissioner and the Commissioner of Police and taking local opinion by beating bataki and posting notices. The Municipal Commissioner, the Commissioner of Police and the members of the Advisory Committee for "E" ward with one exception favoured the transfer. Three objection petitions from one set of people, reported on by the Police as not residents of the locality, were received, but as their objections were not weighty the transfer was allowed as the same site was used for a toddy shop the previous year. The transfer was necessitated as the licensee was ordered by a decree of the High Court to

vacate the premises which were pulled down by the Improvement Trust for development purposes and no other suitable site for a liquor shop was available.

PROGRAMME OF TOURS BY DISTRICT OFFICERS.

* Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North): (a) Will Government be pleased to state what measures are adopted by district officers, viz., Collector, and Assistant or Deputy Collectors, to notify to the public the programme of their tours?

(b) Are these measures uniformly adopted in all the districts in the Presidency?

(c) If not, in what districts are they not followed and what are the reasons therefor?

(d) Is it true that the Collector of Satara does not now publish the programme of his tours in the local newspapers, as it used to be published before?

(e) Are Government aware that such omission causes inconvenience to the public?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) Copies of tour programmes of Collectors and Assistant and Deputy Collectors are generally sent to editors of local newspapers for publication as an item of news. Where there are no newspapers widely published, copies are sent to Mamlatdars and Mavalikaris with instructions that they should be affixed to the taluka office notice board. In some places copies are also sent to Bar Associations for the information of the pleaders and placed on the pleaders' table in the Collectors' offices.

(b) No.

(c) In the Bombay Suburban District, where owing to the small size of the district the Collector and the Deputy Collector do not tour.

(d) Copies of tour programmes have been sent by the Collector of Satara to editors of newspapers but they apparently have not thought it fit to publish them.

(e) No complaints have been received by Government in the matter.

ORDERS UNDER SECTIONS 42, 43 AND 44 OF DISTRICT
POLICE ACT.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North): Will Government be pleased to give in a tabular form a list of the orders issued by the District Magistrate of Ratnagiri during the past five years under sections 42, 43 and 44 of the Bombay District Police Act IV of 1890, in respect of mosques, temples and other places of worship giving the following details in each case:—

- (1) Person or persons against whom the order was passed?
- (2) When the order was first passed?
- (3) Was the order renewed periodically or from year to year?
- (4) What acts are prohibited?
- (5) The object for which the order was passed?

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : There were no orders issued under section 42 of the District Police Act. A statement* of orders issued under sections 43 and 44 of the Act is laid on the Council table.

PAYMENT OF RENT IN KHOTI VILLAGES IN RATNAGIRI DISTRICT.

Mr. V. A. SURVE (Ratnagiri District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the system of payment of rent in cash instead of in kind introduced in about 1912 in the khoti villages of the Ratnagiri district is permanent or is for a fixed period only?

(b) Whether it is necessary that at least eight annas sharers must assent to the introduction of the change of payment of rent in cash in khoti villages?

(c) Had Mr. Garratt, the Special Recording Officer, Ratnagiri District, obtained the consent of at least eight annas sharers of khoti in every khoti village in the Ratnagiri district in settling the cash payments?

(d) Is it a fact that in the settlement of rent in cash for the khoti village of Tulasani at Magzan in taluka Sangameshwar, the settlement was made on the assent of a four pies sharer only in the khoti, though some of the sharers were present and were asking for adjournment?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Information has been called for.

LEVY OF WATER-RATE IN RATNAGIRI DISTRICT.

Mr. V. A. SURVE (Ratnagiri District): Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a water rate is to be levied for the occasional use of water, by farmers for agriculture, from the tank in the Dharmapur village in the Malwan taluka of the Ratnagiri District?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Information has been called for.

BOUNDARY MARKS.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) What amount they paid to the contractors for repairing the boundary marks and what amount they received from the cultivators during the current year?

(b) If the reply to (a) reveals an excess recovered from the cultivators, will Government be pleased to state whether section 122 of the Land Revenue Code authorizes the recovery of anything in excess of the actual expenditure? If not, will Government be pleased to state under what authority they are recovering the excess?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that they have ordered the excess to be refunded in the Prantij taluka?

* Kept in the Secretary's office

If so, will they be pleased to state why they have not refunded the excess in the whole Presidency?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) and (c) Information has been called for.

(b) Government have recently rescinded the orders under which a penal rate used to be levied from the cultivators. Henceforth the rate to be levied is to be fixed in accordance with the actual cost to Government of carrying out the repairs.

BANDH KARKUNS OF TALUKDARI VILLAGES.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether *bandh karkuns* of talukdari villages are regarded as having the same status as the other clerks in the Revenue Department?

(b) What salaries are given to the *bandh karkuns* in the revision?

(c) Why the *bandh karkuns* are given much lower salaries than the other clerks in the revenue service?

(d) Do Government intend to take any steps in the matter?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) No. The *bandh karkuns* perform duties analogous to those performed by talatis and circle inspectors in Khalsa villages.

(b) In the revision their pay was fixed as follows:—

| | Rs. |
|---------------------------|-----|
| 1 Head Survey Karkun.. | 75 |
| 4 <i>Bandh karkuns</i> .. | 45 |
| 12 Do. .. | 35 |

(c) They are given lower salaries because they do not ordinarily possess the same qualifications nor are they required to do the same work as clerks in the Revenue Department.

(d) The question of improving their prospects and position is under consideration.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN: The reply to (a) is in the negative but it is added that they perform analogous duties. Then how is it that they have not the same status?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: The reply is that the *bandh karkuns* perform duties analogous to those performed by talatis and circle inspectors in khalsa villages.

LAND FROM MEHLOL ESTATE.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA on behalf of The THAKOR OF KERWADA (Gujarat Sardars and Inamdars): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that they have given permission under section 31 of the Gujarat Talukdars Act to give a certain area of land from the Mehlool Estate to a private gentleman for garden or for experimental purposes?

(b) Was it for the benefit of the estate?

(c) Did the talukdar consent to it?

(d) Who negotiated the transaction?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Information has been called for.

MURDERS, DACOITIES, ETC., IN LARKANA DISTRICT.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): Will Government be pleased to state the number of murders, dacoities, robberies and thefts that have occurred in the Larkana District during the years 1922 and 1923 and in the current year up to 30th June 1924 and to state the number of the above offences that were detected and how many of them ended in conviction?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: A table* showing the number of dacoities, murders, etc., is laid on the Council table.

RISE IN CRIME IN LARKANA DISTRICT.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether their attention has been drawn to the enormous rise in crime in the Larkana district and to the articles in the local papers, namely, the *Larkana Gazette* dated the 6th, 9th, 20th, 25th and 30th June 1924, and *Alhakikat* dated the 21st and 28th June 1924 on the subject, and on the state of panic which exists in the district and town of Larkana owing to the danger to property and person to which the inhabitants are exposed?

(b) If so, what steps do Government propose to take to remove the feeling of insecurity which prevails?

(c) What steps were taken by the District Superintendent of Police, Larkana, to check the growth of crime?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: (a), (b), (c). There was a sensational murder now sub-judice said to have been due to enmities between two factions among the Hindus of Larkana town which gave rise to some stir in the local newspapers but it would be an exaggeration to say that there was a state of panic either in Larkana town or district. The statistics do not indicate any enormous increase in crime as the rise in the figures for 1924 was due in part at least to stricter orders regarding registration. The question how far it was due if at all to the recent reductions in the strength of police force of the district and whether an increase is necessary is under examination of the authorities in Sind.

ENGINEER TEMPORARILY IN CHARGE OF DISTRICTS.

Mr. D. R. PATEL on behalf of Mr. B. K. DALVI (Belgaum District): Will Government be pleased to state how many senior officers above the efficiency bar of the Bombay Engineering Service have been placed in charge of a district temporarily or acting and how many junior officer below the grade of Rs. 50 per mensem of the Indian Service of Engineers have been placed in charge of the district temporarily or acting?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: The information is being collected.

* Vide Appendix 92.

JAWARI CROPS IN SATARA DISTRICT.

Mr. D. R. PATEL on behalf of Mr. B. K. DALVI (Belgaum District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The area under Jawari (Rabi) crop in Satara taluka especially in the 65 villages of group I alluded to in the Revenue Settlement Report now before Government ?

(b) The area under Rabi Jawari that failed to give any grain crop or in which the crops withered for want of rain at Kodoli, Khod, Wadhe, Kshtra-Mabuli, Shendre, Bangaon-Bharatgaon in the Satara taluka, Satara district.

(c) Whether it is a fact that both the Kharif and Rabi crops failed in Khandala Mahal continuously for the last seven years east of Poona-Bangalore Road as well as in the greater portion of Khatav and Man talukas of the Satara district ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Information has been called for.

RATES OF NON-AGRICULTURAL ASSESSMENT.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the rate of non-agricultural assessment in each of the following towns in the Northern Division :—

Thana, Bandra, Dahanu, Surat, Jalalpur, Vapi, Broach, Ankleswar, Vasad, Anand, Nadiad, Umreth, Bhalej, Borsad, Mehmedabad, Ahmedabad and Viramgam ;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government intend to raise the rate of non-agricultural assessment in this presidency. If so, will they be pleased to state the percentage of such increase ;

(c) whether non-agricultural assessment is fixed in consultation with the Department of Public Health. If the reply be in the negative, will Government be pleased to state whether they intend to give any concessions to persons desiring to live outside congested localities.

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a), (b) and (c). Information is being collected.

CHHARODI AND WILLINGDON CATTLE BREEDING FARMS.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI (Kaira District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the total annual cost of maintaining the Chharodi and Willingdon Cattle breeding farms and the annual receipts from the sale of cows, calves and bulls ;

(b) since how many years cattle breeding experiments have been carried on on the said farms ;

(c) whether any improvements in the existing breeds of cattle have been made ; if so, of what nature ;

(d) whether the percentage of butter fat is increased ; if so, by how much ;

(e) whether the quantity of milk per head has been increased ; if so, by how much ;

(f) whether any new and better strain of cattle has been evolved ; if so, will they be pleased to state the favourable points of the new strain ; and

(g) whether any better variety of fodder has been found or whether the exact economic value of existing fodders has been investigated on the above two farms ; if so, will they be pleased to state the nature and type of improved fodders ;

(h) the area of the above two farms and how much of it is devoted to fodder experiments and how much to grazing ?

(NOTE :— Please give all the figures asked for in this question separately.)

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : (a) The figures for 1923-24 are—

| | Expenditure. | Income. |
|-------------------------|--------------|---------|
| | Rs. | Rs. |
| Chharodi Farm | 32,428 | 8,545 |
| Willingdon Farm | 23,238 | 8,282 |

(b) Chharodi Farm since 1919. Willingdon Farm since 1923.

(c) Selection of a pure type is the first essential in cattle breeding and great advance has been made in selecting animals for the purpose at the Chharodi Farm. Work has just begun on the other farm.

(d) The milk of Indian cattle already contains a high percentage of fat. What is required is the improvement of the milking capacity, early maturity and better development of animals, and attention is at present concentrated on this work.

(e) and (f) As systematic breeding has begun only recently, it is too early to get any results.

(g) The farms are primarily meant for cattle breeding and fodder is raised for the use of the animals maintained on them. Experiments are however in progress.

(h) The Northcote farm occupies 2,150 acres of which 101 acres are under cultivation. The area of the other farm is 800 acres of which 50 are set apart for fodder.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : I asked for exact information and the exact percentage, but instead of that in reply to (d) it is stated that milk of Indian cattle already contains a high percentage of fat. Will the Honourable Minister kindly state what is the exact percentage ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : I am afraid I cannot.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : But I had asked the question whether the percentage of butter fat has increased.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : It has not been ascertained.

Rao Saheb D. P. DESAI : May I know whether the Honourable Minister would be satisfied with such a reply from his subordinate officers ?
(No reply.)

CASH ALLOWANCES FROM INAM VILLAGES IN THE POONA DISTRICT
PAYABLE TO HAKDARS AND AMALDARS.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state the amount of cash allowances remitted to taluka treasuries from inam villages of the Poona district for being paid to hakdars and amaldars such as Deshmuk, Deshpande, Gramjoshi, Mokashi and others, which is still lying undisbursed in each taluka up to the end of December 1924?

The Honourable Mr. MEHTA: Information has been called for.

RAIN GAUGES IN POONA DISTRICT.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state:—

(a) in which villages rain gauges are located in the Khed Taluka of the Poona District;

(b) which of them are under the control of the Revenue and which that of the Public Works Department?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Enquiry is being made.

COMPENSATORY ALLOWANCE TO NON-GAZETTED OFFICERS IN
POONA, BOMBAY, SALSETTE AND KARACHI.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have arrived at any decision in the matter of compensatory allowance to non-gazetted officers of the several departments in Poona, Bombay, Salsette and Karachi?

(b) If so, will they be pleased to state what decisions they have come to?

(c) If it is decided to grant the allowance, will it be granted retrospectively from the date from which similar grant was sanctioned for the gazetted officers?

(d) Will it include the bailiffs and temporary establishments including section writers in the civil as well as in criminal courts?

The Honourable Mr. H. S. LAWRENCE: The honourable member is referred to the reply given to question asked by Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar on 13th March 1925.

CHAVDIS IN KHALSA AND INAM VILLAGES.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proportion, and if so, what, as regards the sharing of the cost of constructing a new *chavdi* in khalsa and inam villages between inamdars, the villagers, the local board and the Government;

(b) for what purposes can *chavdis* be used by Government and local board officers, villagers and inamdars;

(c) who is responsible for the maintenance and repairs of *chavdis*?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Information is being collected.

THE INDO-BRITISH INSTITUTION SITE, BOMBAY.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University) : (1) Has the attention of Government been directed to the advertisement of the Bombay Development Department appearing in the "Times of India" of 18th October 1924 inviting offers for the temporary use and occupation of the Indo-British Institution site ?

(2) Are Government aware that the said site is adjacent to and immediately in front of the premises of the Sydenham College of Commerce and Economics ?

(3) Are Government aware that if the said site is sold or leased to any outside person or body, it will be a source of great inconvenience to the said College ?

(4) Are Government aware that there is a strong public feeling that the said site should not be allowed to pass into the possession of any outside person or body, but should be handed over to the Sydenham College ?

(5) Will Government be pleased to state whether they propose to meet the wishes of the public in this behalf, and, if so, in what manner ?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : (1) and (2) Yes. (3) to (5) Enquiries are being made.

GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY TO CONTROL MALKI PRICE OF SALT.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have got any authority to control the fixing of maliki price of salt by owners ?

(b) If so, have they intervened anywhere in exercise of their authority ?

(c) If the reply is in the negative, do they intend to have such powers by means of a legislative enactment or by any other measures ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) No.

FREE GRAZING.

Mr. M. D. KARKI (Kanara District) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the people have the right or privilege of free grazing in any part of this Presidency ?

(b) If so, the names of the districts or localities where it prevails ?

(c) Whether that right or privilege is a customary one or granted by Government ?

(d) If the latter, what are the reasons which led to such a grant ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Information has been called for.

POLICY AND METHOD OF FODDER RESEARCH.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether their attention has been drawn to some important and useful articles on the policy and methods of fodder research, appearing in the following vernacular and English papers:—

1. "Kesari," dated 23rd October 1923;
2. "Gosewak," Belgaum, dated 24th December 1923;
3. "Swarajya," dated 1st November 1923;
4. "Dnyanprakash," dated 6th December 1923;
5. "Maratha," dated 4th November 1923;
6. "The Bombay Chronicle," dated 27th November 1923;
7. "The Lokamanya," dated 26th March 1924;

(b) whether they have asked the explanation of the Agricultural Department in the matter, and, if so, will they be pleased to place that explanation on the Council table;

(c) whether any steps have been taken by Government in the matter?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Government have not seen the articles in question. But they will be looked into and the suggestions made therein will be duly considered.

SARDARS AND INAMDARS.

*Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars): Will Government be pleased to supply a list of sardars and inamdars with the names of their inam villages—

(a) who have been given powers under section 88 of the Land Revenue Code from 1918 to 1924;

(b) who have been empowered under section 84 of the Watan Act to hold the proceedings as regards watan registers and to make appointments of patels and kulkarnis in their inam villages, stating under what circumstances they have been so empowered;

(c) who have surrendered portions of lands in their inam villages to Government in lieu of the settlement judi payable every year;

* * * * *

(i) who contributed money, lands or recruits during the war?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: (a) The information is contained in the accompanying list A.†

(b) Please see the information contained in the accompanying list B.†

(b), (c) and (i). Replies have already been given to the concluding portion of clause (b) and to clauses (c) and (i) of the question.

AGRICULTURAL REFORM AND RETRENCHMENT.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars): Will Government be pleased to state whether their attention has been

* This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

† Kept in the Secretary's office.

drawn to the various articles that appeared in the "Indian Daily Mail" of the following dates :—

18th December 1923

20th " "

22nd " "

30th " "

on "Bombay Agricultural Department Reform and Retrenchment" ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : No, but the articles will be looked into.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP STUDENTS.

Sardar G. N. MUJUMDAR (Deccan Sardars and Inamdars)
Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many graduates were supported at the Agricultural College, Poona, during the course of their studies by Government scholarships from the year 1910 to 1924 ;

(b) how many of those that have passed out are engaged in private farming in their respective districts ; and

(c) how many are employed in the department under Government service ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI :

| (a) | Year | Number |
|-----|------|--------|
| | 1910 | 10 |
| | 1911 | 15 |
| | 1912 | 8 |
| | 1913 | 8 |
| | 1914 | 15 |
| | 1915 | 13 |
| | 1916 | 13 |
| | 1917 | 15 |
| | 1918 | 12 |
| | 1919 | 15 |
| | 1920 | 15 |
| | 1921 | 15 |
| | 1922 | 15 |
| | 1923 | 15 |
| | 1924 | 15 |

(b) and (c)—

| Year. | Engaged in private farming. | Employed in Agricultural Departments of various Governments and States. |
|-------|-----------------------------|---|
| 1910 | 3 | 20 |
| 1911 | 1 | 12 |
| 1912 | 1 | 12 |
| 1913 | 6 | 5 |
| 1914 | 2 | 12 |
| 1915 | 4 | 8 |

| Year. | Engaged in private farming. | Employed in Agricultural Departments of various Governments and States. |
|-------|-----------------------------|---|
| 1916 | 3 | 8 |
| 1917 | 5 | 10 |
| 1918 | 3 | 7 |
| 1919 | 5 | 12 |
| 1920 | 4 | 20 |
| 1921 | 3 | 14 |
| 1922 | 8 | 14 |
| 1923 | (Not known.) | 13 |
| 1924 | (Not known.) | 14 |

FORCED LABOUR : COMPULSORY COOKING.

* Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals): Will Government be pleased to put on the Council table the correspondence between Mr. Motiram Bhatt, an inhabitant of Diwa of Ankleshwar taluka, and the Collector of Broach regarding the exact on of the services of villagers as cooks by touring officers ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Government regret that they cannot lay the correspondence on the table.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM: May I know the reason for not putting the correspondence on the table?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: It is not the usual practice to place the correspondence between Government officers on the table.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM: May I know whether it is confidential ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. METHA: I would have to inquire about that. I do not think so.

RENTING OF POLICE PARADE GROUND, GODHRA.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Police Parade ground of Godhra in Panch Mahals was given on daily rent to some Circus Companies by the District Superintendent of Police, Panch Mahals ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state for how many days the Parade ground was given on rent to Circus Companies during the last 2 years ? What are the names of the companies and what sum was taken from each and under what head is the sum credited to the Police Account ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Information is being obtained.

GODHRA POLICE BAND.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the services of the Police

* This question was asked at the meeting held in July 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

Band of Godhra are given on payment of fixed fees to any one who wants them ?

(b) If so, what are the fees fixed per day or hour ? Who fixed them ? If the sum of fees is not fixed once for all who is empowered to settle the question of payment ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state the names of the persons or institutions that took the services of the Police Band during the last 2 years and what sum was paid by each ?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state for how many times and for how many hours each time the services of the Police Band of Godhra were taken by or given to the Ghosal Gymkhana during the last 2 years and what sum was paid by the Gymkhana for the Band services ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Information is being obtained.

FUNDS RAISED BY THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE OF
PANCH MAHALS DISTRICT.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the District Superintendent of Police of Panch Mahals District has raised a fund or funds called the Band Fund or the Widow Fund or the Band Fund and Widow Fund ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that Police Sub-Inspectors, Head Constables and ordinary Constables were allowed by the Police Superintendent of Panch Mahals to collect money from the people of all talukas of the district for these funds ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that no printed or signed receipts were given to the donors ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that some Police Constables used threats and official influence at Dohad in the Panch Mahals in collecting money for these funds ?

Will Government be pleased to state in the following tabular form what sum is collected by the Police Department for these funds ?

- (1) Name of officer through whom the sum is collected.
- (2) His designation and pay.
- (3) The place from which the amount is collected.
- (4) What sum collected.
- (5) Whether receipts are given to those who paid money.
- (6) Who signed the receipts.

4-B. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the District Superintendent of Police, Panch Mahals, has kept a detailed account of these funds ?

(b) If accounts are kept, will Government place the account books on the Council Table for perusal ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Information is being obtained.

PLANTATION WORK, PANCH MAHALS.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District) : Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Divisional Forest

Officer, Panch Mahals, is taking signatures of illiterate villagers on agreement drafted by him to the effect that the villagers should do the plantation work in return of the Forest privileges enjoyed by them ?

(a) If so, will they state whether they have authorised him to do so ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Enquiry is being made.

SALE OF TREES TO MR. J. A. KAZI.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Collector of Panch Mahals has given to Mr. Jamaluddin A. Kazi all the trees standing on the land given to him of the Mehelol Talukdar at Kaliana for about 75 rupees ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state whether it has come to their knowledge that Mr. Kazi got that jungle cut and obtained about 1,200 rupees for these trees ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Information has been called for.

POLICE FORCE IN THE PANCH MAHALS.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM (Panch Mahals District) : Will Government be pleased to state in the following tabular form how many Sub-Inspectors, Head Constables and Constables of the police department there are in the Panch Mahals ?

- (1) Name of the Sub-Inspector, Head Constable or Constable ?
- (2) Designation.
- (3) Nationality.
- (4) Name of the place and Taluka where serving.
- (5) Pay.
- (6) For how many years he is in Panch Mahals.
- (7) How many years he has put up in the service.
- (8) From how many months or years he is serving, where he is at present ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Information is being obtained.

PLATFORM AT UMERGAON STATION (B. B. & C. I. RAILWAY).

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South) : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware of the great inconvenience and danger caused to the public for want of a platform at Umergaon station (B. B. & C. I. Railway) ?

(b) whether they are aware that a few months ago a Parsi passenger was crushed under a train on the station whilst alighting from the train because there was no platform ?

(c) whether they are aware of several other similar instances of fatalities due to this defect ?

(d) whether they have received any representation from the public praying for the erection of a suitable platform at Umergaon?

(e) whether they contemplate taking any action in the matter?
 The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Information has been called for.

ACCEPTANCE OF PRESENTS BY HONORARY MAGISTRATES.

Mr. K. F. NARIMAN (Bombay City, South): Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some honorary magistrates receive presents and whether the Government Servants' Conduct Rules apply to them?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Government are not aware of the receipt of presents by honorary magistrates. The Government Servants' Conduct Rules do not apply to such magistrates.

DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR LIQUOR IN THE KAIRA DISTRICT.

Mr. D. N. PATEL (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state who are the members of the district advisory committee for liquor in the Kaira district, and how many times that committee was consulted in the year 1923-24?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: There is no District Advisory Committee in the Kaira District. There are however different committees for each taluka and for the Municipal District of Nadiad. A list* showing the names of the members of each committee is appended. None of the committees was consulted in the year 1923-1924 as no question arose on which their opinion was necessary.

REPORT ON TOBACCO IN KAIRA DISTRICT.

† Mr. D. N. PATEL (Kaira District): Will Government be pleased to state whether Mr. V. M. Mujumdar, who has been deputed to study the local types of tobacco in the Kaira district, has submitted his report thereon; if so, what is the substance of that report?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: The result of Mr. Mujumdar's work will be found summarized in paragraphs 8 and 9 of the report of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Gujarat, appended to the report of the Department of Agriculture for the year 1923-24.

A scientific memoir on the subject will be published as soon as sufficient materials have been gathered.

BHUSAVAL RAILWAY STATION ENTRANCE.

Mr. D. R. PATIL (East Khandesh District): Will Government be pleased to state—

(i) whether it is a fact that there is only one passage for all classes of passengers at the Bhusaval railway station leading to and from the platform?

* Kept in Secretary's office.

† This question was asked at the meeting held in October 1924, when an *ad interim* reply was given.

(ii) whether it is a fact that the passage referred to in (i) causes inconvenience and unnecessary detention to passengers ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Enquiry is being made.

RULES REGARDING TEAK TREES ON MALKI LANDS IN THE
THANA AND KOLABA DISTRICTS.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts) :
Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the rules they have made as regards the teak trees growing in Malki lands in the Thana and Kolaba districts ;

(b) to whom the after-growth belongs ;

(c) whether it is a fact that a promise was given that Government will not lay any claim to the after-growth after the first cutting ;

(d) what share of the price is paid to the owner of the land when the royalty trees such as teak, etc., are cut ?

(e) Will Government be pleased to put on the Council table the various Government Resolutions issued by them with regard to teak trees and their after-growth in the Thana and Kolaba districts since the year 1865 ?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA : Information has been called for.

PROCLAMATION BY COLLECTOR OF KOLABA REGARDING PROCESSIONS.

Mr. G. B. PRADHAN (Thana and Bombay Suburban Districts) :
Are Government aware that a proclamation has been issued by the Collector of Kolaba under the District Police Act which requires people to apply three days in advance for permission before taking out any procession ? Are Government aware that protest meetings have been held condemning the resolution.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Information is being obtained.

EUROPEAN TIMBER GUARD FOR PEINT TALUKA FORESTS.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District) : Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a special European officer has been appointed to guard the timber in the forests in Peint Taluka, Nasik District ? If so, will Government be pleased to give the following particulars :—

- (1) The date of his appointment.
- (2) By whom has he been appointed ?
- (3) His pay.
- (4) His qualifications for the post.
- (5) His previous services.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI : Information has been called for.

DAM ACROSS THE ALANDI RIVER IN NASIK DISTRICT.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District): With reference to my question about building a dam across the Alandi river, in the Nasik district, and the reply given thereto (*vide* Council Debates, Volume XIII, Part I, page 97), will the Honourable the General Member be pleased to state the estimate of expenditure for constructing the dam?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: The estimated cost of construction of an earthen dam is roughly Rs. 62,00,000 and that of a masonry dam is Rs. 1,52,00,000.

SANTA CRUZ WATER SUPPLY.

Mr. PUNJABHAI THAKERSI (Bombay City, North): Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) At what rate water is bought by the Development Department from the Bombay Municipality and at what rate it is supplied to the residents of Santa Cruz?

(b) What the capital outlay is and what Government's contribution in the expenditure for laying pipes is and what is the annual expenditure of the staff engaged for distributing the water supply at this suburban place?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: (a) Water taken in bulk from the Bombay Municipal mains for supply to Salsette is at present paid for at the rate of four annas per thousand gallons. The Bombay Municipality has, however, intimated that a proposal to increase the rate from four annas to five annas per thousand gallons is under the consideration of the Corporation. Water is supplied to consumers at Santa Cruz at Re. 1 per thousand gallons, fractions of that amount being charged for at eight annas per five hundred gallons or fractions thereof.

(b) The capital outlay on the water supply scheme to Santa Cruz and Juhu to end of January 1925 amounts to Rs. 1,74,573 and the work is still in progress. The total estimated amount is Rs. 2,02,499. The whole work has been financed by Government. Only a small portion of the expenditure is to be charged to the Santa Cruz Town Planning Scheme No. 2, the exact amount of which has not yet been settled. The annual expenditure on the maintenance of the system and the establishment engaged therefore amounts to Rs. 23,220 in addition to interest and depreciation charges and losses by leakage.

Mr. PUNJABHAI THAKERSI: As regards the reply to question (a), is Government justified in making 300 per cent. profit in distributing water?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Government are not making any profit over this distribution of water.

Mr. PUNJABHAI THAKERSI: Then when they get water for four annas a gallon, why do they charge one rupee per gallon?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Government have to incur the cost of distribution. Our rates just cover the cost of distribution *plus* the cost for the price paid to the municipality.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS AND NEW PLATFORM AT AHMEDABAD STATION.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): (a) Will Government be pleased to state how many accidents took place in the year 1924 between Ahmedabad railway station yard and the Sarangpur level crossing?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state why the railway authorities commenced to use the new platform before the completion of the overbridge at Ahmedabad railway station?

The Honourable Mr. C. V. MEHTA: Information has been called for.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT FARMS.

Dr. M. B. VELKAR (Bombay City, South): Will Government be pleased to give the following information regarding Farms controlled by the Agriculture Department:—

1. Name of the village.
2. Taluka and district.
3. Farm or sub-farm.
4. Subject of investigation.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: Information has been called for.

PROCEEDINGS OF DIVISIONAL BOARDS OF AGRICULTURE AND DISTRICT LOCAL BOARDS.

Dr. M. B. VELKAR (Bombay City, South): (a) Will Government be pleased to state what steps have been taken by them to give wider publicity to the agenda and proceedings of the divisional boards of agriculture and district local boards in the presidency?

(b) Are they supplied to libraries and newspapers within their respective divisions and districts?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. K. DEHLAVI: The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply to question put by Mr. N. R. Gunjal on 18th March 1925.

MORAL AND RELIGIOUS TEACHING TO CRIMINAL TRIBE SETTLERS.

Dr. M. B. VELKAR (Bombay City, South): Will Government be pleased to give full particulars regarding arrangements made to give moral and religious teaching to the settlers of the criminal tribes?

Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: The information is being obtained.

MOTIONS TO AMEND STANDING ORDERS.

(Further discussion of motions to amend Standing Orders.)

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The question is that Chapter IV, Order 6 as amended by the select committee do stand part of the Standing Orders. There are two amendments to it. The first is from Mr. V. A. Dabholkar.

Mr. V. A. DABHOLKAR : Sir, the select committee have proposed that in Standing Order IV, 6, after the word 'meeting' the words 'during voting of demands of the annual budget' be added. My amendment is :

Add at the end of the words 'except during voting of demands of the annual budget' the words 'when half an hour shall be allowed.'

Mr. President, the reason why I move this amendment is, that if no question time is allowed on the days devoted for voting of demands there will be accumulation of questions on other days. Only to-day, Sir, we had three lists to go through. The first list was received 15 minutes before the meeting and the rest were received after the proceedings began. In fact, even as it is, the time allotted is not enough. If no time is allotted during the days for voting of demands, then there will be accumulation of all these questions for the rest of the days, and we shall have no time to go through many of the questions and answers. Under these circumstances, I trust the Council will allow half an hour to be devoted to questions and answers on the days allotted for the voting of demands for grants.

Question proposed.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The honourable member's proposition is that the time for questions and answers should be limited to half an hour instead of one hour.

Mr. Dev has got another amendment. I think we shall deal with all the amendments together and put them to vote separately.

Mr. P. E. PERCIVAL : Mr. President, I rise to a point of order. The notice of this amendment (Mr. Dev's) was received only three days ago.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I am allowed to condone the delay. In view of the fact that the select committee's report has to be circulated to honourable members long before the commencement of the sessions, that the sessions commenced on the 19th February and that the select committee's report was not circulated till the 26th February, I have condoned the delay in this case. At the same time, I should like to invite the attention of honourable members to the fact that if they keep on unduly delaying the sending in of amendments such consideration may not be shown to them on each occasion.

Mr. S. S. DEV : Sir, my amendment is :

For the words 'except during voting of demands of the annual budget' substitute 'except when the budget is dealt with by the Council under Rule 27'.

Sir, under Rule 27 the budget is dealt with in two stages ; namely, a general discussion for three days, and the voting of demands for grants for 12 days. I will explain why I move this amendment by taking as an illustration the present sessions of the Council. We know what actually happened during this session. During the three days of the general discussion we had two lists of questions and during the twelve days of voting of demands for grants we had four lists. The four lists took 3 hours and the two lists took one hour and a half. If during the

[Mr. S. S. Dev]

general discussion we had not those two lists, then $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours would have been saved. That means, at least four more members would have been able to take part in the general discussion. Similarly during the twelve days of voting of demands for grants, we could have saved 3 hours if we had not any lists of questions and answers. There was one more calamity during those twelve days: during the 12 days of voting of demands we had two motions for adjournment, and those two motions took 6 hours. Add to these six hours, the three hours taken by the questions lists, we lost 9 hours, which means the working hours of full two days. Therefore, during this session instead of 12 days we had only 10 days for the voting of demands for grants. If we had had those two days more, we could certainly have finished the Police, the Jails and the Administration of Justice and entered into the Household of the Governor, but having lost two days we lost much useful debate. So, my submission to the House is that during these fifteen days, we should not have questions lists. I would take an early opportunity to move that there should be also no motion for adjournment during these 15 days unless the calamity is so great that if the motion is not brought the world would be drowned.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The honourable member knows that no adjournment motion can be allowed unless at least 30 or more members are in favour of it. If members refuse to give leave for an adjournment motion, no adjournment motion can be moved.

Mr. S. S. DEV: That is true, Sir: My submission for the present is that these 15 days should be considered assacred. Questions and answers can be taken up on other days; during these 15 days there should no questions asked and replies given.

Question proposed.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: In order to remove any possibility of misunderstanding I will explain to the House what the amendments are. There are three issues before the House. The first issue is that there should be no time allowed for questions during the twelve days allotted for voting of demands for grants. The second issue is that the one hour now allotted should be reduced to half an hour. And the third is that no question time should be allowed not only during the 12 days of voting of demands for grants, but during the whole of the 15 days of the budget discussion. These are the three issues before the House.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Mr. President, I should like to explain our position with regard to the original amendment as proposed by the select committee. We thought, speaking for the official side, that it was a matter to be left entirely to the non-official benches, and the majority, I think, of the members of the select committee agreed to this rule. But I do, of course, recognise that there is something in the proposal to restrict the questions only to half an hour, because there are a great many questions and it would not be convenient to push them all to the end of the session, and I think it is for the honourable members to consider their own convenience whether it would not be

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

sufficient to reduce the question time during the budget to half an hour instead of an hour, so that we could get through the questions and not put them all together in a block at the end. I suppose the result would be that a good many of them which may be ready for answer would not be answered because there would not be time.

With regard to the suggestion of the honourable member for West Khandesh to extend the rule even to the general discussion of the budget, that again, Sir, is entirely a matter for the members of the House to decide. It does not seem to me to make much difference whether the rule applies to the twelve days for demands or to the three days of the general budget discussion also in addition, fifteen days in all. But I think the important question is whether honourable members are going to deprive themselves of the privilege of asking any questions at all during these days. I am inclined to think it would be advisable to allow some time at least—half an hour every day or something like that. I think it would be unwise to leave the questions altogether till the end of the session.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD (Central Division) : Are we to speak on the motion or on the amendments ?

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I will allow discussion on the motion as well as the amendments to save the time of the Council.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD : Mr. President, I am inclined to think that at least half an hour may be given to us for the disposal of these questions, because some of the questions happen to be urgent and very important, and if all are put together or several grouped together, as they were to-day, it is very inconvenient to ask supplementary questions. Therefore, I support the amendment of my honourable friend behind me.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North) : Sir, the amendment suggested by the honourable the nominated member from Bombay (Mr. Dabholkar) should not, I think, be accepted. The reason is that the budget is a very important item and at that time loss of time would be unpardonable. The second thing I should like to point out is that looking at the meagre size that our present answers to questions are assuming, I think there has hardly been any time, except to-day, when more than one hour was ever required. As a matter of fact, it is common experience now-a-days that we go through our questions and answers sometimes in less than half an hour. If that is the present state of affairs, I really do not see any reason why we should deprive ourselves of the very valuable privilege of discussing the budget grants. If we accept the suggestion of the honourable member, we are practically losing our right (of discussing the grants) and the present circumstances do not call for that thing. On this ground I oppose the amendment that is suggested.

As to the other thing, the second amendment proposed by the honourable member Mr. Dev, it is very valuable. But I think the time at our disposal for general discussion of the budget is only three days and it seldom occurs that we have more than one or two question lists in a week. Therefore, even if on one of those three days we lose about half an hour

[Mr. A. N. Surve]

or an hour—that is the only time that we can lose—I do not think much loss will take place. For these reasons, I think both the amendments should be rejected.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Mr. President, I do not quite understand the honourable mover's position. I think he said that both the amendments should be rejected. That would mean that the rule as presented by the select committee should be passed. That would mean allowing the full hour for questions on the general budget discussion days and no questions at all on the demands for grants days. Well, Sir, as I said before, it is really a question for honourable members to decide for themselves, but I think twelve days or a fortnight is rather a long period for honourable members to deprive themselves altogether of the right of asking questions at all. If the replies to questions are so meagre as my honourable friend thinks, that means not very much time will be wasted under the present rules. I should have thought that it would be more to the interest of honourable members to reserve at least half an hour for questions every day, and I can only say that it must be left to them to consider whether it would be wise to deprive themselves of the whole of their right. I should suggest, therefore, their voting for the amendment of half an hour, if they like, half an hour for the whole budget discussion including the general discussion. As the motion is, they can only vote for half an hour on the demands for grants days, and if they want half an hour also on the general budget discussion days, they can do that by a subsequent amendment of the Standing Order.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I will put the honourable member Mr. Dev's amendment first.

Question put:

That the words "except when the budget is dealt with by the Council under Rule 27" be substituted for the words "except during voting of demands of the annual budget".

House divided (by honourable members rising in their seats), 25 for the Ayes; 34 for the Noes. Motion lost.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I will now put Mr. Dabholkar's amendment to the vote which is to the effect that instead of one hour half an hour be allowed during the voting of demands on the annual budget. It is before the House.

Question put. House divided (by honourable members rising in their seats). Ayes 30; Noes 25. Amendment carried.

Chapter IV, Order 6, as amended, ordered to stand part of the Standing Orders.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): Sir, I beg to move:

"S. O. 7 (3) Omit the words 'and of a Bill with its statement of Objects and Reasons published under rule 18'."

"S. O. 7 (ii) Omit from clause (ii) the word 'not' before 'be sent' and omit 'until leave to introduce the Bill has been obtained'."

My object in moving this amendment is to enable all members to have copies of a bill which is to be introduced in the House. Speaking generally, the honourable members get copies of almost all the papers placed

[Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar]

before the House for discussion and decision. It is only the bills that are to be introduced which are not circulated among members. It is absolutely necessary that the members should have copies of such bills : otherwise, it is sure to happen as it happened yesterday when the members had to vote on the motions for introducing the bills, namely, to vote upon them one way or the other without knowing as to what they related. I want all the members to read the bills first and then to vote upon them. The Government may raise the objection on the score of additional expenditure for providing the members with copies of the bills. But I think that the expenditure will be quite inappreciable, considering the return of intelligent voting on the part of honourable members. I, therefore, hope the House will accept my amendment.

Mr. P. E. PERCIVAL : Mr. President, the first part of the amendment is to omit the words "and of a bill with its statement of objects and reasons published under Rule 18". But Rule 18 refers to Government bills, while the honourable member, I believe, refers to private bills. The wording of that rule refers to Government bills which are published and for which leave to introduce is not asked. I think that the first part of the amendment has been moved under a misapprehension and in any case is not necessary. As regards private bills, assuming that the amendment refers to private bills, we take objection on the ground that it is unnecessary to give the additional work both to the Council Secretary's office and the Press. The practice is that we send round copies of bills after leave has been granted to introduce them. It was only yesterday that a bill was not proceeded with though a motion for leave to introduce it had been received. In regard to that bill the Council office and the Press would have had additional amount of work when there was no need for it at all. As a matter of fact leave to introduce a bill is a preliminary stage, and nobody will object to the grant of such leave unless there are members who take a particular interest in the bill, and who will have studied the subject beforehand. It may perhaps be suggested that it is not very much work to the Legislative Council office ; but I submit there is absolutely no reason for taking that trouble. I should like to draw the attention of the House to a bill of which notice for leave to introduce was given by the honourable member Mr. Rahimtoola. I will not go into the details, but I wish to point out—I think the honourable member will have no objection—that that bill consists of 118 clauses covering over 70 pages. It is in connection with the City Improvement Trust. That bill has not come up in the Council because the sanction of the Government of India has not been obtained. Consequently there is no advantage in printing it now. In such a case, it is no good giving trouble to the Press which is already hard worked. Suppose that the honourable member is able to get the sanction of the Government of India and decides to proceed with the bill, what is the effect ? The effect is that he obtains leave to introduce the bill in July and the bill will actually come up before this Council for real consideration, that is the first reading in October. Now I ask the Council what is the good of printing and sending out the bill in February, when it is not going to come on for

[Mr. P. E. Percival]

real consideration till next October. It would absolutely be disadvantageous to the Council. It would be much better that we should wait till July, and then, if leave to introduce is granted, it will be printed and circulated to honourable members. I submit this is really a matter of convenience, and it will be trouble and expense to the Government and particularly to the Press, and it will really be no advantage to honourable members.

There is one other point, and that is that all these amendments, which are being brought in by the honourable member for Poona, were placed before the select committee, a committee consisting of a majority of non-officials and they were not accepted. The proposals which he is bringing forward now are proposals which have been rejected by the select committee and there is no sufficient reason for accepting the amendments.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA (Bombay City, North): Sir, this is a matter that was considered in committee, and the argument that appealed to me decisively was that leave to introduce a bill should as a matter of convention be invariably allowed. It should not be objected to, and be treated as a mere matter of formality; of course, after leave is granted there is no doubt that the bill would be published and circulated. I am very anxious that we should establish that convention. Such a convention is preferable to imperfect discussion on merits. For this reason, I think it would be wise for us not to insist upon publication. Otherwise, we shall lose the advantage of a convention. It is usual, I understand, even in the House of Commons, to allow the introduction of bills without opposition. I therefore recommend to the Council to adopt what the committee have recommended. We shall then have a valuable convention regarding the introduction of bills and reduce the case to a matter of form.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City): Sir, the Government members did not put before this House one aspect of the question, and that is that, under the present circumstances, a private member is placed under a disability, for the reason that unless a bill is previously published, at least seven days before it is brought before the House, the first reading of the bill cannot be asked for in the House. Therefore, if my honourable friend from Poona's amendment is carried, private member's bills will be placed on the same footing as Government bills, and I think that that is very desirable. Supposing notice is given for leave to introduce a bill, then it will be published more than seven days before the session of the Council begins, as members usually give long notices, and the private member, therefore, will be in a position not only to ask for leave to introduce the bill, but if the leave is granted, he will also be in a position to ask for the first reading at the same time. I think, Sir, that is an advantage which this side of the House would be very desirous of gaining; and it is very necessary.

As for the cost of printing, it is not a very material thing, considering the fact that the Government is printing large quantities of documents,

[Mr. D. B. Adwani]

I think the cost will be more than made up by the convenience that the private members will get in introducing bills.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University): Sir, I rise to support the amendment moved by the honourable member from Poona. I have only to appeal to the experience of this House yesterday. I am sure that the experience of my honourable friends has been very much like my own. In the course of yesterday member after member got up to ask for leave to introduce one bill after another, but we were allowed to remain, all the while, in complete ignorance of what the bills were about. While we were asked to give leave for the introduction of certain bills, several of us were in this position that we had not even the text of the bill before us. Is that a satisfactory position for any self-respecting body of men to occupy. It is a ridiculous position, that we are solemnly asked to give leave for the introduction of a bill, while during the whole time that the honourable mover is making his motion, we have not the bill before us, and know nothing about the matter. I felt more than I did before that there ought to be some provision in our rules under which either the member who moves the bill of his own motion and at his own cost or the Government at their cost would lay before us the text of the bill, for the introduction of which we are asked to give leave. The amendment proposed secures this object. My honourable friend Mr. Baptista says that if there is a convention established in this House that leave to introduce bills would be given as a matter of course, then the difficulty will not arise to the same extent to which it is felt now. But is that so? Take the case of the honourable member Mr. Bhopatkar's bill to amend the District Municipal Act. It was fought by members, including the Government members, tooth and nail. The honourable member opposite, the Minister for Local Self-Government expended a lot of energy and argument in opposing the provisions of that bill.

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: That was the first reading of the bill.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: I am thankful for the correction to my honourable friend. I can however imagine several bills of that kind, and I do not think that we have yet established a convention in this House that all bills, whatever their controversial nature, would be allowed to be introduced in this House without opposition. Take the bill of the honourable member Mr. Addyman, to amend the Rent Act; last July we refused leave for the introduction of the bill. What happened to the convention in that case? It was a very important bill, a bill which wanted to secure exemption from increase of rent, and if there was any bill during the last session which was of a most controversial nature and as such should have been allowed to be introduced, it was that bill, but it was opposed and leave was not given. Surely, the House does not want to maintain that the text of such a bill need not be before them. I say, therefore, that until that convention is established, and until the Government benches give us a solemn assurance, in this behalf, because

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

after all, they generally oppose the introduction of these private bills.

Government MEMBERS: No, no.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: Generally they do; I say that with my experience of this House. It is generally they that do it, and it is to their interest

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: No.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR: ...because a private bill often encroaches upon their close preserves. I am glad to have an assurance that it is not so, and I will accept it. If it is going to be understood in this House that all private bills will enjoy the courtesy of leave as a matter of course, under an unwritten law or convention, then of course it is not necessary to put Government to the expense of printing these bills at that stage. But if that convention is not going to be established, I certainly think that honourable members ought to have before them, some time before the bill is moved, the text of the bill, so that we shall not be perpetrating the farce of saying 'yes' to the introduction of a bill, of the provisions of which we know nothing at that stage.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Sir, I am in full sympathy with the reasons which led to the speech of my honourable friend opposite. I quite agree that we ought to know what we are voting about; it is inconvenient not to do so. But I should like to point out that that has been taken into consideration by the select committee, and we have provided in the amendment of Chapter VIII, Order 1, for the proper explanation of the bill which any honourable member seeks leave to introduce. At present the rule does not recognise, at all events as fully as the select committee thought it ought to, that the member introducing a bill should have the right to explain it. It rather assumed that he should not talk about it at all, that some one should get up and say "I object" and then he might say a few words about it. The amendment of that rule, I think, will get rid of that difficulty, because it will enable you, Sir, to permit any honourable member moving to introduce a private bill, to give a sufficiently full account of the nature and scope of the bill.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: As a matter of fact, I am allowing that procedure even without the amendment of the Standing Order. The honourable member knows that.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I do, Sir. I believe, Sir, it is your desire that it should be plain in the Standing Orders that your excellent practice was not only good sense, but was the rule approved by this House. I submit, Sir, that if this amendment to Chapter VIII, Rule 1 of the Standing Orders is approved—I hope it will be—that there won't really be any practical difficulty in the matter. It will rest with the honourable member who wants to get leave to introduce the bill, to explain it briefly and in ordinary language which we can all understand, and then I trust, Sir,

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

that the convention will be established of giving permission to introduce any bill which is not on the very face of it an unreasonable and impossible measure. It is the practice of this side of the House not to object to the mere introduction. We recognise that it is due to honourable members to be permitted to introduce any bill which is *prima facie* not absolutely unreasonable, to introduce it and to put it before the House and let the House vote on it and decide whether they want it or not. At this session introduction of no bill was opposed from this side. There was opposition to one bill which came from the members on the other side. There was no opposition raised from our side. Two honourable members got up merely to explain that it should not be understood by reason of their not having opposed at that stage that later on they might not be obliged to oppose the bill. But we did not raise any opposition in the first instance. That, Sir, is our practice, and I hope it will, in time to come, become the convention not only of this side of the House but of the whole House. I do not think, Sir, that this method of introducing a bill, of giving leave to introduce a bill after a brief explanation of the scope of the measure ought in any way to be considered as a thing which no self-respecting House ought to allow; because I may mention that this is the practice adopted in another place which I do not think can be accused of not being self-respecting. In fact they go rather further than this that after the leave has been given to introduce the bill the honourable member introducing it commits what, but for the convention, would be a fraud on the House by saying "I introduce the bill" and presenting no bill at all but a bit of blank paper. That is the convention, Sir, in the House of Commons. Leave to introduce is regarded as a purely formal matter and when the mover has the formal permission of the House to introduce the bill, he presents to the Clerk at the table a bit of blank paper and says "I hereby introduce the bill". I think therefore there is no real reason why we should support the amendment of my honourable friend from Poona and why we should not accept the decision which was arrived at upon full consideration by the select committee. That, Sir, is dealing with really the second part of his proposal, the proposal with regard to private bills.

With regard to the first part of the proposal, namely, to leave out the words relating to Government bills, I think he was under some misapprehension as also were members of the select committee. We looked into it however and with your assistance, Sir, we came to the conclusion that the first part relates really to Government bills and that it was unnecessary to cut out those words and that it was not necessary to send round a copy to each member. The reason for that is that under rule 18 all Government bills are introduced by publication in the *Government Gazette* and when they are published in the *Government Gazette* a copy of the publication is always sent round to all honourable members because all members ought to have a copy before them before the bill is read for the first time. Therefore there is no reason for accepting the amendment proposed by my honourable friend with regard to Government bills. I submit, Sir, therefore that we should be well advised to accept the

19 MAR. 1925]

Motions to amend Standing Orders

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

opinion of the select committee and make no particular rules.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): Sir, in inadvertence that I proposed the first part of my amendment I therefore beg leave to withdraw it.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Has the honourable leave of the House to withdraw the first part of his amendment?

Question put and leave granted.

First part of the amendment by leave withdrawn.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR: Sir, with regard to the second part of the amendment I think that until the convention to grant leave for the introduction of a bill is established my amendment becomes absolutely necessary. The House remembers that in the last session my bill regarding the municipal Act was allowed to be introduced by 43 votes as against 41 votes. I may as well refer to the bill that was introduced, yesterday, by the honourable member for Nasik, and the fact was that the official benches did actually vote against it. It means that leave to introduce a bill is not considered by the government as merely a formal matter. Thus till the convention to grant leave to introduce a bill is firmly established it is absolutely necessary to incorporate my amendment in the Standing Order concerned.

The second objection raised is that Government will be put to much expenditure in circulating the bill among the members, and a reference was made to the bill put down on the agenda-paper for introduction by the honourable member, Mr. Hoosenally Rahimtoola. But it is only an exceptional case. If we look to the ordinary bills the expenditure on circulation thereof will be very small.

Then a reference is made to Standing Order VIII, 1, (1) and it is said that now according to the amended Standing Order the honourable member in charge of a bill will be allowed to make an explanatory statement, thus enabling the members to grasp the object and purport of the bill. In this behalf I submit, Sir, that there are certain bills, as for instance the bill that I introduced yesterday, namely, the bill to amend the Town Planning Act, which are of a highly technical nature, and considering the time that is generally allowed for a brief explanation of the bill, it is well-nigh impossible to give the honourable members even a rough idea of the real nature of the bill. So, even though a brief explanation is allowed under the amended Standing Orders, that will not serve the purpose. Taking all things into consideration, I maintain that it is desirable in the interests of new legislation that the honourable members, before they grant the leave to introduce a bill, should have a copy of it supplied to them.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North): Sir, I oppose the amendment proposed. We must differentiate between Government bills and private bills. In the case of Government bills they come up direct for first reading in the House. In the case of private bills, there is the preliminary stage and at that stage what has really to be decided is whether

or withheld. We are now going to establish a matter of course leave should be given to all private going to establish that convention, and if we accept the proposed, then there will be a conflict, because a member who statement of objects and reasons and the text of the bill may the conclusion that it is not advisable to give leave. Therefore to avoid this defeat of the convention which we are going to lay down, I think it is advisable not to accept this amendment.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I do not desire to add anything, Sir.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The question is that from Standing Order IV, 7 (3) (ii), omit the word 'not' before 'be sent' and omit 'until leave to introduce the bill has been obtained'. In order that honourable members may clearly appreciate what the amendment is, I will read that part of the Standing Order as it stands at present and as it will read when amended. As it stands it reads:

"(ii) that where notice of a motion for leave to introduce a bill is received, a copy of the bill shall not be sent to each Member until leave to introduce the bill has been obtained."

If the amendment is accepted, the Standing Order will read as follows:

"(ii) that where notice of a motion for leave to introduce a bill is received, a copy of the bill shall be sent to each member."

Question put: House divided (by honourable members rising in their seats). Ayes 22; Noes 32: Amendment lost.

Mr. L. B. BHOPATKAR (Poona City): Sir, I beg to move:

In Chapter VI, standing order 10, of the Standing Orders, substitute the words 'may be taken as notice and shall be answered without further notice at a subsequent meeting of the Council' for the words 'may be put only in the form of a fresh question at a subsequent meeting of the Council.'

Sir, when supplementary questions are put in regard to some main questions, many important matters which are likely to see the light of day, are shut out by the Member or Minister concerned on the plea of notice; and thus oftentimes it becomes very important to have on record the answers to such supplementary questions. It is with a view to obtain information on matters embodied in supplementary questions, and with a view to make it obligatory upon the Government to supply it without the necessity of the member putting fresh questions at a subsequent meeting of the Council, that the amendment has been proposed. It is a very simple amendment, and the object thereof is to convert as it were supplementary questions into fresh questions. This is of very great importance from the point of view of the necessity of putting the public in possession of the necessary information. Many a time, Sir, we find that the matters which come up during the course of the supplementary questions escape the attention of the members concerned; yet I take it to be the duty of the Government to treat such questions as fresh ones and to supply the public with the information thereon. It is from this point of view that I have proposed the amendment, and I hope and trust that the House will accept it.

19 MAR. 1925]

Motions to amend Standing

Mr. P. E. PERCIVAL: Mr. President, I accept this amendment. In this case also, a of the select committee rejected the proposal^s various objections to this proposal. The^d Sir, concerns yourself. It is part of your duty, and decide whether they are in order and whether^c worded and so forth. Well, this proposal which is put before the if accepted, will deprive you of the time that is necessary for scrutinising them. I do not think that without your further scrutiny such questions should be allowed to be admitted.....

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: Is this correct, Sir? When the question is asked, you are on the watch, and you can decide whether it is proper or not. If a supplementary question is not relevant, it will not be allowed.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Will the honourable member point out where the President gets the time for consideration between a supplementary question and an immediate answer to it?

Mr. P. G. JOSHI: Sir, we have had occasions to see that supplementary questions which are considered irrelevant are ruled out.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Yes, if the president gets a little time to do so.

Mr. P. E. PERCIVAL: I might mention, Sir, that the President, as the chairman of the select committee, was in a position to explain the position to the select committee. He is not in the same position to-day, and therefore I think it is only right that his position should be explained by me in this respect. As the Honourable the President has stated there is no time to scrutinise while supplementary questions are being delivered with rapidity. Honourable Members and Ministers are bombarded with questions sometimes from one side, sometimes from another side, without the time for members to ask them correctly or the Honourable the President to check them. I may say that there is no Council or Assembly where there is a rule of this character that when a supplementary question is once put, it should be accepted as notice for a subsequent question.

Another point I would raise is that it is also directly contradictory to another Standing Order. For instance, Standing Order IV, 7 (1), which lays down:

“Every notice required by the Rules or Standing Orders shall be given in writing addressed to the Secretary and shall be left at the Council Office which shall be open for this purpose between the hours of 11 and 5 o'clock” and so forth.

So it is not only contrary to the principle that questions should be examined by the President, but it is directly contradictory to another Standing Order. There is no proposal at present to amend the Standing Order which I have just read, so that we should have two contradictory Standing Orders on the record. These are the main reasons for opposing the amendment proposed. I suggest it would be quite impossible to accept questions which have been made on the spur of the moment and are not really intended to be regular questions. All that the honourable member

question and send it to the Secretary's office.
 Council Secretary deals with the question.

Ahmedabad District): Mr. President, the
 which has been made much of by the honour-
 mbrancer of Legal Affairs applies also to supple-
 mentary questions, and, therefore, if supplementary questions are
 allowed without notice, then necessarily the questions for which the
 honourable member in charge requires notice should also be allowed
 without any fresh notice as it is also a supplementary notice.

Mr. J. BAPTISTA (Bombay City, North): Mr. President, the reason
 why the procedure recommended by the proposed amendment appealed
 to me originally was that we should be able to circumvent these rules
 and Standing Orders which required every question to be scrutinised,
 before they are allowed. They act as obstacles, and do not really
 give us full liberty to elicit information. That was really what recom-
 mended this procedure to me, but on subsequent consideration I felt that
 I must not circumvent the rules indirectly: I should get rid of the rules
 and Standing Orders directly. I therefore cannot vote for the amend-
 ment. Personally I cannot see why a person who wants to ask a supple-
 mentary question cannot do so immediately in writing. Another difficulty
 that arises is that if questions are asked on the spur of the moment the
 reporter may not take it down correctly. There is frequently a great
 difference between a question as put and the question as taken down—
 afterwards "Yes" appears as "No" and "No" appears for
 "Yes". I have often seen that happening even with the best of
 the reporters that we get here. Therefore, I think the recommendation
 of the select committee ought to be accepted.

Mr. A. N. SURVE: I have nothing to add. I can only say that we
 have considered the clause very carefully.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I have nothing to
 add, Sir.

Question put.

Substitute 'may be taken as notice and shall be answered without further notice at
 a subsequent meeting of the Council' for 'may be put only in the form of a fresh question
 at a subsequent meeting of the Council' in Standing Order 10 of Chapter VI,
 and lost.

(After recess.)

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: The question is that Chapter
 VIII, Order 1, as amended by the select committee stand part of the
 Standing Orders.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): Mr. President, my amend-
 ment is:

That in Chapter VIII, Order 1, Sub-rule 1, as recommended by the select com-
 mittee, omit all the words from 'thereon' onwards and substitute the following:

"and shall request those members who support the motion to rise in their places
 and if not less than 20 members rise accordingly, the President shall intimate that leave
 to introduce the Bill is granted, whereupon the member who gave notice of the motion
 shall forthwith introduce the Bill."

[Mr. S. S. Dev]

I believe that the ground for moving this amendment has been prepared by the discussion we have so far heard from the opposite benches. The opposite benches want to convey that a convention is being formed. I submit that here is the first step towards that convention. If 20 members rise in their places to say that leave to introduce a bill should be granted, it should as a matter of course be granted without any more formality. Therefore, if Government benches are serious in having such a convention, leave to introduce a bill should be merely a matter of form and it should be granted for the mere asking. If any such convention is in its formation, let us help the formation to-day by accepting this amendment that I have put : As soon as leave is asked for, the President should call upon those members who support the motion to rise in their places and if not less than 20 rise in their places, leave should be granted. I hope, the Honourable the Home Member will be pleased to accept this amendment, in view of the assurances that he has so far held out of a convention being formed regarding leave to introduce a bill.

Question proposed.

Mr. P. E. PERCIVAL : Mr. President, it seems to me that the argument used by my honourable friend from West Khandesh that the previous discussion was a reason in favour of his proposal is incorrect. It was rather the reverse. That is to say, Government have adopted the convention that they will not usually oppose leave to introduce a bill.

It is not merely a question of convenience, but it is contrary to the Government of India Act. Of course I admit in regard to motions for adjournments there is the provision that if a certain number of members stand up, other conditions being satisfactory, the motion is allowed. But this is a case of legislation. It is laid down in the Government of India Act, section 72B (4) :

" All questions in a governor's legislative council shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present other than the person presiding, who shall, however, have and exercise a casting vote in the case of an equality of votes."

Thus first of all it is doubtful whether an amendment of this sort is legal. This amendment deals with legislation and it is contrary to the Government of India Act which lays down that such questions ought to be decided by a majority of votes. This matter was placed before the select committee, and it is one of the reasons which influenced the select committee in not accepting an amendment of this character.

Another point is that it is proposed that only 20 members should stand up. That the consent of such a small number in a House of over 100 members should be considered sufficient for the consideration of a bill is not in my opinion a sound proposal to make. The honourable member Mr. Bhopatkar has in his amendment proposed 30 members. But we have now the suggestion that the consent of 20 members should be sufficient for the consideration of a bill.

Another point is that this proposal is entirely at variance with the procedure obtaining in other legislative councils in India. With regard to motion for adjournment, we follow the procedure in the Legislative

[Mr. P. E. Percival]

Assembly and the Council of State. But as regards motion for leave to introduce a bill, there is no provision of this character in any of the legislative councils in India, and certainly not in the Legislative Assembly or the Council of State. The provisions in the rules of the Legislative Assembly and the Council of State are exactly the same as those which have been accepted by the select committee here. We should not depart from this procedure unless there is strong reason to do so. There is no strong reason in this case. There is no hardship in the present procedure and therefore the amendment should not be allowed.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD (Central Division) : Sir, I confess that I have not been convinced by the arguments advanced by the honourable mover of the amendment. I consider this amendment a retrograde one, because it introduces a new principle that 20 members should stand up in their seats and support the mover of the bill. The official benches promise that they will not ordinarily oppose the motion for leave to introduce a bill. In the best interests of the mover himself, it is a very valuable concession to have the support of the Government. I do not think that the Government can go back on the assurance they have given. The matter should be left where it is and the amendment should be withdrawn.

Mr. A. N. SURVE : I have nothing to add.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, I should like personally to recapitulate the objections to this rule. As a rule upon its merits, it will be wrong to permit 20 members to insist on having a bill introduced, while the other 91 members do not want it. It seems to me that the ordinary rule should be that it ought to be decided by the majority. Apart from that, there is this convention that ordinarily motions for leave to introduce bills are not opposed. Then again it is doubtful whether such a rule will be *intra vires*. It seems to me that a similar rule which applies to adjournment motions is entirely different from the rules governing legislation. The rule for the purpose of adjournment motion is simply for the purpose of procedure as to whether the House shall rise to consider a particular resolution, which is in no sense binding on the executive government. Even if passed, it is a resolution to which great weight will be given but it is not a law binding on the executive government. Legislation is absolutely different, because a law passed is absolutely binding on the executive government and this House. The rule with regard to legislation is that it shall be decided by a majority. To move for leave to introduce a bill is the first step in legislation, although it is a formal step. As such, I think on the merits it should be done only with the consent of the majority of the members of the House.

I think, Sir, even if it be passed, it will be your duty to hold that it is *ultra vires*. There is a distinct provision in the Government of India Act, which has been pointed out by the Secretary to the Legal Department, that in all these matters the decision shall be by the majority. It seems to me that if this rule is passed, it will be directly contrary to

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

the provisions in 72B (4) of the Government of India Act. Therefore it should be rejected.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District) : Sir, although I am not convinced by the arguments advanced against my amendment, I am glad that an assurance has been given that a convention is inaugurated. In view of this assurance I beg leave of the House to withdraw the amendment.

Question put and leave granted.

Chapter VIII, order 1 of the Standing Orders ordered to stand part of the Standing Orders.

Chapter X, 5 (2) "If the member when called on is absent, any other member authorised by him in writing in this behalf may, with the permission of the President, move the resolution standing in his name. But if no member has been so authorised, or such permission is not granted, the resolution shall be deemed to have been withdrawn."

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The question is that chapter X, Order 5 (2) as amended by the select committee do stand part of the Standing Orders.

Mr. S. S. DEV : I have got an amendment to that.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Let the honourable member move it.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District) : Sir, the recommendation of the select committee is before the House. In its stead I submit that my amendment may be allowed. My amendment is :

"Substitute the following for the recommendation of the Select Committee :

'If the member when called on is absent, the resolution standing in his name shall be considered to have been withdrawn; provided that the President, in his discretion, may allow another member to move such resolution or may postpone it.'

I may bring to the notice of this House that the only change that I seek to make is that no permission or no authority in writing from the member in whose name any resolution stands should be required. The select committee provides that the member should authorise in writing any other member to move it. I omit that clause in my amendment, and for this reason : I can contemplate a case when a member may be suddenly called away and he may have no time to see any of his friends, and his resolution may be coming up for discussion the next day. In such a case, his resolution would not be moved. The amendment which I have put before the House is not altogether a new amendment; it is copied word for word from the Standing Orders of the Bengal Legislative Council. The Madras Legislative Council has a similar Standing Order. I am told that Central Provinces have a similar provision. So, all these provinces, Bengal, Madras and even the backward province of the Central Provinces have already a Standing Order on the lines of my amendment, and therefore I have reason to think that the Bombay Government will not oppose my amendment. It should not be necessary for a member to give in writing as to who should move his resolution. There is the discretion given to the President. The President is there, and he, in his discretion, may or may not allow anybody else to move it. Therefore, I submit that on this point at any rate Government benches should have no reason to object. This is an amendment which does not deprive

[Mr. S. S. Dev]

Government of any of their rights. The resolution is there and it cannot affect the Government in the least whether A moves it, or, in his absence, B moves it. We don't hope to succeed to-day unless we feel the pulse of the Government. Therefore, I appeal to Government benches to accept my amendment. They cannot really have any objection to the amendment.

Mr. P. E. PERCIVAL: Sir, I am afraid I have not looked up the Standing Orders of Bengal or Madras on this point; I assume that the honourable member is correct in his statement regarding them. However, an amendment in the existing Standing Order has been made by the select committee, and that is what is proposed at present. What has been introduced by the select committee is word for word the same as the provision in the Legislative Assembly. The Standing Orders of the Assembly were made under the guidance of Sir Frederick Whyte, a Member of Parliament, and they are generally followed by the local Councils. The provision is also in accordance with our practice in regard to questions, that is to say, if an honourable member is not authorised in writing, he cannot ask questions on behalf of another member.

Now, what I would like to draw attention to is this, that according to the honourable member's proposal there is to be no authorisation at all. Supposing the honourable member who is absent does not want his resolution to be moved at all, why should it be moved without his knowledge or permission? Now all he has to do is to give it in writing that he desires Mr. so and so to move his resolution for him. Surely, that is not very much of a grievance. As a matter of fact, the amendment that has been made by the select committee is a concession which has been granted and made at the suggestion of non-official members of the select committee. I will just read it out again. It is:

"If the member when called on is absent, any other member authorised by him in writing in this behalf may, with the permission of the President, move the resolution standing in his name. * * *"

I submit that is a very fair and moderate proposal, and there is no reason to change it.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD (Central Division): Sir, in this matter, I am supporting the honourable member Mr. Dev, because, after all, it is a very small matter. The Honourable the Remembrancer of Legal Affairs says that, if the member who has given notice of a resolution does not want to move it, why should any other person be allowed to move it? But, Sir, resolutions become the property of the Council. As a matter of fact, some resolutions may be urgent and very important, on public grounds; why should they not be moved by some one else? Moreover if the President, in his discretion, thinks that the matter is of public importance and allows somebody else to move it, I do not think it is right that the Government should oppose the amendment. I therefore request that my honourable friend's amendment should be accepted.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University): Sir, I am rather surprised at the opposition of Government to this amendment. In fact,

[Mr. M. R. Jayakar]

yesterday when this House was considering the amendment of the standing orders permitting a member to move any resolutions standing in his name irrespective of the order in which it appeared on the agenda, I remember the Honourable the Remembrancer of Legal Affairs argued against the amendment saying " A member has to walk out of the Council and somebody else can move the resolution ", and on that ground he appealed to the House that my amendment should be disallowed. Now, when we come to this amendment, providing for the identical point he is raising objections, I submit that the matter is very small, and that Government may as well yield on this point.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Sir, I agree that it is not of very great importance, but this is a rule which was proposed after due consideration by the select committee, and follows the rules in the Legislative Assembly. I think there is some objection to leaving it entirely vague as to whether one member has a right to move another member's resolution or not. It might lead to disputes. Supposing two or three members want to move it, what is the President to do? It puts him in rather an awkward position to decide which of those three should move it in default of some written authority from the owner of the resolution. I do not think it becomes the property of the House until the owner presents it to the House. Till then it is private property. If the member who is absent does not select the person to move his resolution, it might be moved by some one who did not like it, and he might move it merely to make fun of it. It would be much better to leave him to decide whether he wants the resolution to be moved or not. Surely, a little piece of paper with his signature, even if he is suddenly indisposed would not be very difficult, and it would be following the same procedure as is adopted in the case of questions. If a member wants his questions asked by some one else, then he gives notice, I believe, to the Secretary; he gives it in writing that he wants some one else to ask his questions for him. I think it would be more in accordance with our rules if we had a similar rule with regard to motions. If a member wants his motion to be moved by some one else, he should give notice to the Secretary and say that he authorises so and so to move it for him. I think, Sir, on the whole, the House would be better advised to accept the rule as proposed by the select committee.

Mr. S. S. DEV (West Khandesh District): I make the same request in return and emphasise the fact that Bengal, Madras and even the Central Provinces are ahead of us in this respect.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North): Sir, I think the amendment is unnecessary. There is ample provision made in the amendment of Order 5 (2) of Chapter X made by the select committee. I think it really is giving a concession which would achieve the object in view. Therefore, I oppose the amendment.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: I have nothing to add, Sir.

Question put and lost.

Question put that Standing Order 5 (2) of Chapter X do stand part of the Standing Orders and carried.

Question proposed that Standing Order 12 (1) Chapter X do stand part of the Standing Orders.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Mr. President, I merely oppose a part of it. This is one of the amendments proposed by the select committee with which I have unfortunately found myself not in entire agreement. There are two parts of it. The first part is to renumber our present rule 12 as rule 12 (1). That of course I agree to. I have no objection to that. Then the second part is to add a second clause to be numbered (2). It is printed here in italics, and I have no objection to that part either. But there is a third amendment which proposes to make a change in what will be rule 12 (1). Rule 12 (1) will be :

"When a resolution has been moved in the Council, no resolution or amendment of a resolution raising substantially the same question shall be moved within one year from the date of such motion."

That is the present rule, and the amendment proposed by the select committee is to substitute for the words "one year" the words "six months". So that the rule would then read :

"When a resolution has been moved in the Council no resolution or amendment of a resolution raising substantially the same question shall be moved within six months from the date of the motion."

The amendment proposed is to reduce the period to six months within which a motion once discussed in this House can be brought up to be rediscussed. I think, Sir, on general principles it will be unfortunate to amend the rule in this direction. It would mean that if a resolution is passed by this Council, then it might be thrown out again in six months, or if it were thrown out it might be passed again in six months, and the period of six months is too short a time to allow the Council to change their opinions. When a subject has been fully discussed and voted upon, I think that decision, Sir, ought to last at least for one year. After the lapse of one year as at present provided there will have been time for the members of this Council to think over the matter. Things may have changed and it may be right that the matter should be brought up to be rediscussed. But I think six months is too short a time and that we ought to maintain the present rule of one year.

There is the further objection to allowing one resolution to be brought up over and over again every six months. It would interfere with the right of other members who are not quite so interested in that particular resolution to move their resolutions. If all resolutions whether moved or not can be brought up every six months, that increases the number of resolutions on the agenda and it makes it very difficult for other members who are more interested in other matters to get their resolutions before the House. I think honourable members ought seriously to consider whether they should put this further restriction on their right to move resolutions in this House. I think looking to the great number of resolutions it would be undesirable to put further difficulty

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

in the way of honourable members to bring a particular resolution in this House. The present rule moreover is in accordance with the rules in the other legislatures and it seems to me that no good reason has been given why a special departure should be made from the ordinary rule of one year as at present existing in this House.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD (Central Division): Sir, I oppose this amendment exactly on opposite grounds. My opposition to it is that six months is too long a time to wait. Why not have it every session? If a resolution is important and urgent then according to the argument of the honourable mover it should be brought as soon as possible before the House, if possible the very next session. If that is not contended then the reasonable thing would be to wait for one year.

The argument of the Honourable Leader of the House I think is very sound, because there are so many resolutions and we do not get time to discuss the resolutions about which we do not know the mind of the House. About a rejected resolution we know the mind of the House and therefore it could wait. On these grounds I oppose this amendment.

Mr. A. N. SURVE (Bombay City, North): Sir, the idea underlying this is that there should not be frequent changes in the resolution of this House, but I say if we accept the six months' limit there would not be frequent changes. Under the existing circumstances, if a resolution is moved say on the 20th of March, then it could be moved again after six months' time some day after the 20th of September, but as our present arrangement stands, we meet about the 25th of September and 15 days' previous notice must be given. Therefore, in actual practice we cannot enforce this six months' limit. The object which the proposer of the amendment has in view is really gained: but suppose we accept his view what happens? Now to-day is the 20th of March. for one year we are not to send in another notice of the same resolution then we cannot move that same resolution for about 18 months, because from the 20th of March to the 20th of March that is 12 months. We can introduce some time after the 20th of March and that would be for the July session. That is waiting for 18 months and not 12 months and that is why we have reduced the 12 to 6 months, and even by refusing that we actually get 12 months.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Sir, I am afraid I cannot follow that last argument; it is beyond me. It seems to me that the reply to that is that it is not a question of notice, but it is only a question of motion. It shall not be *moved*. It is not a question of *giving notice*. And as regards the question of the particular time for meetings, the honourable member knows that we are considering that matter and we hope to meet the wishes of all the members of the House as far as we possibly can. We must take the rule as it is. It is a sound rule. It is in force, I believe, in all legislatures: I know it is certainly in force in the Central Provinces, Bihar and Orissa, Madras, the Legislative Assembly, and I think also in the Council of State. I do not think we can do better than follow those legislatures.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The question is :

That Chapter X, order 12 (1) of the Standing Orders, as amended by the select committee, do stand part of the Standing Orders.

Chapter X, order 12 (1) as amended by the select committee reads as follows :

Chapter X, Order 12 (1). The existing Standing Order X, 12, should be numbered X, 12 (1) and the following clause should be added to it :

“(2) When a resolution has been disallowed under the Rules or Standing Orders or has been withdrawn with the leave of the Council, no resolution raising substantially the same question shall be moved during the same session.”

Question put and carried.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The next question is :

That Chapter X, order 12 (2) of the Standing Orders, as amended by the select committee do stand part of the Standing Orders.

Chapter X, order 12 (2) as amended by the select committee reads as follows :

Chapter X, Order 12 (2): Change ‘one year’ into ‘six months.’

Question put and lost.

DISCUSSION OF MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : The next business is Resolutions.

I should like to draw the attention of honourable members to a letter which has been placed in my hands, and which I will frankly confess has greatly surprised me. Honourable members have been constantly complaining that they do not get a chance of moving resolutions. But here eight or nine of those honourable members who have got the privilege of moving resolutions by being first on the list, do not move them but tell me to give priority to Mr. Bole who is tenth on the list. I do not know why honourable members do this if they are really anxious to avail themselves of the little opportunity they get for moving resolutions both by virtue of the time allotted for private business and by reason of the ballot. This is not a singular instance of the kind. I find that members who profess themselves to be most anxious to get an opportunity of moving resolutions, hand it over to somebody else when they get it. I am not going to grant priority in this case but will call upon every member who stands on the agenda paper before Mr. Bole to say either that there is not sufficient time to discuss the subject or that he does not wish to move it. If Mr. Bole's resolution is reached in this way, I will call upon him to move his resolution.

Mr. P. G. JOSHI : Exactly, Sir. I would like to explain that I did not wish to move my resolution because there was no time.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : Honourable members should have waited to see how long the discussion on Standing Orders did take. I will give them the chance by calling upon every member whose name stands before Mr. Bole to move his resolution. They are not bound to do so, but they will have to state that they do not wish to move the resolutions standing in their names. Mr. Shivdasani.

Mr. H. B. SHIVDASANI: I do not wish to move it, because there is not sufficient time. I may mention, Sir, that I signed that letter at 5 p.m., when I saw that there was no time for my resolution.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: But that argument surely does not apply to each and every one of the resolutions. Dr. Dixit.

Dr. M. K. DIXIT: The time is insufficient for my resolution, Sir.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Mr. Khuhro is not here. Mr. Joshi does not wish to move. Mr. Jog is not here. Pir Rasulbaksh Shah is not here. Mr. Burter is no longer a member. Mr. Bhutto is not here. Mr. Swaminarayan.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Sir, I wish to move the following resolution:

"This Council recommends to the Governor in Council to prohibit fishing in the river Sabarmati near the town of Kasandra, South Daskroi, Ahmedabad District."

Sir, the town of Kasandra is situated on the river Sabarmati. Its population consists of high caste Hindus, Jains, Brahmins, and such other members of the community to whom fishing is most repugnant. In no time has fishing been permitted near that town, but unfortunately some incidents happened and the villagers took the first opportunity of approaching the authorities in all constitutional ways. They applied to the Collector and to the higher authorities, and it was necessary for me to move this resolution here on their behalf. In the meanwhile the District Magistrate of Ahmedabad has given a temporary injunction prohibiting fishing in three *aras* where water is used by the villagers of Kasandra. This is the notice:

Notice is hereby given that fishing is prohibited over 50 yards at each of the 3 *aras* where water is used by the villagers of Kasandra in South Daskroi taluka until further orders. Whoever will contravene this order will be punishable under section 39 of the District Police Act.

This order is *ad interim* until the question is finally decided.

The villagers' efforts have borne fruit so far. The District Magistrate who gave a prohibitory order has given an *ad interim* order and I hope Government will consider this question and with due regard to the feelings of the people inhabiting that village they will be well advised to accept my resolution, because it is already accepted by the District Magistrate of Ahmedabad. I hope there will be no objection for the Government to accept my resolution. The people who inhabit this village are high class Hindus,—Jains, patidars and so forth—and if fishing is done there, there would be mischief; perhaps some people would not be able to control their temper, and the result would be riots. But fortunately, the people of the village have borne everything with great patience and they have full trust in the liberal-minded statesmanship of the Government which does not interfere in the religious practices of the people. The town is situated there from times immemorial and the inhabitants of the town are living a very peaceful life for a very long period of time. Since this little boon of allowing no fishing near the town is very much desired by them as far as the religious feelings are concerned, they have full hope that the Government will bestow it. Preservation of peace and

[Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan]

order is the very thing that Government should desire. And the work has been practically half done. Government would be well advised to accept this resolution, so that a permanent prohibitory order prohibiting fishing near the village may be issued.

Question proposed.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Mr. President, I am not at all sure in the first instance whether this little dispute about fishing in this village of Kasandra could really be properly called a matter of general public interest. I do not know what the population of Kasandra is. Perhaps the honourable mover can tell me.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : 3,000 houses.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Well, Sir, here you have got a small village of 3,000 houses—that will be about 9,000 or 10,000 people—where there is some dispute as to whether fishing should be allowed in a certain part of the river or whether it ought not, and it seems from the speech of my honourable friend that the dispute in the village was so hot about this matter that it was necessary for the District Magistrate to intervene and he had to issue an injunction pending the necessary settlement of the matter. Possibly it means that they are already going to the civil court. Would the honourable member inform me whether they have as yet gone to the civil court? Has a suit been filed?

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : They have not gone to the civil court.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Well, I imagine that the first order that the District Magistrate will give would be : “ Now, you people, go off to the civil court and settle your dispute ”. As soon as they do that, I think we cannot discuss the question here in this House. I think, Sir, a petty dispute like this is not a matter that should be brought before this House and the time of this House wasted in this manner. That is a dispute which ought to be settled in the civil court. Personally, I should say they should not even go to the civil court, but they should settle it among themselves. Surely, my honourable friend representing that part of the country, cannot he go and settle it for them and tell them “ What is the use of disputing over these petty matters, whether you should fish 50 yards this side or 50 yards that side ”? Surely, if he really represents them, he could get them to agree to some sort of settlement between themselves and not let the matter be discussed in great detail in this House. It is a matter, Sir, for the civil court and it is not to be decided by this Assembly. We cannot sit here as courts deciding matters which are really for courts. Why, Sir? Fishery rights are very intricate questions, I know, because I have had to try such cases. These are things for the courts to decide, and not for this House. I believe this question was mentioned to me some time ago in July 1924. An application was put in my hands through an honourable member of this House—not through the honourable mover of this resolution, but through the other honourable member sitting there (Mr. Saheba). He told me there was this petty dispute and he put these papers in my hands. I sent them to the local authorities.....

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA : You say this is a petty dispute between the inhabitants of the village.....

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : That is a question of fact. Let the Honourable the Home Member conclude and then the honourable member can speak.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Well, Sir, I am sorry if I am not quite correct in saying it was a petty dispute. I did not expect that this resolution would come on to-day and I have not had time to go fully through all the papers again. I would require at least half an hour to read my brief. But that was my recollection, that it was a dispute between some fishermen who claim that they have fishing rights in the neighbourhood of some temples and the owners of those temples,—that the fishermen say they will fish there and the owners of the temples say they ought not to do it.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA : They come from Ahmedabad.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : The fishermen apparently, Sir, are from Ahmedabad. They said they had this right of fishing ever since the time they remembered, since their great grandfathers' time and so on, and the owners of the temples said they must not do it. I sent the application for investigation and report, and I was told in reply that, as a matter of fact the particular part of the river where they fished was not actually in view of the temple—the temple was somewhat away from that point—that the fishermen were fishing there from times immemorial, that the District Magistrate was not prepared to interfere. And on receiving that report I think the honourable member was informed that we did not see our way to interfere in this matter. There seems to have been some later developments with regard to which I have no information. I gather from the honourable mover that since then the dispute has waxed so hot that the District Magistrate has had to intervene and issue an injunction. Is that so ?

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : It is in the papers.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I understand it was under the Civil Procedure Code. Is that right ?

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : Under section 39 of the District Police Act.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Then, Sir, this is hardly a question which should be discussed in this House. I think we should allow the ordinary law to proceed.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA (Ahmedabad District) : Mr. President, the only question which the villagers of this village want settled is that these fishermen from Ahmedabad should not come into the river and catch fish before their very eyes. That is the only question. If they fish outside from their sight, there is no objection whatsoever. There is a certain amount of feeling raised when men and women of the town go to fetch water from the river and they see these people catching fish there in their very presence, before their very eyes ; these fishermen

[Mr. H. D. Saheba]

come from Ahmedabad, they have no fishing rights whatsoever. They do not allege any right.....

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : We are told they do.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA : They say they will do it simply because the Collector allows it.

There are notice-boards put up by the District Collector that fishing is prohibited. Why should it not be prohibited in this particular area where the fish is caught in the presence of villagers ? It is only a question of the sentiment of the whole village. There are two or three Mahomedan families and they do not catch fish out of respect for the sentiments of the villagers. But these fishermen do not respect the sentiments of the villagers.

An Honourable MEMBER : To what caste do they belong ?

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA : They are Hindus. They belong to the Bhoi caste, a low caste.

It is only these people that give trouble. The thing is that some 50 yards away from the bank there are two temples. The village *chaura* is there. Everybody has to frequent that place. The District Magistrate has not stopped fishing so far as the *ara* is concerned. I do not think that there can be any trouble with regard to accepting the limited area of prohibition to fishing.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Under what legal authority can we stop this fishing ?

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA : Under the District Police Act. You have already so many notice-boards as regards the prohibition of fishing round about Ahmedabad in this very river Sabarmati. Therefore, they come from Ahmedabad to Kasandra. They are not allowed to fish in Ahmedabad. Even in tanks in the vicinity of Ahmedabad, there are notice-boards put up prohibiting fishing. I do not understand why this particular place should be singled out for fishing. The river Sabarmati flows by the boundary of this village and the *ara* is at all times frequented by people and therefore this particular area of the river Sabarmati must be protected.

Mr. A. MONTGOMERIE : Sir, this is not the sort of matter which the House should inquire into. A dispute as to fishing right is not a matter of general public importance. Whatever the honourable member may say, these Bhois (the honourable member says that they belong merely to a low caste—presumably therefore they can be neglected)—do claim to have a right of fishing in this particular place. They say that they have been fishing there from time immemorial. I do not know whether we have any power whatever except under the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code. I see the District Magistrate has issued an interim order under section 39 of the District Police Act. I am unable to discover under what sub-section of that section of the District Police Act we can prohibit fishing unless perhaps under the sub-section which enables the District Magistrate to set aside places for

[Mr. A. Montgomerie]

slaughtering animals. I submit, Sir, it requires some ingenuity to bring in a place on the banks of a river used for fishing under the description of places for slaughtering animals. I find no other legal authority.

The suggestion in the resolution is that the Government should prohibit fishing by an order. If Government take action and prohibit the Bhois from fishing in a place and if the Bhois establish their right to fishing in that place, the result will be that they will sue the Secretary of State. If the inhabitants of the village claim that they have a right to prohibit Bhois from fishing in that place, they can establish it by a civil suit. I think this House will be stultifying itself in interfering in a matter which has to be settled in a court of law.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD (Central Division): Sir, I have very great sympathy with the mover of the resolution so far as the sentimental part of it is concerned. He is contending to establish a religious control over the whole of the river, and prohibit fishing altogether in it. In this connexion he talked of high castes and low castes. I cannot understand how the honourable professor who has subscribed to the creed of abandoning untouchability can talk of such differentiation of castes. The low caste people have as much right as the high caste people. The high caste people have got a sentimental objection, while these low caste Bhois maintain that they have a right to fishing in that place, as they live upon fishing. I think it would be a reactionary step to curtail the liberty of the citizens of that place and prohibit them from fishing. Besides, this is setting a bad precedence in this Council, because others would come begging here. If there is any particular sacred place with a long tradition something may be said in its favour.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM: Let the honourable member please address the Chair.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMAD: It is not the honourable member's business to direct me.

As the motion is it is undesirable. Its effect will be to encourage other people to come forward with similar pretexts and this House will have every now and then to enter into all these matters. To-morrow I may come to the House with a resolution that no Hindu procession should pass by a Muslim mosque. This is not the place for discussing such matters. We are trying as far as possible to curtail disputes on communal differences between Hindus and Mahomedans; but here there is a dispute among Hindus themselves. I have very great regard for the sentiments of the honourable member, but this is not the place where we can discuss such questions. We do not know anything about the traditional sanctity of the place. It is so easy for some Hindus to have some stones piled up and come and say that there is a small temple of Ganga or Jumna and that therefore outsiders should not be allowed to go there and do any business. It will curtail considerably the liberty of the people. Therefore this resolution should not be passed.

Mr. N. R. GUNJAL (Poona District) (Addressed the House in Marathi): Mr. President, the honourable mover of the resolution

[Mr. N. R. Gunjal]

says that there is a temple and there is a noticeboard. At Dehu and Alandi, two places of pilgrimage in the Poona district, nobody is allowed to fish, and that has been the time-honoured religious custom there. Descriptions of these two places can be found in Hindu religious scriptures, and there is sufficient proof in those books to show that nobody is allowed to fish there. On one or two occasions there was a breach of the rule as regards fishing in these places, but the case having been taken to the court, fishing was prohibited there. In spite of this, sometimes soldiers and other people come to fish there, and there is always trouble on such occasions. Looking at it from the religious point of view, and seeing that the people who live at places where such temples and places of worship exist are all vegetarians, I think Government should stop fishing at such places. Taking into consideration the sentiments of the people, who are all vegetarians, living near the temples, I think Government should intervene and stop fishing. The request contained in the resolution is that fishing should be prohibited near the town of Kasandra. Those who want to fish in the river may go to the other side and do so. I have seen the position described in the map, and I hope the Council will support the resolution.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN (Ahmedabad District): Sir, there is no fishing right appertaining to any people residing in Kasandra. The town is situated at a distance of 10 miles from Ahmedabad. The bank is 300 or 400 yards long. All that the villagers want is that along the bank fishing may not be resorted to. Fishing has never been practised there. If fishing had been allowed there, the people would have evacuated the place long ago, because it is impossible for them to live there if such things happen in the vicinity. But if fishing is allowed there now, there will be serious trouble. I bring in this resolution on behalf of the villagers, because, otherwise, there will be serious trouble. I explained to them that the proper thing for them to do was to approach the authorities through the proper channel. If the villagers were left to themselves, nobody knows what would have happened. Actually, what happens is this, that the Bhois sometimes go from Ahmedabad to that place. At once the village people gather. The Bhois demand some money, and Rs. 25 or Rs. 40 are paid to them with a request that they should leave the place. On account of their religious sentiments, the village people may pay something in order to make the Bhois leave the place. This is what happens generally. Now, do you wish that a village that is plying its honest and peaceful occupation and that is paying into the coffers of the Government a good deal of revenue should be allowed to be blackmailed in this way for all time to come? How can they live there? Under the protection of the Government, these Bhois go there and they demand money. They say "Give us some money, or we shall fish." I should like to ask Government whether they are getting even a single pie of revenue by allowing these fishermen to go there for the purpose of fishing and exciting the feelings of the local residents of that place. No, not a pie. Sir, Gujarat is full of people who live on vegetarian diet. Almost all the people in Gujarat

[Mr. C. J. Swaminarayan]

are vegetarians. Low caste and high caste, almost all of them, with very few exceptions, live on vegetables, and therefore it was found necessary by the Government, in the city of Ahmedabad itself, to put these prohibitory boards at so many places round about Ahmedabad so that the people can understand that in places where they are performing daily worship, fishing has been prohibited round about. Sir, the villagers do not require a great boon from Government. They only require that for 400 yards which form the bank of the river, where they daily bathe and live peacefully, they should not be disturbed by such operations. I think this is a matter in which Government will be very well advised to have this order which has been passed *ad interim* permanently passed, so that there will be no cause of trouble in future.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Sir, I am sorry that this question should be raised here, because I do not think it is a question we can properly decide in this House. We have not got the necessary facts, and we are not constituted in a manner to arrive at any real decision about this dispute. I agree entirely that the sentimental objections of the villagers ought to be respected, and nothing ought to be allowed to be done to really offend them, but due regard must be had to the rights of other people. The sentimental objections referred to no doubt do exist, and they must be recognised, but, on the other hand, those that hold these sentiments must recognise that there are other people in the world who have their rights and those rights also must be respected. It is the endeavour of the local authorities so to arrange matters between the parties having these differences that the peace, happiness and prosperity of the village may be ensured. I do not think, Sir, it helps the case at all to make assertions that this is a fact or that is a fact, when we have not got the other side before us to say whether they agree that that is so or that is not so. When the assertions are backed by no evidence, no proof whatever, and the other side have not had an opportunity of coming before us to submit what they have to say with their proofs, it is quite impossible for us to give any decision on the precise rights of the matter. The assertions made are that these fishermen cannot possibly have any rights in this particular river, because they live 10 miles off at Ahmedabad. Well, Sir, that may be some evidence against the probability of a right, but it is no evidence conclusive that they have no rights. Ten miles is not a long way for fishermen to go, and if they have been going there and fishing from times immemorial, then it seems to me it would be very difficult....

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : Such has never happened at any time.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : That again, Sir, is a mere assertion. It may be perfectly true, but the honourable member has not produced before me the proofs. If I were a judge sitting on a bench, I would say "That is your plea; kindly place before me your evidence and I will consider it". So far, we have assertions on the one side that these fishermen have no rights, that they have not exercised them, that they are absolute intruders, and all sorts of evil things about

[Sir Maurice Hayward]

them. But the information which we obtained was to the opposite effect. These are the people who assert that they have rights, and the local authorities who enquired into it even believe, on the facts as they know them and the circumstances, that they really had some rights. Sir it would be impossible for us here to accept this resolution and practically to admit that these other people who are not before us, who have not the chance of putting their claims before us, have no rights at all. I do not think that it would be the desire of the House. I think I should very strongly recommend my honourable friend to withdraw this motion and to leave it to the local authorities. I gather from him that they are already thinking about it, because they passed a temporary injunction presumably to prevent disorder, to prevent breach of the peace. If that injunction is temporary, it indicates, it seems to me, that they are inquiring into it and will endeavour to arrange some settlement between the parties on the spot. He has asked us to make that injunction permanent. Well, we have no authority to make a magisterial order permanent. There is no authority that I know of by which that can be done by the executive government. The matter is apparently under inquiry. There I am sure it will be inquired into sympathetically and rights of all parties will be fully looked into, and that the local authorities will do their best to come to some satisfactory arrangement which will protect the sentiments of the people who may have been affected and do justice to the fishermen who say they have a right to fish in the river. I would earnestly ask the honourable member not to pursue this matter further here, but to rest on the assurance that we will do our best to deal with this matter sympathetically and not to ask us to move in a matter in which we have no authority.

Mr. J. C. SWAMINARAYAN : Sir, with the assurance on behalf of Government that they will give the matter a sympathetic consideration I beg leave to withdraw the resolution.

Question put and leave granted.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Sir, my resolution runs thus :

"This council recommends to government to increase the scale of salaries of all peons in all Government establishments in the City of Bombay to Rs. 25 rising to Rs. 50 excluding the house allowance."

Sir, I think the resolution does not require any long speech. The case is one of justice and equity. The peons who are working on Government establishments in the City of Bombay get a meagre salary of Rs. 12 per month. It is true that they get some war allowance and house allowance that brings their pay to about Rs. 25 or so. But this sum is not taken into account at the time of pension as their service is regarded as inferior service. What I submit is, that all this amount should be included in their pay and that a lump sum, say of Rs. 25, should be given to them as permanent salary giving them a gradual increase up to Rs. 50, and their service should be regarded as superior service for the purpose of pension. Sir, you have personal experience of how these men are hard-worked. In the city of Bombay even a workman gets more than Rs. 30 per month. I have got here a small

[Mr. S. K. Bole]

list of some private firms who are giving higher salaries to their peons. The Imperial Bank of India gives to its peons a pay from Rs. 40 to 48 ; a naik gets Rs. 50 to 59 ; a havaldar gets Rs. 69. In the Bombay Chamber of Commerce a peon gets Rs. 30 rising to Rs. 41 ; a naik gets Rs. 35 to 48 ; a havaldar gets Rs. 40 to 51. In Cox & Co. a peon gets Rs. 25 to 40 ; a havaldar gets Rs. 35 to 48. Some of these get pensions after 30 years' service. (An Honourable Member: What about pension?) In the case of peons of the Chamber of Commerce pension is allowed. In the case of some others provident fund or gratuity is given. In Volkart Brothers a peon gets Rs. 25 to Rs. 48 ; a naik gets Rs. 35 to 50 ; a havaldar gets Rs. 42 to 60. In Ralli Brothers a peon gets Rs. 40 to 45 ; a havaldar gets Rs. 55. In Continental Colour Company a peon gets Rs. 30 ; a havaldar gets Rs. 40. There are some honourable members here who are managers of big European firms and mills and they will tell this House what their peons are paid. All the peons in these firms and mills get more than what our Government peons get. These peons have to work for more than 12 hours. They have to be at the beck and call of their superior officers. In the case of these peons and clerks it can be said that retrenchment has been effected to a large extent and I do not know whether it is effected in the case of higher officers. Under these circumstances, I think, Sir, when Government have proposed to give additional increments to their highly paid officers, they won't grudge a living wage to these peons who are so low paid. These men are really speaking the supporters of the steel frame of government (hear, hear). They had submitted a petition to Government which had no effect. However I hope that Government will now come forward very graciously to redress this long standing grievance and give these men their due. One of my honourable friends said they get pension, but what is the pension? After putting in honest and hardworked service of 25 to 30 years they get only Rs. 6 per month. Imagine, Sir, the miseries of a man who has to maintain himself, his wife and children in this petty sum of Rs. 6. Sir, the miseries of these poor peons can better be imagined than described, and it is this vivid picture of miseries that has made some of my honourable friends to withdraw their resolutions and give priority to my resolution. This House, Sir, has voted higher salaries to highly paid stipendiary magistrates in the City of Bombay and I hope this House will also pass this resolution by giving their hearty support to it. With these words I place this resolution before this House.

Question proposed.

Mr. D. B. ADWANI (Karachi City) : Sir, the demand of my honourable friend is a very modest one and I trust that Government will accept not only this resolution but that they would be prepared to come forward with a statement that they are going to consider the salaries of all the peons in the whole of the presidency, Bombay as well as Karachi, Ahmedabad and other parts of the presidency.

The demand of my honourable friend is a very modest one, for the reason that Rs. 25 in Bombay will not carry a man very easily. (An

[Mr. D. B. Adwani]

Honourable Member : They get house rent). I do not know what the house rent allowance is, but I think it must be a very small sum. The honourable member told us that the peons in Bombay are getting a pension of Rs. 6 ; but so far as my information goes, in the mofussil they get only a pension of Rs. 4. For this amount it would not be possible further to get sufficient flour for themselves, let alone their families. My Honourable friend Mr. Bole is very reasonable in his proposal. As to the other parts of the presidency I would be prepared to move an amendment for including them, but I suppose you will rule me out of order in that respect. I hope Government will come forward and accept this proposal and I will go further and say that they will consider the case of peons in other parts of the presidency as well.

Mr. R. G. PRADHAN (Nasik District) : Sir, I rise to support this resolution. I sincerely hope that Government will be prepared to accept this resolution. I do not think after the two speeches which the House has listened to, it is necessary for me to speak at any length. As I said some days ago my sympathies are entirely with the poor, and the class whose salary is proposed to be raised by this resolution is one which deserves the sympathetic consideration of the Government. They are really a hard worked class. As my honourable friend has said, they are to a very large extent the backbone of the steel frame of the Government. Just, imagine, Sir, what the fate of the highly paid officers will be in the discharge of their daily duties if these servants are not as punctual and as mindful of their duties as they are all to-day. I do not think there is any complaint against this class of Government servants. They are very reliable ; very faithful ; very industrious ; and very hard working. And certainly I for one would not hesitate to characterise a man who refuses to give them this increase in their salaries as brutally heartless. With these words I support the resolution.

Mr. M. R. JAYAKAR (Bombay University) : Sir, I rise to support this resolution. I do not think any words are needed to recommend this resolution to the non-official benches beyond the circumstance that even Mr. Bole has commenced to talk of the "steel" frame. It is a very significant argument, and I do hope it will carry conviction to the members of this House. I do not think any words are needed to recommend this resolution, for this reason : that the Bombay peon is well known to us all. Those who have to do with him know that he is modest, quiet, obedient, almost too cultured to be a peon. Take any specimen of that class one likes—and one sees so many of them standing in front of this House at the present moment—I cannot imagine any servant who keeps to his post like the Bombay peon with a sense of discipline, modesty and an absolute desire to obliterate himself in the midst of his surroundings. I do not think I am presenting to the House any exaggerated picture of the Bombay peon, and I do hope that the members of the steel frame who have to deal with Bombay peons in such large numbers will carry the resolution without any opposition.

Mr. H. D. SAHEBA (Ahmedabad District): Sir, after so much has been said as regards the peons, my only regret is that the honourable member, Mr. Bole, has not included in his resolution the cities of Poona, Karachi and Ahmedabad, where living is as dear as in Bombay. In Poona and Karachi at least they give some compensatory allowances to peons, but in Ahmedabad, where living is dearer, they do not give it. If the honourable member Mr. Bole had included the cities of Poona, Karachi and Ahmedabad, he would have had my full support. Some technicalities of procedure having intervened I cannot move an amendment to include those cities. In the circumstances I say I fully support the honourable member Mr. Bole, and I request Government that in considering this resolution they will also consider the claims of peons in Poona, Karachi and Ahmedabad.

MOULVI RAFIUDDIN AHMED (Central Division): Mr. President, the other day when we were discussing the police budget, the Honourable the Leader of the House said that in case the House was willing to vote money he would be pleased to increase the salaries of the police sub-inspectors. In this case the House is willing to make a grant, and it is now for the honourable the Leader of the House and for the treasury bench to come forward and say that they will accept the resolution. The House will find them the money. It is the duty of the House to come forward and cordially support this motion, because those who stand to benefit by this resolution are a dumb class and have no voice. We are sitting here trying our best to defend the interests of all classes of Government servants especially the interests of high salaried classes. The other day we voted money for European officers as desired by the Lee Commission's report, it is therefore absolutely necessary that this little motion should be accepted by Government for the benefit of half starving peons.

Mr. G. WILES: Sir, if I am compelled to oppose this amiable resolution, it is not from any want of sympathy with this loyal and hardworked body of servants, not because I am one of those 'brutally heartless' officers whom my honourable friend has referred to, nor because I fail to follow the argument of the honourable the leader of the opposition that self-obliteration is a sound reason for increase of pay. We are considering, Sir, the case of a class which provides the lower grade of servants throughout the whole of Bombay, throughout the whole of what I might call the public and private administration of the city. We cannot deal with our peons without affecting the menial staff of all the public bodies, the commercial firms and private houses. Government is only one of many employers, and it would be quite improper for Government to take any action which would have the effect of upsetting the whole domestic economy of the city. Our raising of the pay of peons on the last occasion was made the subject of protest from all public bodies in Bombay, who had to follow suit. It is quite clear that Government cannot possibly take the action which the honourable mover requires them to take, without consultation with and the consent of all other parties who would find themselves affected. I would submit, Sir, that we are up against an economic fact. I am well aware of the way in which the House in dealing

[Mr. G. Wiles]

with the pay of public servants dislikes the expression 'supply and demand', but on occasions we have to drive the fact home that it is a question of supply and demand. These peons form only a small part, as I have said, of a large class in Bombay, and it would be quite impossible for Government to attempt to raise the general standard of living in this way by paying to this small part more than the market rate of wages. Any such attempt to raise the standard of living of the class by raising the wages of a small part of a large class of workers would be only foredoomed to failure. In saying this I do not want it to be thought that I have no sympathy with this resolution. The contrary is the fact.

It is necessary that I should recapitulate briefly the history of the pay of these servants. It will show, I hope, that Government have not been unmindful of their needs. The last permanent revision of the pay of peons was made in the year 1906, when the rates were fixed from Rs. 10 to Rs. 12 for the peons with a maximum of Rs. 15 for the petty officers. From time to time they were given further allowances on account of the dearness of living as it rose, and house rent. In 1918-19, the pay with allowances was Rs. 16 rising to Rs. 18. In 1920-21 war allowance and house rent allowance were raised, so that the total emoluments of the two grades of peons now amounts to Rs. 27 to Rs. 29 and the emoluments of the petty officer from Rs. 31 to Rs. 32. These emoluments are made up of their original pay plus Rs. 10 temporary allowance and Rs. 7 house allowance. These, I am given to understand from my own enquiry, are the same rates as are paid by the Port Trust, the Municipality and the chief firms and banks in the city. I was taken by surprise by the figures which were given by the honourable mover of the resolution, which differ from those supplied to me. I should like to have them investigated and confirmed by further enquiry.

As the House knows, investigations have been carried out during the past few years in regard to the cost of living among this very class in Bombay. These investigations show that the cost of living per mensem of a Bombay peon rose from about Rs. 14 in the year 1914 to about Rs. 25 in the year 1920. Since then there has been a steady fall and the proportionate figure to-day stands at Rs. 21. These statistics establish the fact that the wages of these menial officers have risen more than the cost of living. We have thus made a considerable advance, and considering the standard of living of the class from which these peons are recruited, it can, I think, be said that the present pay is just. Government have recognised the need of paying a decent minimum wage and they have no intention at present of reducing in any way the additional allowances which the peons draw.

Not long ago, I received a deputation from the peons and listened to their grievances. The chief one of their grievances is undoubtedly the fact that so large a proportion of their pay at present is "provisional allowances". That gave rise to a certain amount of alarm in the minds of the peons that these being "provisional allowances" might be withdrawn by Government. These allowances were made temporary during

[Mr. G. Wiles]

the war for obvious reasons. We did not know to the cost of living. I am dealing with this question held up because we are waiting for orders from the Government of India have issued their new rules of pension and the Secretary of State has sanctioned them, we hope to deal with this pension question and with this question of the allowance and to get it into pay. The house allowance, of course, was given for a special reason and that must remain fluid in order that we may deal with it according to actual circumstances.

The other chief grievance which they brought to my notice was the smallness of the pension, on which several honourable members have commented. As I have said, in that matter Government is very sympathetic. We realise that the pension given is not adequate, but as I have said, we have not yet the authority to deal with pensions. We are awaiting orders of the Government of India sanctioning the new pension rules which will delegate to local Governments the authority to deal with the question of pensions.

The third grievance was one with which perhaps members of the House will not be so sympathetic. That was the plea of the young men that the old men should be made to retire. Now, the work of a peon is one which can be adequately carried out long after their services are useless for other hard work, and I think it would be very hard for Government to insist on retiring a peon who is still able to carry out his duties adequately. That is possibly one reason why the question of pension or the inadequacy of it has not been more forced on the notice of Government, namely that the men do remain in harness for a much longer period than in any other branch of service.

There are, Sir, in the city of Bombay no less than 1,170 peons. The proposal which the honourable member puts forward will raise their allowances by about 50 per cent. and the annual cost to Government will be no less than two and quarter lakhs. That, I think, rather disposes of what has been called the very "modest suggestion" of the honourable member. It is not a very modest suggestion, as the total cost will show. The indirect cost to Government might, I suggest, be very much more. It would be impossible to stop at the Bombay peon and it might involve the raising of pay throughout all the services not only in Bombay, but in the mofussil. The indirect cost to the city of Bombay, which will be involved owing to consequential increases to servants in Bombay, I have made no attempt to estimate. The pay of these peons, as I said, Sir, is at present from Rs. 2 to Rs. 4 more than the minimum which is suggested by the honourable mover. There is no idea, in dealing with this question, of "grudging a small share of our vast revenues" to these peons. I submit that is an entirely unfortunate way of regarding the question. To introduce on the top of this minimum pay which we are paying, a rising scale up to Rs. 50 is, I submit quite outside practical politics, and for this reason I hope that the House will have no difficulty in rejecting it.

ombay City, North): I must state, Sir, that at the objection taken by Government in this class of servants who excite our sympathy,

I am sorry to see that the statistics of the cost of living of this class have been brought to object the recommendation made by my honourable friend the Director of Labour Office and I became apprehensive were about to be used for the purpose of reducing the

Now, Sir, there is one statement in the speech of the honourable the Finance Secretary which has excited my resentment. It is this: He says the wages of these people are governed by the law of supply and demand. I expected that the Government of Bombay would have set a better example in this respect, and aimed at a humanitarian standard. Humanitarian employers have long come to the conclusion that the standard to be observed in employing servants is that they get a fair, a living wage. It is quite possible under the pressure of competition for government to get peons who are willing to serve on less wages though these may not be a living wage. I would wish the Government of Bombay to look into the question of wages not from the point of view of supply and demand but from the point of view of a fair standard of living upon humanitarian considerations. Any one who is acquainted with the city of Bombay knows full well that the wages they get are below the standard of living. If they had investigated into the matter, as I have done, they will know that most of them are indebted. They have to pay very heavy rates of interest. It is an evident fact that if there is any class of people who live frugally and do not indulge in drink and whose habits are industrious, it is this class of servants. It is a mistake to apply the rule of supply and demand in their case. It was urged that, because in the city private employers pay less, the Government should not pay more. I do not think that the wages paid by Government should be regulated by the approbation or disapprobation of private employers in the city. I strongly recommend the proposal that has been made by my honourable friend Mr. Bole, and I hope it will receive the heartiest support of this House.

I have not heard any one say that these people are getting a living wage. Every one knows that the cost of living in the city has increased greatly since 1906. The statistics of the Labour Office are misleading to a certain extent. If one wants to calculate the percentage of increase in the cost of living, he must go beyond 1914. As President of the Labour Conference held last year in Bombay, I had occasion to draw the attention of the Labour Office to this aspect of the statistics. And the Labour Office inserted a note to correct the misapprehension by making it clear that the statistics were not intended at all to convey the idea that the wages were commensurate with the cost of living and were not meant to show that the wages these people got were sufficient to maintain a fair standard of living, but only to indicate how wages and the cost of living

[Mr. J. Baptista]

have risen since 1914. But the cost of living is 100 per cent. or more since 1906 as the Government indicate.

I request the Government to do something more than mere expressions of sympathy. Sympathy without wages is not sympathy without sympathy is something tangible. Be this as it may, the Government would utilize the sympathy of the House if they pass this and even though they cannot accept the resolution I hope they will receive it with sympathy and use their authority to give effect to the resolution as far as they can. With my compliments I commend the resolution to the acceptance of the House.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD: Mr. President, I am glad to hear the words of sympathy expressed for this large body of peons. I think that the last statements of the last speaker are important. He recognised the importance of fixing the salary after careful consideration without straightaway fixing it from Rs. 25 to Rs. 50. His sympathy will be very valuable in the enquiries which are in progress with regard to what is really a living wage for this particular class of servants. I do not believe that it is the desire of any honourable member here to go beyond what is really a living wage suitable to these men. As has been pointed out by the Finance Secretary, we are already paying them more than the minimum limit—Rs. 25—suggested in the resolution. They are already receiving in pay and allowances rather more than that. I do not suppose he wants us to go back upon that. If we have to accept any variation in the other limit, we will have so many applications from gentlemen, quite possibly holding honours degrees, that it would be difficult for us to decide whom we should employ. It would probably tend to throw the present class of peons out of work and it would certainly be uneconomical though it might tend to lessen unemployment in the higher classes.

I am speaking here under some difficulty, because I did not anticipate that this resolution, any more than the last one, would be reached. Therefore I did not hesitate to recommend the Honourable the Finance Member who would have ordinarily dealt with this subject and who is unfortunately suffering from indisposition not to be present here to-night. I must apologise therefore if I have not been able to put the case properly because it is not my subject at all. It belongs to the Honourable the Finance Member. I spoke the other day as the Member in charge of the Home Department. I was very sympathetic, it is true, with regard to the pay of the police sub-inspectors and I was quite ready to raise their pay as Home Member. I am now for the moment in charge of another department and I have got to be stricter, look to the other point of view and keep a firm hand on the money-bags, which unfortunately I have not got as Home Member, as they are in the possession of the Honourable the Finance Member.

I think therefore the figures which have been quoted by the Finance Secretary indicate that we have got to be very careful in this matter. We have already got under enquiry the question as to what is to be done

... I suppose all honourable members know that the
... of the war and thereafter. The question under
... the allowances should be turned into pay or how
... not want to raise false hopes in these matters
... governed by reasonable financial considerations.
... regard to pensions. The question of pensions is
... eration, and I think there is a good deal to be said for
... in their pensions, and, personally speaking, I hope that
... some improvement. Rs. 6 is not a princely sum for a man

But I cannot say anything definitely about it, because I
that we have not got a free hand in the matter ; we are bound
by higher authorities, and until we get leave, we cannot really adequately
deal with the matter. I understand that these matters are all under en-
quiry, and of course they will receive sympathetic treatment.
At the same time, I do not want to raise any false hopes in this body of
peons, because we may find it impossible to do all that our sympathe-
tic nature would lead us to do, at all events speaking as representing the
Honourable Member of the Finance Department.

I am, Sir, rather reminded in this connection of the case of the
diamond pin. I suppose you all know the case of the diamond pin.
I hope none of you have been caught by it. A young man was
given a present, you remember, of a diamond pin, and he put it
into his tie, and immediately discovered his tie was not up to the pin,
and so he had to go and buy a new tie. Though the new tie and the
diamond pin looked very nice, his vest was not so nice, so
he had to buy a new vest. Then he found that the other articles of
his dress were not quite up to standard, and he had to get a new and
expensive suit and a nice expensive stick with a gold knob. And then
he found that his ordinary method of travelling by tram or 3rd class rail
was unsuitable to his improved style in dress, and he had to order a motor
car—an expensive one. And so he went on, until he found that the house
he was living in was really unsuitable for him, and he went and hired—
he did not purchase as he had no money—a palace. The consequence
was that he quickly went bankrupt and there was an end of him. So
I should like to say that if we give the peons the salary proposed, we shall
find that with this smart set of peons we shall have to have the next grade
above them rather more expensively dressed and fed and so on, and our
clerks will have to appear in rather different costumes from those in
which they appear now. We shall have to pay them a good deal more—
I suppose we might increase their pay by 50 per cent., which would hardly
satisfy them. Then, we should have to go on a little further and would
find that the superior officers over the clerks wanted more pay, and a
little higher still we should find that the Under Secretaries were not
satisfied with their salaries, and soon the officers who do higher work—
the Secretaries—would claim to be entitled to a good deal more pay.
I hope the House would not stop there but would also go on to the
Members of the Government.

An Honourable MEMBER : Their salaries are non-votable.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : Well, Sir, ..
 tion strongly supported by this House would no doubt receive
 in the right quarters. But if we provide for those amounts,
 spending a good deal more than even this Rs. 2½ lakhs which
 the amount we would have to spend on the scale laid down in
 resolution, and I am afraid we should very rapidly become
 bankrupt. I would suggest that possibly this sudden liberal
 by the members of this House is partly due to the fact that
 soon to get that Rs. 22 lakhs—we have all seen it in the newspaper
 from the Government of India ; but we have not got it yet, and we do
 not know whether we shall get it. If we get it and our extra 2½ crores for
 the income tax, then I think we might begin to move in the matter
 including even the very deserving rise in the salaries of the Members of
 Government.

An Honourable MEMBER : Which Member of Government ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : The Home Member
 of course, not to mention my honourable friends on my right.

MOULVI RAFTUDDIN AHMAD : Sir, is this all in order ?

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I ought to apologise,
 Sir, if any of this ought not to appear on the records.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : A little humour cannot be out
 of place.

The Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I do really wish to
 suggest something serious, namely, that we are sympathetically con-
 sidering this matter, but we must be guided by financial considerations.
 We cannot accept the scale laid down here Rs. 25 to Rs. 50, which would
 run us into a very large expenditure, and would affect all sorts of other
 grades of our officers, would affect, for instance, the police, and would
 affect private employers in the city, and would probably lead to a state
 of affairs which would not really be a practicable position from the
 financial point of view. I hope that the honourable member will not
 seriously press the resolution for this particular scale, but will rely
 upon our doing what we can and will withdraw his motion.

Mr. W. S. MUKADAM : Sir, I move for a closure. .

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I accept the closure, and call
 upon the mover to reply.

Mr. S. K. BOLE : Sir, there is nothing to reply, but I can say only
 this much that a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs is only a flea-bite when compared
 with the increases given to the highly-paid officers as recommended by
 the Lee Commission. (Honourable Members : Hear, hear.) The
 opposition of Government shows that they are straining at a gnat
 whilst swallowing an elephant in the shape of Lee recommendations.
 Sir, the resolution will upset nobody but the Government, because I
 have already shown by facts and figures that all the commercial offices
 are paying more than what Government are paying. So, that will
 upset nobody except the Government, and what I urge on the Govern-
 ment is not to show lip-sympathy but to show practical sympathy.

. K. Bole]

These words, I hope Government will be good enough to accept solution.

Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD : I have nothing further to say, Sir, in reply. The resolution put and carried.

A. C. OWEN : Mr. President, the resolution which I wish to move follows :

"^a This Council recommends to Government that they may be pleased to appoint at an early date a committee to go into the question of

(a) Annual Reports,

(b) Forms and Returns,

with a view to reduction in the matter printed in annual reports and the revision or cancellation of forms and returns."

Sir, my sole object in bringing this matter forward is to effect some economy in public expenditure. From the budget we find that heavy expenditure is incurred on printing and stationery. I have endeavoured to get the actual figures, but apparently the expenditure is not kept separate. I think that the sum that is now spent could be reduced, if the investigation I suggest is carried out thoroughly. The presses are not treated as commercial concerns in the accounts and it is not possible to ascertain if they cover their expenditure *plus* interest and depreciation on plant.

I am aware, Sir, that the Retrenchment Committee submitted a valuable report on the reduction of expenditure but this committee dealt only with posts and allowances and economies in district administration. It did not touch the question of reports, etc., in which I consider there is scope for considerable reduction, for if you reduce the clerical work you can *pro tanto* reduce the staff.

I know that honourable members receive a large number of Government publications, comprising annual reports on different departments, special committees, etc. Some of these are very interesting and are models of what such reports should be, but on the other hand some are to my mind unnecessarily diffuse and contain masses of figures which can be of little use or interest, except to the head of the department concerned. By all means let that officer have all the details necessary for the proper control of the department, but I submit that it is only necessary to print essential figures for the proper understanding of the report, I do not wish to weary the House with instances. I will only briefly refer to one or two.

Take the triennial report on civil hospitals and dispensaries for the year 1923. It contains 381 pages of half foolscap size; 5 pages of reading matter and 376 pages of figures. Statement B of this report deals with the number of patients treated and extends from page 8 to page 83. Then take statement C which deals with "Diseases". It runs from page 84 to page 223. Then statement G shows the number of surgical operations performed, pages 280 to 307. It gives an amount of details which are hardly of any use to other than members of the medical fraternity. Who wants to know how many men were operated

K. Bole]

These words, I hope Government that all such questions as have solution.

Now I do not wish to weary the Honourable Sir MAURICE Ask Government to take this matter in a favourable reply. rational. on proposed carriage

N. SURVE (Bombay City, North): Sir, I rise to oppose this motion. Our reports are really very disappointing. They do not give the information that is really necessary. And another point that I would like to lay stress on is that there is no compulsion on any body to read the reports if he is not so minded. So, the idea of reducing the size of reports is really a very undesirable one. I simply am not against the appointment of a committee but if the only terms are to reduce the size of the reports, then I must say that I oppose it; but if a committee is appointed for increasing the utility of reports and reducing waste, I think I can accept the suggestion that is made. I do not know, Sir, if you will allow me to move an amendment. My amendment would be like this: Omit the word "reduction" and insert instead "with a view to increasing their utility and reducing waste".

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: Why prolong the debate at this time?

The Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR: Mr. President, within 10 minutes' time the council will adjourn, but I desire to congratulate the honourable member who moved this resolution on the lucid speech he made and the facts and figures that he has placed before this House. Government desire to assure him that they will endeavour to do more in the matter, but let that not be interpreted to mean that Government have done nothing up to now. I have made these few remarks first which I intended to make last, but I am anxious to show this honourable House what Government have done in the past, what Government are doing and what they propose to do in the future. I cannot allow the remarks of my honourable friend to pass uncontradicted, because they may leave the impression upon the minds of honourable members that Government have practically done nothing. A special officer was appointed to go into the question of revision of forms used in all Government offices in the presidency as well as in Sind. I believe he worked for practically a year and ultimately his recommendations were accepted by Government and considerable economy was effected. Then, the Superintendent of Government Printing and Stationery also went into the question of reduction of these forms and as a result of his recommendations further reductions took place. My honourable friend's complaint that the Retrenchment Committee, although it had gone into the question of establishment, etc., had not gone into this question, was not quite correct. The Secretary of the Retrenchment Committee was specially asked by Government to go into the question with a view to effect economy in the actual printing of forms. That was in 1922, and he made a thorough examination. I believe, Mr. President, you were in the Secretariat at the time when Mr. Maxwell made an examination of

[Mr. Cowasji Jehangir]

all forms and records. He introduced changes of a very useful character, which, not only effected economy, but which also tended to better administration.

Then, Sir, with regard to the curtailment of returns Government has not absolutely neglected the matter. They have paid attention to that also. The Superintendent of Government Printing went into this question and reported, and a large number of reductions were made. Further again, all heads of offices were asked to report on this matter as to what could be left out of the administration reports and other reports, and on the advice given certain returns were reduced in size and others were eliminated. I have got here a formidable list of the reductions effected since 1917. It is interesting to see this list. I have not the time to read out all these reductions, but I will just give my honourable friends opposite an idea of what has been reduced (holding up the list for the inspection of honourable members opposite). The list of forms abolished runs through several foolscap pages. It relates to various departments, the Legal Department, the Home Department, etc. These were all done from 1917 to 1923 as the result of the investigations of the special officer appointed, the Superintendent of Government Printing and Stationery, and finally Mr. Maxwell, who was Secretary of the Retrenchment Committee. Therefore, honourable members opposite will see that Government have done their best to curtail all printed matter.

The honourable mover of the resolution talked about the *Government Gazette*. Well, there are some things which have to be printed in the *Government Gazette*. The honourable member for Poona will remember that he insisted on bills being translated in Urdu and published in the *Gazette*, and Government accepted that recommendation. All these things, after all run into pages and pages. If we come to look back upon why they were printed, we will most probably find it was done either at the express desire of the Council or because it was found necessary at some time or other.

Then he came to the question of Questions and Answers in this House, and he stated that we find so many questions being answered by merely informing the honourable member that the information is being obtained. I think, Sir, you will remember that those questions used not to be included in the list. It was you, Sir, or your predecessor, who thought it was desirable that an honourable member should be informed that his question is receiving the attention of Government, though Government was not able to give the information at the time. The only way of doing that was to print the question of the honourable member and say that his question was receiving the attention of Government. Therefore, although that used not to be included before, it has been included under special instructions.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: May I point out to the honourable member, that under the Standing Orders those questions which are not replied to during the session for which notice is given lapse, and

President]

able members have got to give fresh notice of those questions. In order to save that inconvenience to honourable members that procedure was suggested and has been adopted.

he Honourable Mr. COWASJI JEHangIR : You have given the explanation, Sir. That is why they are included in the list of Questions and Answers.

Well, Sir, Government will be very pleased indeed to go further into this question. We come now to the administration reports. My honourable friend referred to the Medical Department and the long lists of operations included in the report. Now, Sir, I cannot really explain to the House why all those long lists of operations are included. But there must be a good reason for it. Government will go into this, and they will try and find out why these departments want to include all such information, and if the departments agree that all this information is not necessary for the public, then we shall certainly eliminate it. But we cannot undertake to do anything without investigation. I do not think a committee will be of any use. Special officers have been appointed for this purpose, and Government are continuing their policy of retrenchment. If my honourable friend the mover comes to our assistance and gives us the benefit of his advice as to which returns he considers superfluous, I will undertake to make an investigation and effect retrenchment if possible and we shall be very grateful to the honourable member for his advice.

I have nothing further to say, and I hope he will withdraw the resolution on the assurance that I have given.

Mr. A. C. OWEN (European, Presidency) : Sir, I am very glad to hear that Government have already taken action in this matter and I trust they are prepared to continue the good work. On the assurance of the Honourable the General Member that further investigation will be made, I am prepared to withdraw the resolution. As suggested by the Honourable Member, I shall be glad to help Government in any way I can.

Question put and leave granted.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT : I have now to intimate to the House that I have received a commission from His Excellency directing me to announce that he is pleased to order that the present session of the Legislative Council should be prorogued. Accordingly, by virtue of this commission of His Excellency, I declare this Council prorogued until the date of which due notice shall be given. This Council is now prorogued.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A.

(Statement referred in paragraph 11 of the Honourable Mr. Lawrence's speech.)

Capital and Revenue Expenditure 1919-20 as basis.

(In thousands.)

| | 1919-20 | 1921-22 | 1922-23 | 1923-24 | 1924-25 |
|-------------------------------------|---------|----------|---------|----------|----------|
| Development Departments | 4,99,32 | 10,45,01 | 9,76,90 | 10,26,50 | 13,91,77 |
| Law, Order, etc., Departments | 5,78,41 | 7,32,48 | 6,92,78 | 6,93,48 | 7,42,84 |

Index Numbers.

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Development Departments | 100 | 200 | 190 | 206 | 279 |
| Law, Order, etc., Departments | 100 | 125 | 119 | 120 | 128 |

Development Departments.

Law, Order and General Depts.

| | |
|--|--|
| Forest. Irrigation. Interest (Relating to Dev. Depts.). Sinking Funds (For Dev. Depts.) Scientific Depts. Education. Medical. Public Health. Agriculture. Indus- tries. Civil Works (Dev. Depts.). Famine Relief. Bombay Dev. Deptt. | Land Revenue. Excise. Stamp. Registration. Interest (Relating to Law, Order, etc., Depts.). Genl. Administration. Admn. of Justice. Jails. Police. Ports and Pilotage. Civil Works (Law, Order, etc., Depts.). |
|--|--|

Misc. Depts. Superannuation. Stationery and Printing. Miscel-
 laneous, have been omitted as it is not possible to apportion the expendi-
 ture between the two groups.

APPENDIX B.

BILL No. II OF 1925.

A Bill further to amend the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, in its application to the Presidency of Bombay.

As published in the "Bombay Government Gazette" of the 27th January 1925.

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, in its application to the Presidency of II of 1899. Bombay, to provide for the levy of a duty on the transfer of land in the City of Bombay and in other municipal areas; AND WHEREAS the previous sanction of the Governor General required by section 80A of the Government of India Act, has been obtained for the passing of this Act; It is hereby 5 & 6 Geo. V, c. 61. enacted as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Indian Stamp (Bombay Amendment) Act, 1922.

(2) It extends to the whole of the Presidency of Bombay.

2. Notwithstanding anything contained in the Indian Stamp (Bombay Amendment) Act, 1922, in respect of any instrument Bom. II of 1922. (not being a lease or transfer of a lease as defined in the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, hereinafter referred to as the said Act, or an under lease or sub-lease or an agreement to let or sub-let or a power of attorney) relating to immovable property situate within the City of Bombay or within any other municipal area to which the Government may, by notification in the *Bombay Government Gazette*, extend the provisions of this Act and with effect from the date of such notification, for the entries in columns 1 and 2 against item 23 of the First Schedule to the said Act the following entries shall be substituted namely:—

| In column 1. | In column 2. |
|--|-----------------------|
| 23. Conveyance [as defined by section 2 (10)] not being a Transfer charged or exempted under No. 62,—where the amount or value of the consideration for such conveyance as set forth therein | |
| exceeds Rs. 200 but does not exceed Rs. 300 .. | Rs. a. p. .. 8 8 0 |
| exceeds Rs. 300 but does not exceed Rs. 400 .. | .. 12 0 0 |
| exceeds Rs. 400 but does not exceed Rs. 500 .. | .. 15 8 0 |
| exceeds Rs. 500 but does not exceed Rs. 600 .. | .. 19 0 0 |
| exceeds Rs. 600 but does not exceed Rs. 700 .. | .. 22 8 0 |
| exceeds Rs. 700 but does not exceed Rs. 800 .. | .. 26 0 0 |
| exceeds Rs. 800 but does not exceed Rs. 900 .. | .. 29 8 0 |
| exceeds Rs. 900 but does not exceed Rs. 1,000 .. | .. 33 0 0 |
| and for every Rs. 500 or part thereof in excess of Rs. 1,000 | 17 8 0 |

Appendices

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND

The Municipal Corporation of the City of Bombay receives considerable subventions from Government for their expenditure on education, hospitals, sanitation and other public purposes. This expenditure is growing rapidly, and in favour of compulsory education will grow still more rapidly. The consequent increase in the demands for assistance from the Government is

In order to enable Government to meet these demands, it is proposed to secure further revenue from those areas which will be brought under the expenditure of the Government of India.

The tax now proposed is in the form of Stamp Duty; it involves no additional expense in collection; it will be paid by people at the most convenient time when the transaction taxed places them in funds, and the incidence is restricted to a small percentage of the price obtained by the transaction.

H. S. LAWRENCE.

Bombay, 26th January 1925.

Appendices
APPENDIX C.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT,
Bombay Castle, 14th March 1925.

Esq., I.C.S.,
SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY,
FINANCE DEPARTMENT;

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

Subject : Financial Relations—Revision of Meston Settlement.

Sir,

With reference to the financial proposals contained in the Budget of the Government of India, I am directed to communicate to the Government of India a representation of the Legislative Council of Bombay suggesting that the just claims of this Presidency require further consideration.

2. His Excellency the Governor in Council entirely associates himself with this representation, and with the speech of the Finance Member of this Government in the course of the debate in Council on March 2nd.

3. I am to invite attention to the protests against the Meston Settlement which this Government have made to the Government of India from time to time, protests based on evidence and arguments which have been fully set out in the accompanying representation. I am to recall to the Government of India the advice tendered in 1917-18 by Sir W. Meyer, then Finance Member, Sir J. Brunyate, Member of the Council of India and Sir H. F. Howard, subsequently Financial Adviser to the Secretary of State, to the effect that a complete separation of sources of revenue was not adopted in any Federal system and was not practicable.

4. The break down of this system is admitted by the acceptance, upon the protest of the Bombay Government, by the Secretary of State of Devolution Rules 14 (c) and 15. But while the claim of this Presidency to a share in the income tax was admitted, the Rule was so framed as to withhold any substantial relief. The sums collected by the Government of India in the period 1921-22 to 1924-25 and the share received by this Government are shown below :—

| Year. | Amount collected by the Government of India. | Shares received by this Government. |
|---------|---|--|
| | Lakhs. | Lakhs. |
| 1921-22 | .. 481 | 13 |
| 1922-23 | .. 480 | 16½ |
| 1923-24 | .. 353 | .. |
| 1924-25 | .. 255 | .. |

Appendices

5. The Government of Bombay have noted reply of the Honourable the Finance Member (Contd.), very willing to consider the amendment. Consideration of this question will not bro-^Agested reference to the next Conference o- request that an immediate reference of the 1925, to the Taxation Enquiry Committee. I hitherto the Meston Settlement has been merely March 2nd 1921 the eyes of the public, the practical application of the Budget, the has now awakened general interest. The indignation arou-^{tion to the} Legislative Council has begun to appreciate the extent to-^{nt of India} welfare of this Presidency has been endangered, is very great, and I am to urge that the Government of India may be moved to allay this indignation by some measures that will ensure substantial relief at a very early date.

6. The Province of Bombay has reached a stage when the revenue obtained from the rural population will no longer meet the needs of future progress, and the Legislative Council have declared with no uncertain voice that they are adverse to any additional taxation which may fall to any extent on the rural population. It is on this ground that they refused a year ago to extend the enhanced Court Fees which had been introduced in 1922 as a temporary measure. Apart from the tax on betting which the Government of Bombay intend to introduce during the year, the possibilities of new taxation are limited to enhancements under the Stamp Acts, and until some form of death duties can be evolved and extended to the whole of India, Stamp Duties can produce little additional revenue.

7. I am directed further to lay particular stress on that part of the representation which deals with the comparative incidence of taxation in the various Provinces. The per capita taxation (including the land revenue) in this Presidency is considerably higher than in any other part of India ; and this fact has made it peculiarly difficult for this Government to carry even the small measures of taxation left open to local Governments. At the same time the standard of living and the long accepted standards of administration, as evidenced by the comparative tables of expenditure on the various public services, make it impossible for this Presidency to retrench down to the standard of other Provinces, though rigid economy has long been the guiding spirit in all departments.

8. Figures of the retrenchments effected have already been supplied by telegram to the Government of India, but these perforce omit all reference to economies constantly being effected, which though the results are not calculable, have definitely affected the standard of administrative efficiency. The time has now come when the difficulties arising out of the failure to obtain a share of the revenues derived from the great industries of the Province can no longer be concealed by retrenchment

Appendices

ial services. I am to request therefore that
ment without delay to the reconsider-

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

G. WILES,

Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Finance Department.

Accompaniment :—Representation of the Legislative Council of Bombay.

Appendices

APPENDIX C—(contd).

REPRESENTATION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF

March 14th, 1925.

1. The Legislative Council of Bombay on March 2nd¹⁹²⁵ following resolution :—

The business of the Council be adjourned to call attention to the financial proposals of the Finance Member of the Government of India as they affect this Presidency and to urge upon the Government the necessity of urgently communicating to the Government of India by a proper representation of the Honourable Members of this House the just claims of Bombay to further consideration, having regard to the financial position of this Presidency.

2. The financial proposals in this Budget of the Government of India make no reference to the Bombay Presidency but, in accordance with the Meston Settlement, allot 2·5 crores to grant relief to four Provinces of a portion of their contribution to the Central Exchequer. Moreover, in regard to Bengal, they go outside the Meston Settlement, and grant a total remission of the contribution of 63 lakhs to that Presidency for another three years.

3. We claim that a grave injustice has been done to the Presidency of Bombay through the Meston Settlement. Our case against that settlement is based on two distinct grounds : firstly, that the distribution of surplus revenues assigned to the provinces of India over and above the provincial revenue existing at the time of the reforms was determined in a haphazard manner and bore no relation to the needs of the provinces, to the total taxation derived from those provinces and to the resources then available in those provinces : and secondly, that this haphazard distribution was founded upon the application of federal principles of finance which have not been adopted in any other federal Government in the world.

4. We recognise our responsibility in putting forward so vigorous a criticism of a system of finance which was first suggested in the Montagu-Chelmsford Report, accepted by the Meston Committee and endorsed by the Joint Committee of the House of Lords and Commons. We are supported in our present representation by the continuous protests which the Government of Bombay have made from the first consideration of this question in 1918. We feel that these protests have been overruled chiefly on the ground of the grave complexity of the problems raised and the expediency of accepting a definite decision supported by authority. We urge that this decision should now be reconsidered for the reasons :

Firstly, that the decision has already broken down as is admitted by the variations already accepted in rules 15 and 18 (2) of the Devolution Rules.

Secondly, that the premises on which the decision was founded can be demonstrated to be erroneous.

Appendices

anticipations of the Meston Committee can be have been completely falsified by events.

is general statement of our case, we must proceed to a analysis; and firstly with regard to the haphazard dis- e surplus revenues.

the Committee found nine provinces of the Indian Empire the possession of a normal income of 54 crores of rupees. They that on the proposed classification of sources of revenue provinces would receive 76½ crores and would accept the respons- for 4 crores of Imperial expenditure to be transferred to the provinces. The provinces would thus have an additional net increase of 18½ crores. Of this 18½ crores, the Committee allotted 15 crores to the four provinces :

| | Crores. |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Madras | 5·8 |
| United Provinces | 4·0 |
| Punjab | 2·9 |
| Burma | 2·5 |

The other provinces received :

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Bengal | 1,04 lakhs. |
| Bombay | 92 ” |
| Central Provinces | 52 ” |
| Bihar and Orissa | 51 ” |
| Assam | 42 ” |

It is interesting to note the percentages of the increases of revenue thus allotted to these provinces :

| Province. | Normal income. | Increased income due to Reforms. (Figures are in crores.) | Percentage increase. |
|---------------------------|----------------|--|----------------------|
| Madras | 8·8 | 5·8 | 66 |
| United Provinces | 7·8 | 4·0 | 51 |
| Punjab | 5·8 | 2·9 | 50 |
| Burma | 6·1 | 2·5 | 41 |
| Bengal | 7·1 | 1·0 | 14 |
| Bombay | 10·2 | 0·9 | 9 |
| Bihar and Orissa | 3·3 | 0·5 | 15 |
| Central Provinces | 3·2 | 0·5 | 16 |
| Assam | 1·5 | 0·4 | 27 |

6. Now how does the Meston Report justify this variation in treatment? Paragraph 15 of their Report discusses this question and should be considered in full :

“ It is of importance to realise the nature of this transaction. In the first place it implies no judgment on the merits of previous financial settlements with any province. The increase in revenue comes to the provinces as a windfall, or as a bye-product of a constitutional change. It is not due, as financial settlements have been in the past, to the consideration of the financial needs of individual provinces. It cannot properly be quoted as an admission of financial inequalities or as an act of

Appendices

tardy justice to the provinces that gain by it. from political and not primarily from financial ^{motives} in the desire to secure a greater measure of devol^{possibly} and in the endeavour to draw for this purpose a def were equ partition between local governments and the Gov^{the w} While we consider that a windfall of this nature affo^{nt} for initial contributions by the provinces, it is not surpris^{ll} its application requires some modifications in view of individu^{stances}.

“Secondly, on this basis the system of contributions appears in a less invidious light. The central government in the course of a political reconstruction gives to each of the local governments some, and to some local governments a very considerable, increase of spending power. Finding itself in a deficit as the result of this reconstruction, it withholds from each province a certain proportion of the increased resources which it is intended that the provinces should eventually obtain. The central government does not come in as raiding the hard won surplus of a province; nor ought the central government to be represented, if our proposal be accepted, as the pensioner of the provinces. It can hardly be contended that a province, which has at all events decidedly improved its finances as a result of the change, has valid ground of complaint, if it does not obtain immediately the full increment which it may subsequently realise. In the case of the provinces that gain most, it would hardly be possible for any such province to spend in the first year the whole of its suddenly increased resources; and if it were possible, it would be financially undesirable. We think therefore that this basis affords less scope for controversy and may be accepted as both logical and more equitable than the plan of the Montagu-Chelmsford Report.”

7. It is remarkable that the Committee did not consider themselves called upon to justify so violent a change in the existing revenues on any reasoned grounds. They accepted without qualification the fact that this increase given to certain provinces arose out of political and not primarily financial motives, and then they proceeded to argue in some detail on the justification of withholding from certain provinces a proportion of the increased resources.

8. We are unable to view this question from the same standpoint. The position taken by the Meston Committee has largely governed the direction of subsequent criticisms by provincial governments. Attention has been concentrated, and in our judgment wrongly concentrated, on the amount of provincial resources withheld out of the windfalls; and the great agricultural provinces of Madras, the United Provinces and the Punjab have complained that they have been paying 3·5, 2·4 and 1·75 crores of provincial contributions and have lost sight of the fact that they received windfalls of 66 per cent., 51 per cent. and 50 per cent. over and above their former revenues. The argument has in fact been turned upside down, and the public have been led to believe that Bombay and Bengal with contributions of 56 and 63 lakhs have been favourably treated in comparison with the provinces that pay two or three crores.

Appendices

The Committee did not consider it necessary to allocate 5½ crores to Madras and 4 crores to the United Provinces. In view of the total amount of 18½ crores, the protests of Bombay against its share in the income-tax (on which the Committee has no report in item (d) of their terms of reference) compelled them to depart from the general theory of windfalls, the special case of Bombay finances: and they made the following references

In paragraph 7 they reject the claim of Bombay to a share of the income-tax on the ground that they 'do not apprehend that the richer provinces, such as Bombay, will be seriously handicapped in the administration of their own finances; and they append 'some figures which indicate that several of the provinces, and Bombay in particular, may look for reasonable elasticity which will in most cases be encouraged by judicious capital outlay'.

In these figures they compared the revenue under the proposed individual heads of the year 1912-13 with the year 1920-21 and found that in these eight years Bombay had increased

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| its Excise Revenue by | 102 per cent. |
| its General Stamps by | 119 „ |
| its Land Revenue by | 32 „ |

and all provincial revenues by 52 per cent.; whereas the increase in other provinces varied from 11 to 35 per cent. It was thus on an assumed annual increase of

| |
|---------------------------------|
| 12½ per cent. in Excise |
| 15 per cent. in General Stamps |
| and 4 per cent. in Land Revenue |

that they based their conclusion that Bombay in particular may "look for reasonable elasticity in their revenues apart from income-tax".

10. We append a Note showing how completely the contention of the Committee regarding the elasticity of our revenues has been falsified in fact. We have had the figures of revenue carefully examined, and compared the actual realisations with the expectations of the Meston Committee. We find that the realisations in the four years of the reformed government fell short of the calculations of the Committee by over 9 crores.

The selection of two single years as the basis of important conclusions has vitiated the whole argument. The datum line selected was a year of famine when the land revenue had fallen by a crore and a half. Hence the erroneous conclusion that the land revenue would go on expanding at the rate of about 4 per cent. per annum. An analysis of our land revenue figures for the last twenty-one years shows that it has expanded by 14 per cent. in that period, or less than 1 per cent. per annum. Its capacity for expansion in the future is clearly limited: while it is admitted that this Presidency is more liable to famine than any other part of India.

In the case of Excise the period considered by the Committee included an important change of system from fixed fees to auctions which led to a sudden large increase of revenues which could not possibly be repeated.

The Committee's expectations regarding Stamps were equally erroneous as they were based upon the boom years following the war.

11. Again, the Meston Committee in paragraph 20 state that Bombay "has attained a scale of expenditure far above the Indian average, and the pace of expansion of its revenues is distinctly higher than in any other province. We believe that it could without inconvenience forego the greater part of its new resources at the outset, and help the less fortunate provinces from its own abundant balances. But we hesitate to differentiate it prejudicially from the other richer provinces".

We admit that we have a scale of expenditure far above the Indian average; but if the State in Bombay has conferred greater benefits on the people in the matter of Education, Medical Relief, Roads, Buildings, and such other beneficent activities, it has derived the revenues for this expenditure from its own people. Is it right that we should be penalised on this ground? Is it disputed that an industrial province must necessarily maintain a higher standard of administration than a purely agricultural province?

12. The question of the heavy expenditure of the Government on great commercial and industrial cities is mentioned by the Meston Committee, but with little recognition of its importance. Bombay has two of the principal ports of India on its coast line. But the mercantile and trading population who contribute so handsomely to the revenues of the India Government in Income tax, Super tax, Customs duties and Cotton Excise, and who are the main prop of the Government of India in its loan operations, contribute little to the provincial revenues. The local government has to provide for the education of a large industrial population and to grapple with problems of development and sanitation, medical relief and housing, as well as to maintain law and order in cities and large industrial towns. As an illustration, it may be noted that the expenditure on Police in Bombay City is Rs. 3 per head as against Re. 1 per head in the districts or an increased expenditure of 20 lakhs on Bombay City police alone. This is not a small matter when it is remembered that of the 11 chief towns of India with a population of over 200,000 four are situated in this Presidency.

13. This Presidency is engaged in vast enterprises in the development of the City of Bombay and the development of irrigation in Sind: enterprises which conceived and put in train before the crushing blow of this Award fell upon us, require the provision of some 50 crores of capital. When these works are completed we anticipate that the material progress of the people will be greatly enhanced, trade and industry will flourish and the income-tax revenue will be greatly increased. Is it just that this Presidency should bear the whole risk and responsibility of those enterprises and that the proceeds of the wealth so gained should be diverted to the Central Exchequer? In the City of Bombay we borrow money wherewith to reclaim large areas, to construct buildings and to

lay out roads. The industries that flourish therefrom pay their whole contribution to the central government. We remain responsible for the loans and receive no benefit from the industries that we have financed. We submit that this is an anomalous and inequitable arrangement which would not be tolerated in any other Federal system in the world.

14. We now proceed to set forth some detailed figures regarding our income tax payments.

At the time of the Meston Award the income tax in the different provinces was as follows :—

| | | | | | Lakhs. |
|-------------------|----|----|----|-------|--------|
| Madras | .. | .. | .. | .. | 78 |
| Bombay | .. | .. | .. | .. | 245 |
| Bengal | .. | .. | .. | .. | 177 |
| United Provinces | .. | .. | .. | .. | 50 |
| Punjab | .. | .. | .. | .. | 41 |
| Burma | .. | .. | .. | .. | 60 |
| Bihar and Orissa | .. | .. | .. | .. | 20 |
| Central Provinces | .. | .. | .. | .. | 18 |
| Assam | .. | .. | .. | .. | 9 |
| | | | | Total | 698 |

The Income tax, Super tax and Excess profit Duty levied from Bombay in subsequent years is shown in the following statement :—

| (Figures are in lakhs of rupees.) | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------------------|
| | 1920-21. | 1921-22. | 1922-23. | 1923-24. | 1924-25. (revised). |
| Income tax | .. 429 | 481 | 480 | 353 | 255 |
| Super tax | .. 188 | 345 | 308 | 181 | 119 |
| Excess profits duty. | 62 | 11 | 1 | .. | .. |
| Total | .. 679 | 837 | 789 | 534 | 374 |
| Refunds | .. 52 | | | | |
| Net | .. 627 | | | | |

Thus in the five years Bombay has paid in lieu of a levy as anticipated by the Meston Committee of 12½ crores :

| | | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|----|----------------|
| Income tax | .. | .. | .. | 19·98 crores. |
| Super tax | .. | .. | .. | 11·41 .. |
| Excess profit duty | .. | .. | .. | ·75 .. |
| | | | | Total .. 32·14 |

For the years 1920—23 (for which alone figures of all provinces are available) this province with a population of less than 8 per cent. of the total population of British India has contributed not less than 36 per cent. of the income tax and allied taxes of all India.

Appendices

We fully admit that the companies operating in the having their headquarters in Bombay pay income tax an allowance must be made for this fact. But no such deduction alter the essential fact that a far larger proportion of our population live by industry than in any other province or that this presidency several times as much per head in the shape of taxes on income as other province in India.

15. In response to the continuous protests of the Bombay Government, the Secretary of State overruled the Meston Committee's proposal that no share of the income tax should be allotted to any province, and sanctioned a special rule No. 14-C in the Devolution Rules, thereby granting a share "in the growth of revenue derived from income tax collected in the provinces so far as the growth is attributable to an increase in the amount of income assesses". This was a fundamental breach in the system of separate revenues on which the whole Meston Settlement is founded. It is indeed true that Bombay, the protagonist of the struggle for a share in the income tax, gets less under the Devolution Rule 15 than most other provinces, because the datum year 1920-21 was one of exceptional trade and prosperity in Bombay; and as the machinery for the collection of the tax had also been brought to a higher pitch of efficiency in Bombay than in other provinces, the result is that Bombay can never hope to secure any substantial revenue under the existing rule. The share of this province was 13 lakhs for the year 1921-22 and 16½ lakhs for 1922-23, nothing for the last or the current year, and probably nothing next year. But however disappointing the result from the Bombay point of view, the fact remains that this rule represents a complete departure from the theory of the clean cut.

16. The sanctity of the Settlement has thus already been violated. It can no longer be pleaded that its principles are fixed for good or ill.

A further breach was effected when, in August 1923, the Secretary of State sanctioned rule 18 (2) granting a remission to the Government of Bengal of the provincial contribution in the financial years 1922-23; and again in the proposals of the present budget of the Government of India to continue the special remission to the province of Bengal for another three years.

Since the province of Bengal has, like that of Bombay, contributed a very large amount to the central revenues in the shape of income tax, super tax, and excess profit duty in the four years 1921-25, we regard this remission of 2 crores in the past and 2 crores in the coming three years as a partial recognition of the injustice of the Meston Settlement, and we endorse and support this remission. But we fail to recognise any grounds for a differentiation adverse to Bombay and we claim that pending the settlement of our appeal for a revision of the allocation of the sources of revenue, the same relief as has been applied to the Presidency of Bengal may be applied to the Presidency of Bombay by the remission of the existing contribution of Rs. 56 lakhs a year. Such remission can however only be regarded as a provisional remedy and as a small proportion only of our total claim.

Appendices

ment must take into consideration the needs of our province, our contributions both to the revenues as well as the demands on our resources, according to the standards of our administration. Statement in Appendix A compares the *per capita* contribution of different provinces to the Imperial revenues for the latest year 1922-23, the figures for which are available. The figures for Customs, Salt and Excise have not been included as it is not possible to distribute them by provinces with any approach to accuracy.

If we turn to the provincial revenues obtained by taxation the same difference is manifest from the accompanying statement :

*Provincial taxes * per head of population (1922-23).*

| | Rs. |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Madras | 3·2 |
| Bombay | 6·1 |
| United Provinces | 2·2 |
| Bengal | 1·9 |
| Punjab | 2·5 |
| Burma | 5·0 |

* Comprises Land Revenue Excise, Stamps, Irrigation, Scheduled Taxes and the Surplus of income tax granted to provincial governments.

Without claiming perfect accuracy for these figures, we maintain that they are sufficient to demonstrate the fact that Bombay contributes several times as much per head to the imperial exchequer as other provinces in India. For what it contributes to the provincial revenues it gets a return in the shape of greater amenities of civilized life than the other provinces. But what extra benefits does it enjoy as compared with the other provinces for the disproportionate share of its contributions to the Imperial Government ?

18. Since the Meston Committee were dealing with an increase of provincial resources from 54 crores to 72 crores, or 33 per cent., we claim that each province should have had an equal share in this increase. Bengal, the Central Provinces, Bihar and Orissa and Assam suffer also from this unequal distribution ; but our case is aggravated both by the smaller share that we received and by the heavy toll on our income tax revenues.

The normal revenue of Bombay was then assumed to be ten crores, and our proportionate share would have been 3·34 crores.

The Committee allotted us 92 lakhs only, and we urge that we have been unjustly deprived of 242 lakhs.

Of the sums so allotted forty per cent. only have so far been granted to the Provinces, and on this proportion Bombay should have received 96 lakhs per annum in these four years 1921—25.

We claim therefore that sum of four crores has been wrongly withheld from us ; and that in the future we are entitled on the basis of the just distribution of the surplus revenues dealt with by the Meston Award to additional revenues not less than 242 lakhs per annum.

Appendices

The Government of India have drawn from the State in the four years 1921--25 in Income Tax and Super-taxes 25 crores of rupees.

Are we not justified in asking that a portion of these 25 crores be restored to us? We ask that these two claims be submitted for the adjudication of an impartial tribunal.

19. So far we have dealt with the practical side of the Meston Settlement. We now turn to the theoretical basis. Immediately after the memorable declaration of August 1917, enquiries began as to the best method of financial provision for the autonomous governments then foreshadowed. The principle of entirely separate financial sources of revenue was laid by Sir James Meston (as he then was) and accepted on behalf of the Government of India.

The Local Governments accepted the principle in theory; but even at this early stage the Bombay Government claimed a share in the income tax. In June 1918 appeared the Montagu-Chelmsford Report, and in Chapter VIII we find this principle again enunciated:

“Our first aim has therefore been to find out some means of entirely separating the resources of the central and provincial governments” and again

“If provincial autonomy is to mean anything real, clearly the provinces must not be dependent on the Indian Government for the means of provincial development.”

We desire to draw special attention to these extracts, since the origin of all subsequent trouble is the academic insistence, by the framers of the Montagu-Chelmsford Report, on the theory of complete separation.

20. In no country in the world in the history of federal and provincial finance has it been found possible to achieve a clean cut between provincial and central revenues. There is a larger measure of provincial autonomy in the Commonwealth of Australia than in any other British federation. Yet there is no such complete separation of Commonwealth and State finance as is aimed at in India. In Canada, and the United States also there are common sources of State Revenue. The war tax on profits and income in Switzerland was levied on the cantons who retained a share of the proceeds and paid the balance into the Federal treasury. Wherever complete separation has been aimed at, as in India, it is found that subsidies or contributions are required.

21. In conclusion, we desire to lay stress on the fact that Bombay is more highly taxed than any other province in India. Its greater liability to famine demands the maintenance of a balance and a famine fund greater than any other province. We are making every effort to effect retrenchment, balance our budget and maintain necessary reserves. We trust that the Government of India are able to appreciate the necessities of our financial position and will not be misled into the belief that Bombay is in no need of relief.

Appendices

Appe.
we have fulfilled the conditions laid down by the Finance Member when he spoke on March 1st, 1923, words :

“The provincial governments think, it is said, that they will get more sympathy from the central government and get rid of their provincial contributions quickly if they can show a handsome deficit and appeal to the charity of the central government. I should like to say for my part that the strongest appeal that the provincial governments can make in the matter of provincial contributions is to show themselves worthy of assistance from the central government by strenuous and successful endeavours to make both ends meet for themselves.”

We have constantly insisted on the necessity for economy and retrenchment. We demanded of Government in 1922 a cut of 60 lakhs, which was actually converted into a saving of 70 lakhs; and the permanent savings effected on the advice of our Retrenchment Committee amount annually to over 33 lakhs. We agreed to temporary bills to enhance the Stamp Duties and the Court Fees, and to a permanent Act to tax Entertainments, with the result that we have built up and maintained a balance suitable to our situation. But our future progress is now impeded and we are faced next year with a deficit of nearly half a crore.

The case, therefore, for reference to another Committee of the revision of the Mestor Settlement, seems to us to be unanswerable. In this we are supported by the conclusions both of the majority and the minority reports of the Reforms Enquiry Committee which give additional reasons for early reconsideration.

APPENDIX A (vide paragraph 17).

Statement comparing the contributions per capita of the peoples of the various provinces of India to Imperial Revenues (1922-23.)

| Nature of tax. | Mad- ras. | Bom- bay. | United Pro- vinces. | Bengal | Pun- jab. | Bürma | Bihar and Orissa. | Assam. |
|---|--------------|--------------|---------------------------|--------|--------------|-------|-------------------------|--------|
| | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| Taxes on Incomes .. | .312 | 4.060 | .215 | .696 | .338 | 1.174 | .170 | .121 |
| Excise duty on cotton manu- factures .. | .020 | .823 | .014 | .005 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| | .332 | 4.883 | .229 | .701 | .338 | 1.174 | .170 | .121 |
| Provincial contribution to the Central Government. | .823 | .290 | .529 | .. | .845 | .485 | .. | .197 |
| | 1.155 | 5.173 | .758 | .701 | 1.183 | 1.659 | .170 | .318 |

Revenues from Customs, Salt and Opium are excluded.

Appendices

APPENDIX B.

*Note showing that Provincial revenues of the Government of
have not expanded as anticipated by the Meston Comf/O.*

1. *Land Revenue and other heads—*

The Meston Committee estimated the percentage growth of L. R. + Irrigation during the period 1912-13—1920-21 at 32 per cent.

The actual revenue under the heads L. R. and Irrigation in 1912-13 was 489 lakhs.

The White Book figure for 1920-21 was 633 lakhs.

The figures from which the Meston Committee calculated the percentage growth are—

- (1) actuals for 1912-13 ;
- (2) budget figures for 1920-21.

Average percentage growth per annum as estimated by the Meston Committee was 4 per cent. of actual revenue for 1912-13, *i. e.*, 19½ lakhs per annum.

In the period 1921-22—1924-25 the Meston Committee anticipated that the revenue under these heads would be as follows :—

| | | | Lakhs. |
|--------------|----|----|------------------------------|
| Basic figure | .. | .. | 489+32 per cent. of 489=645½ |
| 1921-22 | .. | .. | 489+36 per cent. of 489=665 |
| 1922-23 | .. | .. | 489+40 per cent. of 489=684½ |
| 1923-24 | .. | .. | 489+44 per cent. of 489=704 |
| 1924-25 | .. | .. | 489+48 per cent. of 489=723½ |

These estimates must be compared with the actual revenues realized.

| | | | As estimated by basic Meston Committee figures. | Actuals. |
|---------|----|----|--|----------|
| 1921-22 | .. | .. | 665 | 583 |
| 1922-23 | .. | .. | 684½ | 611 |
| 1923-24 | .. | .. | 704 | 562 |
| 1924-25 | .. | .. | 723½ | 577 |

Throughout the period the actual revenue was less than the figures which the Committee erroneously thought would represent the revenue for 1920-21.

2. *Excise—*

| | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|-----|
| Actual revenue, 1912-13 | .. | .. | .. | 209 |
| Meston Committee's budget estimate, 1920-21 | .. | .. | .. | 423 |
| (209+102·5 per cent. of 209) | | | | |

| | | | As estimated by Meston Committee. | Actuals. |
|---------|----|----|--------------------------------------|----------|
| 1921-22 | .. | .. | 450 | 343 |
| 1922-23 | .. | .. | 477 | 423 |
| 1923-24 | .. | .. | 504 | 435 |
| 1924-25 | .. | .. | 531 | 436 |

Appendices

| | | | | | |
|--------|---|----|----|--------------------------------------|----------|
| | 1912-13 | .. | .. | .. | 81 |
| | Committee's budget estimate, 1920-21 | | | | 177 |
| | "The ³¹ + 119·1 per cent. of 81) | | | | |
| more » | | | | As estimated by Meston Committee. | Actuals. |
| | 1921-22 | .. | .. | 189 | 164 |
| | 1922-23 | .. | .. | 201 | 177 |
| | 1923-24 | .. | .. | 213 | 180 |
| | 1924-25 | .. | .. | 225 | 172 |

4. *All heads—*

| | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|----|----|--------------------------------------|----------|
| | Basic figure for 1920-21 | .. | .. | .. | 1,245½ |
| | | | | As estimated by Meston Committee. | Actuals. |
| | 1921-22 | .. | .. | 1,304 | 1,090 |
| | 1922-23 | .. | .. | 1,362½ | 1,211 |
| | 1923-24 | .. | .. | 1,412 | 1,177 |
| | 1924-25 | .. | .. | 1,479½ | 1,185 |

The Meston Committee estimated that during the period of four years there would be an increase of 234 lakhs; as a matter of fact there has been a decrease of 60½ lakhs. In the four years 1921—1925 the actual revenues under these heads have amounted to 904 lakhs less than estimated by the Meston Committee.

APPENDIX D.

BILL No. III OF 1925.

A Bill further to amend the Court-fees Act, 1870.

(As published in the "Bombay Government Gazette" of the 27th January 1925.)

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Court-fees Act, 1870, in its application to the Presidency of Bombay in manner hereinafter appearing; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

Short title, extent, commencement and duration. 1. (1) This Act may be called the Court-fees (Bombay Amendment) Act, 1925.

(2) It extends to the whole of the Presidency of Bombay.

(3) It shall come into force on the 1st day of April 1925.

Amendment of section 7 of VII of 1870. 2. In section 7 of the Court-fees Act, 1870, hereinafter called the said Act,

(a) to clause (d) of paragraph *iv* the words "or other consequential relief" shall be added;

(b) after the word "appeal" in paragraph *iv* the words "with a minimum fee of rupees fifteen in each case" shall be inserted; and

(c) in clauses (1), (2) and (3) of the proviso to paragraph *v* for the words "five", "ten" and "ten" the words "ten", "twenty" and "twenty" shall, respectively, be substituted.

3. For articles 1, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12 and 12-A of, and the Table of rates of *ad valorem* fees in Schedule I to, the said Act the following shall be substituted, namely:—

SCHEDULE I.

Ad Valorem Fees.

| Number. | — | Proper fee. |
|--|--|---------------|
| 1. Plaint, written statement pleading a set off or counter-claim or memorandum of appeal (not otherwise provided for in this Act) or of cross-objection presented to any Civil or Revenue Court except those mentioned in section 3. | When the amount or value of the subject-matter in dispute does not exceed five rupees. | Six annas. |
| | When such amount or value exceeds five rupees, for every five rupees, or part thereof, in excess of five rupees up to one hundred rupees. | Six annas. |
| | When such amount or value exceeds one hundred rupees, for every ten rupees, or part thereof, in excess of one hundred rupees, up to five hundred rupees. | Twelve annas. |

| Number. | — | Proper fee. |
|--|--|------------------------------------|
| 1. <i>Plaint, etc.—contd.</i> | When such amount or value exceeds five hundred rupees, for every ten rupees, or part thereof, in excess of five hundred rupees, up to one thousand rupees. | One rupee and two annas. |
| | When such amount or value exceeds one thousand rupees, for every one hundred rupees, or part thereof, in excess of one thousand rupees, up to five thousand rupees. | Seven rupees and eight annas. |
| | When such amount or value exceeds five thousand rupees, for every two hundred and fifty rupees, or part thereof, in excess of five thousand rupees, up to ten thousand rupees. | Fifteen rupees. |
| | When such amount or value exceeds ten thousand rupees, for every five hundred rupees, or part thereof, in excess of ten thousand rupees, up to twenty thousand rupees. | Twenty-two rupees and eight annas. |
| | When such amount or value exceeds twenty thousand rupees, for every one thousand rupees, or part thereof, in excess of twenty thousand rupees, up to thirty thousand rupees. | Thirty rupees. |
| | When such amount or value exceeds thirty thousand rupees for every two thousand rupees, or part thereof, in excess of thirty thousand rupees, up to fifty thousand rupees. | Thirty rupees. |
| | When such amount or value exceeds fifty thousand rupees, for every five thousand rupees, or part thereof, in excess of fifty thousand rupees : | Thirty rupees. |
| | Provided that the maximum fee leviable on a plaint or memorandum of appeal shall be six thousand rupees. | |
| 6. Copy or translation of a judgment or order not being, or having the force of, a decree. | When such judgment or order is passed by any Civil Court other than a High Court, or by the presiding officer of any Revenue Court or Office, or by | |

| Number. | — | Proper fee. |
|---|--|--|
| 6. Copy, etc.— <i>contd.</i> | any other Judicial or Executive Authority— (a) If the amount or value of the subject matter is fifty or less than fifty rupees. (b) If such amount or value exceeds fifty rupees. When such judgment or order is passed by a High Court. | Eight Annas. One rupee. Two rupees |
| 7. Copy of a decree or order having the force of a decree. | When such decree or order is made by any Civil Court other than a High Court, or by any Revenue Court— (a) If the amount or value of the subject matter of the suit wherein such decree or order is made is fifty or less than fifty rupees. (b) If such amount or value exceeds fifty rupees. When such decree or order is made by a High Court. | One rupee. Two rupees. Four rupees. |
| 8. Copy of any document liable to Stamp duty under the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, when left by any party to a suit or proceeding in place of the original withdrawn. | (a) When the stamp-duty chargeable on the original does not exceed eight annas. (b) In any other case | The amount of the duty chargeable on the original. One rupee. |
| 11. Probate of a will or letters of administration with or without will annexed. | When the amount or value of the property in respect of which the grant of probate, or letters is made exceeds one thousand rupees, on the part of the amount or value in excess of one thousand rupees, up to five thousand rupees. | Two per centum. |
| | When the amount or value of the property in respect of which the grant of probate or letters is made exceeds five thousand rupees, on the part of the amount or value in excess of five thousand rupees, up to ten thousand rupees. | Two and a half per centum. |
| | When the amount or value of the property in respect of which the grant of probate or letters is made exceeds ten thousand rupees, on the part of the amount or value in excess of ten thousand rupees, up to fifty thousand rupees. | Three per centum. |

II of 1899.

| Number. | — | Proper fee. |
|-------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 11. Probate, etc.— <i>contd.</i> | When the amount or value of the property in respect of which the grant of probate of letters is made exceeds fifty thousand rupees, on the part of the amount or value in excess of fifty thousand rupees, up to one lakh of rupees. | Three and a half per centum. |
| | When the amount or value of the property in respect of which the grant of probate or letters is made exceeds one lakh of rupees, on the part of the amount or value in excess of one lakh of rupees, up to one lakh and fifty thousand rupees. | Four per centum. |
| | When the amount or value of the property in respect of which the grant of probate or letters is made exceeds one lakh and fifty thousand rupees, on the part of the amount or value in excess of one lakh and fifty thousand rupees, up to two lakhs of rupees. | Four and a half per centum. |
| | When the amount or value of the property in respect of which the grant of probate or letters is made exceeds two lakhs of rupees, on the part of the amount or value in excess of two lakhs of rupees, up to two lakhs and fifty thousand rupees. | Five per centum. |
| | When the amount or value of the property in respect of which the grant of probate or letters is made exceeds two lakhs and fifty thousand rupees, on the part of the amount or value in excess of two lakhs and fifty thousand rupees, up to three lakhs of rupees. | Five and a half per centum. |
| | When the amount or value of the property in respect of which the grant of probate or letters is made exceeds three lakhs of rupees, on the part of the amount or value in excess of three lakhs of rupees, up to four lakhs of rupees. | Six per centum. |
| | When the amount or value of the property in respect of which the grant of probate or letters is made exceeds four lakhs of rupees, on the part of the amount or value in excess of four lakhs of rupees, up to five lakhs of rupees. | Six and a half per centum. |

| Number. | — | Proper fee. |
|--|---|---|
| <p>11. Probate, etc.— <i>contd.</i></p> <p>VII of 1889.</p> | <p>When the amount or value of the property in respect of which the grant of probate or letters is made exceeds five lakhs of rupees, on the part of the amount or value in excess of five lakhs of rupees.</p> <p>Provided that when, after the grant of a certificate under the Succession Certificate Act, 1889, or under Bombay Regulation VIII of 1827, in respect of any property included in an estate, a grant of probate or letters of administration is made in respect of the same estate, the fee payable in respect of the latter grant shall be reduced by the amount of the fee paid in respect of the former grant.</p> | <p>Seven per centum.</p> |
| <p>12. Certificate under the Succession Certificate Act, 1889.</p> <p>VII of 1889.</p> | <p>.....</p> | <p>The fee leviable in the case of a probate (article II) on the amount or value of any debt or security specified in the certificate under section 8 of the Act, and one and a half times this fee on the amount or value of any debt or security to which the certificate is extended under section 10 of the Act.</p> <p><i>Note.</i>—(1) The amount of a debt is its amount, including interest on the day on which the inclusion of the debt</p> |

| Number. | — | Proper fee. |
|---|--------------|---|
| <p>12. Certificate, etc. —<i>contd.</i></p> | | <p>in the certificate is applied for, so far as such amount can be ascertained.</p> <p>(2) Whether or not any power with respect to a security specified in a certificate has been conferred under the Act; and where such a power has been so conferred, whether the power is for the receiving of interest or dividends on, or for the negotiation or transfer of the security, or for both purposes, the value of the security is its market-value on the day on which the inclusion of the security in the certificate is applied for, so far as such value can be ascertained.</p> |
| <p>12A. Certificate under Bombay Regulation VIII of 1827.</p> | <p>.....</p> | <p>The fee leviable in the case of a probate (article II) on the amount or value of the property in respect of which the certificate is granted.</p> |

Appendices

Table of rates of ad valorem fees leviable on the institution

| When the amount or value of the sub- ject matter exceeds— | But does not exceed— | Proper fee. |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|
| Rs. | Rs. | Rs. a. |
| | 5 | 0 6 |
| 5 | 10 | 0 12 |
| 10 | 15 | 1 2 |
| 15 | 20 | 1 8 |
| 20 | 25 | 1 14 |
| 25 | 30 | 2 4 |
| 30 | 35 | 2 10 |
| 35 | 40 | 3 0 |
| 40 | 45 | 3 6 |
| 45 | 50 | 3 12 |
| 50 | 55 | 4 2 |
| 55 | 60 | 4 8 |
| 60 | 65 | 4 14 |
| 65 | 70 | 5 4 |
| 70 | 75 | 5 10 |
| 75 | 80 | 6 0 |
| 80 | 85 | 6 6 |
| 85 | 90 | 6 12 |
| 90 | 95 | 7 2 |
| 95 | 100 | 7 8 |
| 100 | 110 | 8 4 |
| 110 | 120 | 9 0 |
| 120 | 130 | 9 12 |
| 130 | 140 | 10 8 |
| 140 | 150 | 11 4 |
| 150 | 160 | 12 0 |
| 160 | 170 | 12 12 |
| 170 | 180 | 13 8 |
| 180 | 190 | 14 4 |
| 190 | 200 | 15 0 |
| 200 | 210 | 15 12 |
| 210 | 220 | 16 8 |
| 220 | 230 | 17 4 |
| 230 | 240 | 18 0 |
| 240 | 250 | 18 12 |
| 250 | 260 | 19 8 |
| 260 | 270 | 20 4 |
| 270 | 280 | 21 0 |
| 280 | 290 | 21 12 |
| 290 | 300 | 22 8 |
| 300 | 310 | 23 4 |
| 310 | 320 | 24 0 |
| 320 | 330 | 24 12 |
| 330 | 340 | 25 8 |
| 340 | 350 | 26 4 |
| 350 | 360 | 27 0 |
| 360 | 370 | 27 12 |
| 370 | 380 | 28 8 |
| 380 | 390 | 29 4 |
| 390 | 400 | 30 0 |
| 400 | 410 | 30 12 |
| 410 | 420 | 31 8 |
| 420 | 430 | 32 4 |
| 430 | 440 | 33 0 |
| 440 | 450 | 33 12 |
| 450 | 460 | 34 8 |
| 460 | 470 | 35 4 |

Appendices

| When the amount or value of the subject matter exceeds— | But does not exceed— | Proper fee. |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|
| Rs. | Rs. | Rs. a. |
| 470 | 480 | 36 0 |
| 480 | 490 | 36 12 |
| 490 | 500 | 37 8 |
| 500 | 510 | 38 10 |
| 510 | 520 | 39 12 |
| 520 | 530 | 40 14 |
| 530 | 540 | 42 0 |
| 540 | 550 | 43 2 |
| 550 | 560 | 44 4 |
| 560 | 570 | 45 6 |
| 570 | 580 | 46 8 |
| 580 | 590 | 47 10 |
| 590 | 600 | 48 12 |
| 600 | 610 | 49 14 |
| 610 | 620 | 51 0 |
| 620 | 630 | 52 2 |
| 630 | 640 | 53 4 |
| 640 | 650 | 54 6 |
| 650 | 660 | 55 8 |
| 660 | 670 | 56 10 |
| 670 | 680 | 57 12 |
| 680 | 690 | 58 14 |
| 690 | 700 | 60 0 |
| 700 | 710 | 61 2 |
| 710 | 720 | 62 4 |
| 720 | 730 | 63 6 |
| 730 | 740 | 64 8 |
| 740 | 750 | 65 10 |
| 750 | 760 | 66 12 |
| 760 | 770 | 67 14 |
| 770 | 780 | 69 0 |
| 780 | 790 | 70 2 |
| 790 | 800 | 71 4 |
| 800 | 810 | 72 6 |
| 810 | 820 | 73 8 |
| 820 | 830 | 74 10 |
| 830 | 840 | 75 12 |
| 840 | 850 | 76 14 |
| 850 | 860 | 78 0 |
| 860 | 870 | 79 2 |
| 870 | 880 | 80 4 |
| 880 | 890 | 81 6 |
| 890 | 900 | 82 8 |
| 900 | 910 | 83 10 |
| 910 | 920 | 84 12 |
| 920 | 930 | 85 14 |
| 930 | 940 | 87 0 |
| 940 | 950 | 88 2 |
| 950 | 960 | 89 4 |
| 960 | 970 | 90 6 |
| 970 | 980 | 91 8 |
| 980 | 990 | 92 10 |
| 990 | 1,000 | 93 12 |
| 1,000 | 1,100 | 101 4 |
| 1,100 | 1,200 | 108 12 |
| 1,200 | 1,300 | 116 4 |
| 1,300 | 1,400 | 123 12 |
| 1,400 | 1,500 | 131 4 |
| 1,500 | 1,600 | 138 12 |

| When the amount or value of the subject matter exceeds— | But does not exceed— | Proper fee. |
|---|----------------------|-------------|
| Rs. | Rs. | Rs. a. |
| 1,600 | 1,700 | 146 4 |
| 1,700 | 1,800 | 153 12 |
| 1,800 | 1,900 | 161 4 |
| 1,900 | 2,000 | 168 12 |
| 2,000 | 2,100 | 176 4 |
| 2,100 | 2,200 | 183 12 |
| 2,200 | 2,300 | 191 4 |
| 2,300 | 2,400 | 198 12 |
| 2,400 | 2,500 | 206 4 |
| 2,500 | 2,600 | 213 12 |
| 2,600 | 2,700 | 221 4 |
| 2,700 | 2,800 | 228 12 |
| 2,800 | 2,900 | 236 4 |
| 2,900 | 3,000 | 243 12 |
| 3,000 | 3,100 | 251 4 |
| 3,100 | 3,200 | 258 12 |
| 3,200 | 3,300 | 266 4 |
| 3,300 | 3,400 | 273 12 |
| 3,400 | 3,500 | 281 4 |
| 3,500 | 3,600 | 288 12 |
| 3,600 | 3,700 | 296 4 |
| 3,700 | 3,800 | 303 12 |
| 3,800 | 3,900 | 311 4 |
| 3,900 | 4,000 | 318 12 |
| 4,000 | 4,100 | 326 4 |
| 4,100 | 4,200 | 333 12 |
| 4,200 | 4,300 | 341 4 |
| 4,300 | 4,400 | 348 12 |
| 4,400 | 4,500 | 356 4 |
| 4,500 | 4,600 | 363 12 |
| 4,600 | 4,700 | 371 4 |
| 4,700 | 4,800 | 378 12 |
| 4,800 | 4,900 | 386 4 |
| 4,900 | 5,000 | 393 12 |
| 5,000 | 5,250 | 408 12 |
| 5,250 | 5,500 | 423 12 |
| 5,500 | 5,750 | 438 12 |
| 5,750 | 6,000 | 453 12 |
| 6,000 | 6,250 | 468 12 |
| 6,250 | 6,500 | 483 12 |
| 6,500 | 6,750 | 498 12 |
| 6,750 | 7,000 | 513 12 |
| 7,000 | 7,250 | 528 12 |
| 7,250 | 7,500 | 543 12 |
| 7,500 | 7,750 | 558 12 |
| 7,750 | 8,000 | 573 12 |
| 8,000 | 8,250 | 588 12 |
| 8,250 | 8,500 | 603 12 |
| 8,500 | 8,750 | 618 12 |
| 8,750 | 9,000 | 633 12 |
| 9,000 | 9,250 | 648 12 |
| 9,250 | 9,500 | 663 12 |
| 9,500 | 9,750 | 678 12 |
| 9,750 | 10,000 | 693 12 |
| 10,000 | 10,500 | 716 4 |
| 10,500 | 11,000 | 738 12 |
| 11,000 | 11,500 | 761 4 |
| 11,500 | 12,000 | 783 12 |
| 12,000 | 12,500 | 806 4 |

| When the amount or value of the subject matter exceeds— | But does not exceed— | Proper fee. |
|---|----------------------|-------------|
| Rs. | Rs. | Rs. a. |
| 12,500 | 13,000 | 828 12 |
| 13,000 | 13,500 | 851 4 |
| 13,500 | 14,000 | 873 12 |
| 14,000 | 14,500 | 896 4 |
| 14,500 | 15,000 | 918 12 |
| 15,000 | 15,500 | 941 4 |
| 15,500 | 16,000 | 963 12 |
| 16,000 | 16,500 | 986 4 |
| 16,500 | 17,000 | 1,008 12 |
| 17,000 | 17,500 | 1,031 4 |
| 17,500 | 18,000 | 1,053 12 |
| 18,000 | 18,500 | 1,076 4 |
| 18,500 | 19,000 | 1,098 12 |
| 19,000 | 19,500 | 1,121 4 |
| 19,500 | 20,000 | 1,143 12 |
| 20,000 | 21,000 | 1,173 12 |
| 21,000 | 22,000 | 1,203 12 |
| 22,000 | 23,000 | 1,233 12 |
| 23,000 | 24,000 | 1,263 12 |
| 24,000 | 25,000 | 1,293 12 |
| 25,000 | 26,000 | 1,323 12 |
| 26,000 | 27,000 | 1,353 12 |
| 27,000 | 28,000 | 1,383 12 |
| 28,000 | 29,000 | 1,413 12 |
| 29,000 | 30,000 | 1,443 12 |
| 30,000 | 32,000 | 1,473 12 |
| 32,000 | 34,000 | 1,503 12 |
| 34,000 | 36,000 | 1,533 12 |
| 36,000 | 38,000 | 1,563 12 |
| 38,000 | 40,000 | 1,593 12 |
| 40,000 | 42,000 | 1,623 12 |
| 42,000 | 44,000 | 1,653 12 |
| 44,000 | 46,000 | 1,683 12 |
| 46,000 | 48,000 | 1,713 12 |
| 48,000 | 50,000 | 1,743 12 |
| 50,000 | 55,000 | 1,773 12 |
| 55,000 | 60,000 | 1,803 12 |
| 60,000 | 65,000 | 1,833 12 |
| 65,000 | 70,000 | 1,863 12 |
| 70,000 | 75,000 | 1,893 12 |
| 75,000 | 80,000 | 1,923 12 |
| 80,000 | 85,000 | 1,953 12 |
| 85,000 | 90,000 | 1,983 12 |
| 90,000 | 95,000 | 2,013 12 |
| 95,000 | 1,00,000 | 2,043 12 |
| 1,00,000 | 1,05,000 | 2,073 12 |
| 1,05,000 | 1,10,000 | 2,103 12 |
| 1,10,000 | 1,15,000 | 2,133 12 |
| 1,15,000 | 1,20,000 | 2,163 12 |
| 1,20,000 | 1,25,000 | 2,193 12 |
| 1,25,000 | 1,30,000 | 2,223 12 |
| 1,30,000 | 1,35,000 | 2,253 12 |
| 1,35,000 | 1,40,000 | 2,283 12 |
| 1,40,000 | 1,45,000 | 2,313 12 |
| 1,45,000 | 1,50,000 | 2,343 12 |
| 1,50,000 | 1,55,000 | 2,373 12 |
| 1,55,000 | 1,60,000 | 2,403 12 |
| 1,60,000 | 1,65,000 | 2,433 12 |

| When the amount or value of the subject matter exceeds— | But does not exceed— | Proper fee. |
|---|----------------------|-------------|
| Rs. | Rs. | Rs. a. |
| 1,65,000 | 1,70,000 | 2,463 12 |
| 1,70,000 | 1,75,000 | 2,493 12 |
| 1,75,000 | 1,80,000 | 2,523 12 |
| 1,80,000 | 1,85,000 | 2,553 12 |
| 1,85,000 | 1,90,000 | 2,583 12 |
| 1,90,000 | 1,95,000 | 2,613 12 |
| 1,95,000 | 2,00,000 | 2,643 12 |
| 2,00,000 | 2,05,000 | 2,673 12 |
| 2,05,000 | 2,10,000 | 2,703 12 |
| 2,10,000 | 2,15,000 | 2,733 12 |
| 2,15,000 | 2,20,000 | 2,763 12 |
| 2,20,000 | 2,25,000 | 2,793 12 |
| 2,25,000 | 2,30,000 | 2,823 12 |
| 2,30,000 | 2,35,000 | 2,853 12 |
| 2,35,000 | 2,40,000 | 2,883 12 |
| 2,40,000 | 2,45,000 | 2,913 12 |
| 2,45,000 | 2,50,000 | 2,943 12 |
| 2,50,000 | 2,55,000 | 2,973 12 |
| 2,55,000 | 2,60,000 | 3,003 13 |
| 2,60,000 | 2,65,000 | 3,033 12 |
| 2,65,000 | 2,70,000 | 3,063 12 |
| 2,70,000 | 2,75,000 | 3,093 12 |
| 2,75,000 | 2,80,000 | 3,123 12 |
| 2,80,000 | 2,85,000 | 3,153 12 |
| 2,85,000 | 2,90,000 | 3,183 12 |
| 2,90,000 | 2,95,000 | 3,213 12 |
| 2,95,000 | 3,00,000 | 3,243 12 |
| 3,00,000 | 3,05,000 | 3,273 12 |
| 3,05,000 | 3,10,000 | 3,303 12 |
| 3,10,000 | 3,15,000 | 3,333 12 |
| 3,15,000 | 3,20,000 | 3,363 12 |
| 3,20,000 | 3,25,000 | 3,393 12 |
| 3,25,000 | 3,30,000 | 3,423 12 |
| 3,30,000 | 3,35,000 | 3,453 12 |
| 3,35,000 | 3,40,000 | 3,483 12 |
| 3,40,000 | 3,45,000 | 3,513 12 |
| 3,45,000 | 3,50,000 | 3,543 12 |
| 3,50,000 | 3,55,000 | 3,573 12 |
| 3,55,000 | 3,60,000 | 3,603 12 |
| 3,60,000 | 3,65,000 | 3,633 12 |
| 3,65,000 | 3,70,000 | 3,663 12 |
| 3,70,000 | 3,75,000 | 3,693 12 |
| 3,75,000 | 3,80,000 | 3,723 12 |
| 3,80,000 | 3,85,000 | 3,753 12 |
| 3,85,000 | 3,90,000 | 3,783 12 |
| 3,90,000 | 3,95,000 | 3,813 12 |
| 3,95,000 | 4,00,000 | 3,843 13 |
| 4,00,000 | 4,05,000 | 3,873 12 |
| 4,05,000 | 4,10,000 | 3,903 12 |
| 4,10,000 | 4,15,000 | 3,933 12 |
| 4,15,000 | 4,20,000 | 3,963 12 |
| 4,20,000 | 4,25,000 | 3,993 12 |
| 4,25,000 | 4,30,000 | 4,023 12 |
| 4,30,000 | 4,35,000 | 4,053 12 |
| 4,35,000 | 4,40,000 | 4,083 12 |
| 4,40,000 | 4,45,000 | 4,113 12 |
| 4,45,000 | 4,50,000 | 4,143 12 |
| 4,50,000 | 4,55,000 | 4,173 12 |
| 4,55,000 | 4,60,000 | 4,203 12 |

| When the amount or value of the subject matter exceeds | But does not exceed— | Proper fee. |
|--|----------------------|-------------|
| Rs. | Rs. | Rs. a. |
| 4,60,000 | 4,65,000 | 4,233 12 |
| 4,65,000 | 4,70,000 | 4,263 12 |
| 4,70,000 | 4,75,000 | 4,293 12 |
| 4,75,000 | 4,80,000 | 4,323 12 |
| 4,80,000 | 4,85,000 | 4,353 12 |
| 4,85,000 | 4,90,000 | 4,383 12 |
| 4,90,000 | 4,95,000 | 4,413 12 |
| 4,95,000 | 5,00,000 | 4,443 12 |
| 5,00,000 | 5,05,000 | 4,473 12 |
| 5,05,000 | 5,10,000 | 4,503 12 |
| 5,10,000 | 5,15,000 | 4,533 12 |
| 5,15,000 | 5,20,000 | 4,563 12 |
| 5,20,000 | 5,25,000 | 4,593 12 |
| 5,25,000 | 5,30,000 | 4,623 12 |
| 5,30,000 | 5,35,000 | 4,653 12 |
| 5,35,000 | 5,40,000 | 4,683 12 |
| 5,40,000 | 5,45,000 | 4,713 12 |
| 5,45,000 | 5,50,000 | 4,743 12 |
| 5,50,000 | 5,55,000 | 4,773 12 |
| 5,55,000 | 5,60,000 | 4,803 12 |
| 5,60,000 | 5,65,000 | 4,833 12 |
| 5,65,000 | 5,70,000 | 4,863 12 |
| 5,70,000 | 5,75,000 | 4,893 12 |
| 5,75,000 | 5,80,000 | 4,923 12 |
| 5,80,000 | 5,85,000 | 4,953 12 |
| 5,85,000 | 5,90,000 | 4,983 12 |
| 5,90,000 | 5,95,000 | 5,013 12 |
| 5,95,000 | 6,00,000 | 5,043 12 |
| 6,00,000 | 6,05,000 | 5,073 12 |
| 6,05,000 | 6,10,000 | 5,103 12 |
| 6,10,000 | 6,15,000 | 5,133 12 |
| 6,15,000 | 6,20,000 | 5,163 12 |
| 6,20,000 | 6,25,000 | 5,193 12 |
| 6,25,000 | 6,30,000 | 5,223 12 |
| 6,30,000 | 6,35,000 | 5,253 12 |
| 6,35,000 | 6,40,000 | 5,283 12 |
| 6,40,000 | 6,45,000 | 5,313 12 |
| 6,45,000 | 6,50,000 | 5,343 12 |
| 6,50,000 | 6,55,000 | 5,373 12 |
| 6,55,000 | 6,60,000 | 5,403 12 |
| 6,60,000 | 6,65,000 | 5,433 12 |
| 6,65,000 | 6,70,000 | 5,463 12 |
| 6,70,000 | 6,75,000 | 5,493 12 |
| 6,75,000 | 6,80,000 | 5,523 12 |
| 6,80,000 | 6,85,000 | 5,553 12 |
| 6,85,000 | 6,90,000 | 5,583 12 |
| 6,90,000 | 6,95,000 | 5,613 12 |
| 6,95,000 | 7,00,000 | 5,643 12 |
| 7,00,000 | 7,05,000 | 5,673 12 |
| 7,05,000 | 7,10,000 | 5,703 12 |
| 7,10,000 | 7,15,000 | 5,733 12 |
| 7,15,000 | 7,20,000 | 5,763 12 |
| 7,20,000 | 7,25,000 | 5,793 12 |
| 7,25,000 | 7,30,000 | 5,823 12 |
| 7,30,000 | 7,35,000 | 5,853 12 |
| 7,35,000 | 7,40,000 | 5,883 12 |
| 7,40,000 | 7,45,000 | 5,913 12 |
| 7,45,000 | 7,50,000 | 5,943 12 |
| 7,50,000 | 7,55,000 | 5,973 12 |
| 7,55,000 | ..... | 6,000 0 |

| Number. | — | Proper fee. |
|--|--|--|
| 1. Application or petition— <i>contd.</i> | <p>other than an offence for which police officers may, under the Criminal Procedure Code, 1898, (V of 1898), arrest without warrant, and presented to any Criminal Court:</p> <p>or when presented to a Civil, Criminal or Revenue Court, or to a Collector, or any Revenue officer having jurisdiction equal or subordinate to a Collector, or to any Magistrate in his executive capacity and not otherwise provided for by this Act:</p> <p>or to deposit in Court revenue or rent:</p> <p>or for determination by a Court of the amount of compensation to be paid by a landlord to his tenant.</p> <p>(c) When presented to a Chief Commissioner or other Chief Controlling Revenue or Executive Authority, or to a Commissioner of Revenue or Circuit, or to any chief officer charged with the executive administration of a division and not otherwise provided for by this Act.</p> <p>(d) When presented to a High Court.</p> | <p>Two rupees.</p> <p>Four rupees.</p> |
| 1A. Application to any Civil Court that records may be called for from another Court. | When the Court grants the application and is of opinion that the transmission of such records involves the use of the Post. | One rupee in addition to any fee levied on the application under clause (a), clause (b) or clause (d) of article 1 of this Schedule. |
| 6. Bail-bond or other instrument of obligation given in pursuance of an order made by a Court or Magistrate under any section of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 (V of 1898), or the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (V of 1908), and not otherwise provided for by this Act. | ..... | One rupee. |
| 7. Under taking under section 49 of the Indian Divorce Act, 1869 (IV of 1869). | ..... | One rupee. |

| Number. | — | Proper fee. |
|---|--|--------------|
| 18. Application— | | Ten rupees. |
| (a) under paragraph 17 of the Second Schedule to the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, | | (V of 1908) |
| (b) for probate or letters of administration or for revocation thereof under the Indian Succession Act, 1865, or the Probate and Administration Act, 1881, | When the amount or value of the Estate does not exceed two thousand rupees. | Two rupees. |
| (c) for a certificate under the Succession Certificate Act, 1889, or Bombay Regulation VIII of 1827, | When it exceeds two thousand rupees, but does not exceed five thousand rupees. | Five rupees. |
| (d) for the appointment of a guardian of a minor, for declaring a person to be such a guardian, or for the removal of a guardian, under the Guardians and Wards Act, 1890, except where the applicant is the Collector, | When it exceeds five thousand rupees. | Ten rupees. |
| (e) for opinion or advise or for discharge from a Trust, or for appointment of new Trustees, under sections 34, 72, 73, or 74 of the Indian Trusts Act, 1882, | | Ten rupees. |
| (f) for the winding up of a Company, under section 166 of the Indian Companies Act, 1913, | | |
| (g) under rule 58 of Order XXI of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, regarding a claim to attached property. | | |
| 19. Agreement in writing stating a question for the opinion of the Court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908. | | |
| 20. Every petition under the Indian Divorce Act, 1869, except petitions under section 44 of that Act and every memorandum of appeal under section 55 of that Act. | | |
| 21. Plaint or memorandum of appeal under the Parsi Marriage and Divorce Act, 1865 | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

The object of this Bill is to enhance the Court fees in certain cases for the purpose of increasing the revenue of Government. In enhancing the Court fees the general principle followed is that where fixed fees are prescribed as in Schedule II of the Court Fees Act, 1870, the fees should be raised in consequence of the decreased value of money. In the case of *ad valorem* fees prescribed in Schedule I of the Court Fees Act, an enhancement is made only where experience has shown that the present fees levied are so inadequate that they lead to the abuse of judicial facilities or do not cover the actual cost to Government of the services rendered. The enhancement is effected by clauses 3 and 4 of the Bill which alter the fees in the case of those articles in Schedules I and II of the Court Fees Act in respect of which an enhancement of fee is considered necessary. A few applications have been added to Article 18 of Schedule II of that Act which, it is believed, should properly be brought under that Article as they are on the same footing as applications under paragraph 17 of the Second Schedule to the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908. The table of *ad valorem* fees is amended where the fee is altered.

2. Clause 2 of the Bill makes certain amendments in section 7 of the Court Fees Act which are based on the recommendation of the High Court and other judicial officers. The amendment in sub-clause (a) calls for no comment. The amendment in sub-clause (b) is intended to provide against under-valuation of the suits mentioned in clause (iv) of section 7 of the Act which exists at present with consequent loss of revenue. Sub-clause (c) amends the proviso to section 7 (v) so that the amounts payable may bear a better approximation to present day values of land.

H. S. LAWRENCE.

Bombay, 26th January 1925.

APPENDIX E.

BILL No. I OF 1925.

A Bill further to amend the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions) Act, 1918, and the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions No. 2) Act, 1918.

(As published in the "Bombay Government Gazette" of the 22nd January 1925.)

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions) Act, 1918, and the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions No. 2) Act, 1918, in manner hereinafter appearing; AND WHEREAS the previous sanction of the Governor General required by section 80-A of the Government of India Act has been obtained for the passing of this Act; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. This Act may be called the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions) Amendment Act, 1925.
2. In sub-section (4) of section 1 of the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions) Act, 1918, hereinafter called the principal Act, for the figures and words "1925, in respect of any premises used as a dwelling-house" the figures and words "1928, in respect of any premises used wholly or principally as a dwelling-house of which the standard rent exclusive of the percentage allowable under this Act does not exceed Rs. 50 in the municipal district and cantonment of Karachi and Rs. 85 in any other place" shall be substituted.
3. In clause (a) of sub-section (1) of section 2 of the principal Act,
 - (1) in sub-clause (i) for the words "the schedule" the words "schedule A" shall be substituted;
 - (2) in sub-clause (ii) after the word 'let' where it occurs for the second time the words "with the addition of the percentage shown in schedule B hereto" shall be inserted; and
 - (3) in sub-clause (iii)
 - (i) for the word 'twenty' the word 'ten' shall be substituted; and
 - (ii) after the word 'rent' where it occurs for the second time the words "plus the percentage shown in schedule A hereto of such rent" shall be inserted.

4. (1) (a) In sub-section (3) of section 9 of the principal Act the words "after the 21st day of August 1922", and the words "after the said date and" shall be omitted ;

(b) after the word "premises" wherever it occurs in the said sub-section the words "or any part thereof" shall be inserted.

(2) after sub-section (3) the following shall be inserted, namely :—

"(4) the fact that a tenant who entered into possession of any premises by reason of his being *bona fide* in the employment of his landlord has ceased to be in his employment shall be deemed to be a satisfactory cause within the meaning of sub-section (2).

(5) Nothing in sub-section (1) shall apply in the case of any premises in the city of Bombay which appear to the municipal commissioner for the city of Bombay to be in a ruinous condition, or likely to fall, or in any way dangerous to any person occupying, resorting to or passing by such premises or any other building or place in the neighbourhood thereof and in respect of which notice under section 354 of the City of Bombay Municipal Act, 1888, has been issued by the said commissioner to the owner or occupier of the said premises."

(Bom. III of 1888).

5. For the schedule to the principal Act the following Schedules. schedules shall be substituted, namely :—

SCHEDULE A.

[See section 2 (a) (i) and (iii).]

The additional percentage referred to in sub-clauses (i) and (iii) of clause (a) of sub-section (1) of section 2 shall be the percentage shown in column 3 and payable as therein specified, in respect of premises of the monthly rental shown in column 1 and situate in the area specified in column 2.

| 1 Rental not exceeding Rs. 50. | 2 In any place in which the Act is in operation. | 3 From the 1st day of January 1926 up to and including the 31st day of December 1926 .....30 From the 1st day of January 1927 up to and including the 31st day of December 1927 .....40 From the 1st day of January 1928 up to and including the 31st day of December 1928 .....50 |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| | | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Rental exceeding Rs. 50 but not exceeding Rs. 85. | In any place in which the Act is in operation, except the municipal district and cantonment of Karachi. | From the 1st day of January 1926 up to and including the 31st day of December 1926 ....40 From the 1st day of January 1927 up to and including the 31st day of December 1927 ....50 From the 1st day of January 1928 up to and including the 31st day of December 1928 ....60 |
|---|---|---|

SCHEDULE B.

[See section 2 (a) (ii).]

The additional percentage referred to in sub-clause (ii) of clause (a) of sub-section (1) of section 2 shall be the percentage shown in column 3 and payable as therein specified, in respect of premises of the monthly rental shown in column 1 and situate in the area specified in column 2.

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|--|---|
| Rental not exceeding Rs. 50. | In any place in which the Act is in operation. | From the 1st day of January 1926 up to and including the 31st day of December 1926 ....20 From the 1st day of January 1927 up to and including the 31st day of December 1927 ....30 From the 1st day of January 1928 up to and including the 31st day of December 1928 ....40 |
| Rental exceeding Rs. 50 but not exceeding Rs. 85. | In any place in which the Act is in operation except the municipal district and cantonment of Karachi. | From the 1st day of January 1926 up to and including the 31st day of December 1926 ....30 From the 1st day of January 1927 up to and including the 31st day of December 1927 ....40 From the 1st day of January 1928 up to and including the 31st day of December 1928 ....50 |

6. In sub-section (2) of section 1 of the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions No. 2) Act, 1918, (Bom. VII of 1918) hereinafter called the subsidiary Act, for the figures and words "1925, in respect of any premises used as a dwelling-house" the figures and words "1928, in respect of any premises

Appendices

used wholly or principally as a dwelling-house" shakuch substituted.

7. To clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 4 of the subsidiary Act the word "and" shall be added; and after the said clause the following shall be inserted, namely:—

"(c) authorise a landlord to open and take possession of his premises when the tenant has not occupied the premises for three successive months and has failed to pay the rent due."

8. To section 17 of the subsidiary Act the following sub-section shall be added namely:—

"(5) Nothing in sub-sections (1) and (2) shall apply in the case of any premises in the city of Bombay which appear to the municipal commissioner for the city of Bombay to be in a ruinous condition, or likely to fall or in any way dangerous to any person occupying, resorting to or passing by such premises or any other building or place in the neighbourhood thereof and in respect of which notice under section 354 of the City of Bombay Municipal Act, 1888, has been issued by the said commissioner to the owner or occupier of the said premises."

(Bom III of
1888)

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

The Bombay Rent (War Restrictions) Acts of 1918 (Bombay Acts II and VII of 1918) were passed with the object of restricting the raising of rent in Bombay and certain other places as, owing to the war, the supply of accommodation had not kept pace with the demand. Bombay Act II of 1918 was the main Act, while Bombay Act VII of 1918 was a subsidiary one dealing with small premises of which the standard rent, without the additional percentage allowed to landlords, did not exceed Rs. 20 a month. The operation of these Acts was subsequently extended by Bombay Act III of 1923 up to the 31st August 1924 in the municipal district and cantonment of Karachi, and in other places in which the Act was in operation up to the 31st December 1925 as regards dwelling-houses, and up to the 31st August 1924 as regards other premises. The Acts ceased to be in operation as regards other premises both in Karachi and elsewhere on the 31st August 1924; but by Bombay Act III of 1924 they were extended in respect of premises used as dwelling-houses in the municipal district and cantonment of Karachi also up to the 31st December 1925. Thus the operation of both Acts will expire in Karachi and elsewhere on the 31st December 1925.

It has, however, been ascertained after careful inquiry that, though there has been a fall in the rent of residential premises with a higher rental, there has been little or no fall in the rent of residential premises

Appendices

In a lower rental, and that the want of accommodation in the case of the latter class of premises is still very keenly felt. It is, therefore, considered necessary to extend the protection of the Acts for three years in the case of residential premises of which the standard rent without additional percentage allowed to landlords does not exceed Rs. 50 in the case of Karachi, and does not exceed Rs. 85 in the case of any other area in which the Act is in operation. At the same time it is equitable that the landlords should receive an adequate return for their capital, taking into consideration the changes that have taken place in the economic conditions since the Acts were passed; and provision has therefore been made for a sliding scale of increases which will enable the landlords to secure a total increase of rent, ranging from 20 per cent. to 60 per cent. beyond the above mentioned standard rent. As indicated above, the operation of the Acts has already expired in the case of non-residential premises, and no change is proposed in respect of such premises. The Bill deals with both the original Acts of 1918.

Notes on specific clauses of the Bill requiring explanation are given below :—

Notes on clauses.

Clauses 2 and 6.—Difficulty has arisen in connection with the words “used as a dwelling-house”; the words “used wholly or principally as a dwelling-house” have therefore been inserted in the Bill.

Clause 3.—As the Act is being extended for a further period of three years, it is equitable that landlords should be allowed a somewhat higher percentage of increase than that allowed by the existing Act. Schedule A is therefore substituted for the present schedule to Bombay Act II of 1918, allowing a percentage up to a maximum of 50 as compared with 33½ in the present Act. It is also equitable to allow landlords a percentage of increase in respect of premises coming under sub-clauses (ii) and (iii) of section 2 (I) (a) of Bombay Act II of 1918 similar to that allowed in respect of premises coming under sub-clause (i) of the said section.

Clause 4 (1).—This clause extends the provisions of section 9 (3) to subleases which took place before 21st August 1922. There is no reason to make an exception in favour of tenants who sublet their premises before 21st August 1922. The words “or any part thereof” have been inserted to deal with an evasion of the provisions of the Act.

Clauses 4 (2).—New section 9 (4) provides that when a tenant obtains accommodation by reason of his being in the employment of his landlord he shall not continue to occupy the premises without the consent of his landlord if his employment terminates. There are cases in which housing accommodation is provided by the employers for their employees and the employee refuses to vacate the premises even after his employment has terminated.

Clause 4 (2) and 8.—Provision has also been made excluding from the protection of the Acts those tenants who occupy premises which are in a ruinous condition or are likely to fall and are a source of danger. Cases

have occurred in Bombay City in which tenants in occupation of such premises have refused to vacate them when called upon to do so, and unnecessary delay occurred before they could be ejected by resort to the courts. In the interest of the tenants themselves and of their neighbours it is desirable that in such cases the tenants should be made to vacate the premises immediately, in order to enable the premises to be demolished or put in order, as the case may be.

Clause 7.—Certain petty premises are left by the tenants unoccupied for long periods, no rent being paid. It is desirable that the landlord should have power to open and take possession of such premises.

13th January 1925.

COWASJI JEHANGIR (J.)

APPENDIX F.

BILL No. XXVI OF 1924.

A Bill to alter the constitution and to widen the powers of Municipalities.

(As introduced on the 23rd October 1924 and published in the "Bombay Government Gazette" of the 17th November 1924.)

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the law relating to the constitution of Municipalities, the powers and management of Municipal affairs in the Bombay Presidency, including Sind, and Whereas the previous sanction of the Governor-General required by section 80-A of the Government of India Act for the passing of this Act has been obtained; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. This Act may be called the Bombay District Municipal (Amendment) Act, 1924.
Short Title.
2. In sub-section (1), clause (a), of section 3, of the Bombay District Municipal Act, 1901, hereinafter called the principal Act, for the words "is one of those specified in Schedule E" the words "contains within its municipal district a population of not less than fifteen thousand inhabitants" shall be substituted.
3. In sub-section (1) of section 181 of the principal Act the word "not" shall be omitted.

(Bom. III of 1901)

Amendment of section 3 of Bombay Act III of 1901.

Amendment of section 181 of Bombay Act III of 1901.

4. In sub-section (1) of section 10 of the Municipal Act after the words "every such Municipalities" the words "except a City Municipality" shall be inserted; and for words "one half" after the words "less than" the words "four fifths" shall be substituted.
- Amendment of section 10 of Bombay Act III of 1901.
5. A new section shall be added after section 10 of the principal Act as "10-A. Every City Municipality shall exist wholly of elected Councillors".
- Addition of a new section after section 10 of Bombay Act III of 1901.
6. In sub-section (1) of section 15 of the municipal Act after the words "section 16" and before the words "has not" shall be added the words "and five years not having elapsed from the date of the expiry of such sentence, or of such dismissal, suspension or removal".
- Amendment of section 15 of Bombay Act III of 1901.
7. In sub-section (1) of section 23 of the principal Act for the word "selected" shall be substituted the words "elected by the Councillors".
- Amendment of section 23 of Bombay Act III of 1901.
8. The whole of sub-section (2) of section 23 of the principal Act shall be omitted.
- Amendment of section 23
9. In sub-section (3) of section 23 of the principal Act the words beginning with "but" and ending with "Commissioner" shall be omitted, and in their place shall be substituted the words "no salaried servant of the Government shall be eligible for election as President or Vice-President of a Municipality and the election of any such person shall be void" and instead of the figure "(3)" shall be substituted the figure "(2)".
- Amendment of section 23 of Bombay Act III of 1901.
10. The whole of sub-section (4) of section 23 of the principal Act shall be omitted.
- Amendment of section 23 of Bombay Act III of 1901.
11. In sub-section (5) of section 23 of the principal Act for the figure "(5)" shall be substituted the figure "(3)"; and the words beginning with "except" and ending with "Ex-Officio President" shall be deleted; and after the word "granted" shall be added the words "by the Municipality" and Clauses (a) and (b) of sub-section (5) shall be omitted, and the figure "(6)" in sub-section (6) of section 23 of the principal Act shall be substituted by the figure "(4)."
- Amendment of section 23 of Bombay Act III of 1901.

Appendix

12. In sub-section (7) of section 23 of Bombay Act III of 1901. for the words the word "Government" substituted; and the figure "(5)" be substituted by the figure "(5)".
13. In sub-section (8) of section 23 of the principal Act after the words "In the event" shall be added the words "the acceptance of office" and after the word "office" shall be added the words "under sub-section (6) of this section or otherwise". And the figure "(8)" shall be substituted by the figure "(6)".
14. In section 41 of the principal Act after the word "when" shall be added "the Government are satisfied that a Municipality has complied with the provisions of section 160, and that"; and for the words "Governor in Council" shall be substituted the word "Government."
15. In sub-section (m) of section 56 of the principal Act the words "with the previous concurrence of the Collector" shall be deleted.
16. The proviso to section 58 of the principal Act shall be deleted.
17. In sub-section (3) of section 160 of the principal Act for the words "the matter shall, on application by either party, be determined by the District Court which shall in cases in which the compensation is claimed in respect of land" shall be substituted the words "the Municipality shall in all cases in which compensation is claimed refer the matter for the determination of the District Court."

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

The Bill is intended to meet the growing public demand to alter the constitution of the Municipalities within the Presidency including the Province of Sind in such a way as to enhance their usefulness and to widen their powers, and by making them more self-reliant and free of official control, to contribute to the growth and advancement of representative institutions in the Presidency including Sind.

Notes on Clauses.

Clause 2.—Under the present Law only 14 Municipalities (as mentioned in Schedule E) throughout the Presidency are denominated as City

Amendments

proposes to extend the scope of such
which contain a population of 15,000 or more.

-It is only a consequential amendment.

Clauses 4 and 5.—These Clauses propose to make all City Municipalities wholly elected, and to confine the nomination on the other Municipalities to one-fifth of the whole number of Councillors.

Clause 6.—Under the present Act persons coming within the description given in section 15, sub-section (1) are debarred for ever from being Councillors of a Municipal Board. The Clause seeks to confine the bar only to a period of five years, after the lapse whereof, the bar will cease to exist, and such persons will be fully competent to be Councillors.

Clauses 7 to 13.—These clauses relate to the amendment of section 23 of the present Act. Clause 7 proposes to amend the Act in a way whereby all the Municipalities will be presided over by elected Presidents. Clause 9 proposes to debar any salaried servant of the Government to be either the President or Vice-President of any Municipality. Clauses 8, 10, 11 and 12 are more or less consequential amendments. Clause 13 makes non-acceptance of office as one more ground for filling up the post of either the President or Vice-President.

Clauses 14 and 17.—These Clauses propose to make it obligatory upon the Government to satisfy themselves about any Municipality having complied with the provisions of section 160, before applying the Land Acquisition Act. Clause 17 is aimed at discouraging the growing tendency on the part of the Municipalities to move the Government in the first instance to acquire land together with its appurtenances under the Land Acquisition Act without first endeavouring to exhaust the special procedure provided for by section 160 for this purpose. It makes it incumbent upon a Municipality to move by application the District Court for the purposes of acquisition.

Clause 15.—This Clause is intended to do away with the necessity of securing the previous concurrence of the Collector for the discharge of functions mentioned in sub-section (m) of section 56 of the Act.

Clause 16.—This Clause, by proposing to delete the proviso, intends to make municipalities independent of all official control and supervision in matters educational, when they have decided to maintain all Municipal Educational Institutions exclusively out of Municipal funds.

L. B. BHOPATKAR.

6th September 1924.

APPENDIX G.

**Report of the Select Committee on Motions Nos III to VIII of 1924
to amend the Standing Orders.**

We, the undersigned members of the Select Committee appointed to consider Motions Nos. III to VIII to amend the Standing Orders, have the honour to report as follows :—

Motion No. III : amendments moved by Mr. M. R. Jayakar.

We have considered the amendments proposed by Mr. M. R. Jayakar in Standing Orders—

- IV, 7 (3)
- IV, 7 (3) (ii)
- V, 3
- VI, 10
- VIII, 11 (2) (a)
- VIII, 11 (2) (b)
- X, 12 (First amendment)
- XI, 3

and are of opinion that they are unnecessary and should not be accepted.

We have decided by a majority that the amendment proposed by Mr. Jayakar in Standing Order IV, 1 is necessary and should be made.

We think that the amendments proposed in Standing Order IV, 4 (1) may be accepted with the addition of the words “moved Council” after the words “or of any resolution”.

The amendment proposed in Standing Order IV, 6 is in our opinion necessary and should be accepted.

We consider that some amendment is necessary in Standing Order VIII, 1 (1) but that instead of the amendments proposed by Mr. M. R. Jayakar, the following be substituted for Standing Order VIII, 1 (1) :

“1 (1) On the motion for leave to introduce a Bill the mover may make a brief explanatory statement. If the motion is opposed, the President may permit a brief explanatory statement from the member who opposes and a brief reply from the mover ; he may then without further debate put the question thereon ; if leave to introduce the Bill is granted, the member who gave notice of the motion shall forthwith introduce the Bill.”

We are of opinion that instead of amending Standing Order X, 5 (2) in the manner suggested by Mr. M. R. Jayakar, it should be deleted and the following Standing Order, which is based on Standing Order 61 (2) of the Standing Orders of the Indian Legislative Assembly, should be substituted for it :

X, 5 (2) “If the member when called on is absent, any other member authorised by him in writing in this behalf may, with the permission of the President, move the resolution standing in his name. But if no member has been so authorised, or such permission is not granted, the resolution shall be deemed to have been withdrawn”.

We have decided by a majority that the proposal of Mr. M. R. Jayakar to amend Standing Order X, 12 by adding the words "and decided by a vote of the Council" is unnecessary and should not be accepted. We have also decided by a majority that the existing Standing Order X, 12 should be numbered X, 12 (1) and the following clause should be added to it :

"2. When a resolution has been disallowed under the Rules or Standing Orders or has been withdrawn with the leave of the Council, no resolution raising substantially the same question shall be moved during the same session."

We have decided by a majority that the second amendment proposed by Mr. M. R. Jayakar in Standing Order X, 12, viz., the substitution of the words "six months" for "one year" should be accepted.

Motions Nos. IV, V, VI, VII, and VIII.

We are of opinion that the amendments proposed by Messrs. Pahalajani, Joshi, Bhopatkar and Shivdasani in the above motions are not necessary.

(Signed) IBRAHIM RAHIMTOOLA,

(") M. H. W. HAYWARD (*subject to a
minute of dissent*),

(") C. V. MEHTA (*subject to a minute of
dissent*),

(") K. F. NARIMAN,

(") HOOSEINBHOY A. LALLJEE,

(") S. T. KAMBLI,

(") JOSEPH BAPTISTA,

(") L. B. BHOPATKAR (*subject to a minute
of dissent*),

(") A. N. SURVE,

(") B. G. PAHALAJANI (*subject to a minute
of dissent*).

*(Minute of dissent by the Honourable Sir Maurice H. W. Hayward, Kt,
I.C.S., M.L.C.)*

I consider the amendment proposed to Standing Order IV, 1 impracticable. It practically would reduce to 24 hours' notice the fortnight hitherto regarded necessary in this and other Legislatures.

I consider the 2nd amendment proposed to Standing Order X, 12 undesirable and unnecessary. Twelve months is the usual limit in other Legislatures.

(Signed) M. H. W. HAYWARD.

10th February 1925.

(Minute of dissent by the Honourable Mr. C. V. Metha, M.A., LL.B.,
M.L.C.)

I agree with the Honourable Sir MAURICE HAYWARD.

(Signed) C. V. MEHTA.

10th February 1925.

(Minute of dissent by Mr. L. B. Bhopatkar, M.L.C.)

Motion No III.

1. *Chapter IV, Order 7 (3)*.—If the amendment proposed by Mr. P. G. Joshi regarding leave to introduce a Bill is not accepted, then the one proposed by Mr. Jayakar to the above Order becomes absolutely necessary. It is really strange that the members should be asked to note on the question of the leave to introduce a bill without furnishing them with a copy thereof and without giving them sufficient time and opportunity to consider it.

2. *Chapter IV, Order 7 (3) (ii)*.—If the first amendment be accepted, this amendment becomes merely consequential in nature.

3. *Chapter VI, Order 10*.—Mr. Jayakar's amendment, namely, to substitute "may be taken as notice and shall be answered without further notice at a subsequent meeting of the Council" for "may be put only in the form of a fresh question at a subsequent meeting of the Council", is necessary in view of the growing importance of the power of the House to put supplementary questions, and of the desirability of making it incumbent upon the official benches to answer supplementary questions without further notice in the interest of the public at large.

Motion No. V.

4. Mr. P. G. Joshi's amendment to Order VIII will enable a member to introduce his bill upon his securing 30 members ready and willing to grant leave to introduce it. True it is that it will mean a small expenditure to the Government; but that should count for very little when especially a piece of legislation is concerned. Such a procedure will not mean any encroachment upon the rights of the House, as the House has many opportunities to throw off the Bill, if it is found to be undesirable or inexpedient.

Motion No. VI.

5. My motion was proposed entirely from the view point of the convenience of the members, and with the object of arranging the work.

Please note that I desire to move the above amendments in the House.

(Signed) L. B. BHOPATKAR.

13th February 1925.

(Minute of dissent by Mr. B. G. Pahalajani, M.L.C.)

I cannot agree with the Select Committee's report that it is not necessary to send copy of a private Bill sought to be introduced by a member to all the members of the Council in advance. I do not think it is necessary to put the member seeking to introduce a private Bill to the necessity of printing 110 copies for circulation. It is necessary to send a copy through the Council office.

I, therefore, dissent from the Select Committee's report not to send intimation or copy of the Bill round.

It is worth while to dispense with fresh written notice as regards supplementary questions.

I cannot agree with the proposal not to substitute the words "until 12 months expire", for if the elected members of the Council cannot bring a motion within 12 months, so should not the Government members: the restriction as it stands is one-sided, and my proposed substitution seeks to make it common to all. The provision however cannot apply to consequential amendments in Bills.

While agreeing with the alteration of 1 year into 6 months I am of opinion that "decided by the vote of the Council" should be there; there are cases in which for expediency, or for giving an opportunity to the Government to redress a grievance, a Resolution is moved and withdrawn. There is no reason why it should not be repeated at the next session, 4 months after, and why the proposer should wait for 2 sessions.

In the case of budget objections in Chapter XI, Order 3, I am still of opinion that the option of curtailing notice should be given to the President as in the case of Bills. This difficulty has been felt very often.

(Signed) B. G. PAHALAJANI.

19th February 1925.

Motions to amend Standing Orders.

(AS AMENDED BY THE SELECT COMMITTEE.)

(Motion No. III of 1924.)

Chapter IV, Order 1: *Add.*— 2 (B) Provided that with the permission of the President, a member may move any of the resolutions that stand in his name, whatever their order on the agenda be; but no such permission shall be given unless 24 hours' notice has been given to the Government Member in charge, if he so desires.

Chapter IV, Order 4 (1): *Add* after words "Select Committee" "or of any resolution *moved in Council*".

4 (2) *Omit.*

Chapter IV, Order 6: After the words "every meeting", add words "except during voting of demands of the annual budget".

~~Chapter IV, Order 7 (3): Omit the words "and of a Bill with its statement of objects and reasons published under Rule 18".~~

Do. Order 7 (3) (ii): ~~Omit the word "not" before "be sent". Omit "until leave to introduce the bill has been obtained".~~

~~Chapter V, Order 3: Instead of words "Such decision has been arrived at at a different stage" substitute "until 12 months expire".~~

~~Chapter VI, Order 10: Omit words "may be put only in the form of a fresh question at a subsequent meeting of the Council" and substitute "may be taken as notice and shall be answered without further notice at a subsequent meeting of the Council".~~

~~Chapter VIII, Order 1 (1): Omit word "opposes" and substitute words "moves the motion" and omit words "moves the motion" and substitute word "opposes".~~

"On the motion for leave to introduce a Bill, the mover may make a brief explanatory statement. If the motion is opposed, the President may permit a brief explanatory statement from the member who opposes and a brief reply from the mover; he may then without further debate put the question thereon; if leave to introduce the Bill is granted, the member who gave notice of the motion shall forthwith introduce the Bill."

~~Chapter VIII, Order 11 (2) (a): Substitute "session" for "meeting".~~

~~(2) (b): Do. "session" for "meeting".~~

~~Chapter X, Order 5 (2): Add after "been withdrawn" "unless another member specially authorised by the member in whose name it appears on the agenda, is ready and willing to move it".~~

"If the member when called on is absent, any other member authorized by him in writing in this behalf may, with the permission of the President, move the resolution standing in his name. But if no member has been so authorized, or such permission is not granted, the resolution shall be deemed to have been withdrawn."

~~Chapter X, Order 12 (1): After the word "Council" add "and decided by the vote of the Council".~~

The existing Standing Order X 12 should be numbered X 12 (1) and the following clause should be added to it :—

- (2) *When a resolution has been disallowed under the Rules or Standing Orders or has been withdrawn with the leave of the Council, no resolution raising substantially the same question shall be moved during the same session.*”

(2) Change “One year ” into “six months”.

~~Chapter XI, Order 3; Omit words “with the consent of the member of Government in charge of the department concerned”.~~

(Motion No. IV of 1924.)

(Similar amendments received from Mr. B. G. Pahalajani, M.L.C., with the addition of the following amendment:—)

~~‘In chapter IV, Order 4 (1), add after the proposed words ‘of any resolution’ the words ‘or any motion’.~~”

(Motion No. V of 1924.)

~~Delete all the words at the end beginning from “thereon” from Standing Order VIII, clause 1, sub-clause (1), and add the following in their stead :—~~

~~“and shall request those members who support the motion to rise in their places. If more than 30 members rise accordingly the President shall intimate that the leave to introduce the bill is granted, whereupon the member, who gave notice of the motion, shall forthwith introduce the Bill.”~~

(Motion No. VI of 1924.)

Standing Order X, 1 (1)-(a) :

~~In the first line of Standing Order X, 1 (1)-(a) after the word “resolution” add “either by himself or through another member authorized by him in that behalf”.~~

(Motion No. VII of 1924.)

1. ~~In Order IV, 4 (2) after the words “available for such business” in line 2, insert the words “or to any future Session”.~~

2. ~~Omit Standing Order No. IV, 7 (3)-(ii).~~

3. ~~In Standing Order X, 12, for the word “moved” in line 1, substitute the words “voted on”.~~

(Motion No. VIII of 1924.)

~~Substitute for Chapter V 3 the following :—~~

~~“A motion must not raise a question substantially identical with one on which the Council has given a decision in the same Session.”~~

~~Provided:-(a) that nothing in this Standing Order shall unless the President, in any case otherwise directs, be deemed to prevent the making of (a) any motion for the amendment of a Bill which is consequential on or designed merely to alter the drafting of another amendment which has been carried;-(b) any motion which has to be or may be made within a period determined by or under the rules or standing orders.~~

APPENDIX 1.

Statement showing the Statistics about certain examinations.

| Examination. | Month and Year. | Candi- dates appeared. | Success- ful candi- dates. | Percent- age of success- ful candi- dates. |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Inter. MB.B.S. | April 1920 | 184 | 85 | 46.19 |
| Do. | Sept. 1920 | 184 | 100 | 54.35 |
| Do. | April 1921 | 267 | 132 | 49.44 |
| Do. | Sept. 1921 | 182 | 94 | 51.65 |
| Do. | April 1922 | 326 | 143 | 43.87 |
| Do. | Sept. 1922 | 248 | 123 | 49.6 |
| Do. | April 1923 | 313 | 155 | 49.52 |
| Do. | Sept. 1923 | 241 | 88 | 36.51 |
| Do. | April 1924 | 295 | 137 | 46.44 |
| Do. | Sept. 1924 | 256 | 113 | 44.14 |
| B.Sc. | April 1920 | 114 | 64 | 56.14 |
| Do. | April 1921 | 112 | 59 | 52.68 |
| Do. | April 1922 | 140 | 77 | 55 |
| Do. | April 1923 | 151 | 86 | 56.95 |
| Do. | April 1924 | 177 | 93 | 52.54 |
| Do. | March 1920 | 268 | 147 | 54.85 |
| Do. | March 1921 | 234 | 122 | 52.14 |
| Do. | March 1922 | 308 | 151 | 52.27 |
| Do. | March 1923 | 400 | 206 | 51.5 |
| Do. | March 1924 | 741 | 321 | 43.32 |
| B.E. | March 1920 | 67 | 41 | 61.19 |
| Do. | Oct. 1920 | 22 | 17 | 77.27 |
| Do. | March 1921 | 52 | 37 | 71.15 |
| Do. | Oct. 1921 | 11 | 5 | 45.45 |
| Do. | March 1922 | 57 | 30 | 52.63 |
| Do. | Oct. 1922 | 26 | 8 | 30.77 |
| Do. | March 1923 | 70 | 46 | 65.71 |
| Do. | Oct. 1923 | 24 | 11 | 45.83 |
| Do. | March 1924 | 74 | 36 | 48.65 |
| B.Ag. | March 1920 | 37 | 36 | 97.3 |
| Do. | March 1921 | 41 | 38 | 92.68 |
| Do. | March 1922 | 47 | 44 | 93.46 |
| Do. | March 1923 | 45 | 38 | 84.44 |
| Do. | March 1924 | 68 | 45 | 66.18 |
| Pre. Sc. | April 1920 | 401 | 254 | 63.34 |
| Do. | Oct. 1920 | 125 | 89 | 71.2 |
| Do. | April 1921 | 332 | 185 | 43.87 |
| Do. | Oct. 1921 | 137 | 90 | 65.84 |
| Do. | April 1922 | 429 | 210 | 48.95 |
| Do. | Oct. 1922 | 164 | 86 | 52.44 |
| Do. | April 1923 | 325 | 175 | 53.85 |
| Do. | Oct. 1923 | 114 | 73 | 64.04 |

N.B.—The Preliminary Scientific Examination has been abolished with effect from the commencement of the year 1924.

APPENDIX 1—*contd.*

Statement showing the Statistics about certain examinations—concl'd.

| Examination. | Month and Year. | Candi- dates appeared. | Success- ful candi- dates. | Percent- age of success- ful candi- dates. |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Final L.C.P.S. | .. May 1920 .. | 147 | 74 | 50 |
| Do. | .. Nov. 1920 .. | 248 | 104 | 46 |
| Do. | .. May 1921 .. | 172 | 85 | 49 |
| Do. | .. Nov. 1921 .. | 238 | 95 | 35 |
| Do. | .. May 1922 .. | 147 | 61 | 43 |
| Do. | .. Nov. 1922 .. | 157 | 72 | 46 |
| Do. | .. May 1923 .. | 209 | 69 | 33 |
| Do. | .. Nov. 1923 .. | 161 | 43 | 27 |
| Do. | .. May 1924 .. | 184 | 39 | 21 |

APPENDIX 2.

Notice.

The time tables shown below are those for next term approximately. It will be seen that a considerable change has been made but the Principal believes that the proposed hours will be better for work and will also be more convenient for games and athletics which are an important part of an engineer's training.

College of Engineering,
Poona, 10th March 1923.

(Signed) W. L. C. TRENCH,
Principal.

APPENDIX 3.

Copy of letter No. 458 dated Ganeshkhind 7th July 1920, from the Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Bombay, to the Consulting Surveyor to the Government of Bombay, Poona.

"With reference to your letter No. 545 dated 28th June 1920, I am to inform you that no buildings may be built within a mile of Government House without obtaining His Excellency's previous sanction. This applies to all buildings by whomsoever sought to be built."

APPENDIX 3—*contd.*

(To be substituted for Government Resolution of the same number and date.)

Lands.

Poona.

Alienation, or permission to build on, land within a mile of the Government House compound at Ganeshkhind.

GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY.

Revenue Department.

Resolution No. 3107-B.

Secretariat, Fort, Bombay, dated the 25th October 1921.

Resolution of Government.

The Governor in Council is pleased to direct that in future all proposals regarding alienations of, or permission to build on, land within a mile of the Government House compound at Ganeshkhind should be submitted for the information of the Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor before any action is taken.

By order of the Governor in Council,

SHAMRAO D. MANKAR,

Under Secretary to Government.

To

The Commissioner, C. D.,
 The Collector of Poona,
 The Superintending Engineer, C. D.,
 The Consulting Architect to Government,
 The Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor,
 The Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor,
 The Public Works Department.

Appendices

APPENDIX 3—contd.

*Statement showing the cases in which the permission to build was refused,
the area to be built upon being within one mile limit of Government
House and its compound from village Bopodi.*

| Serial No. | Name of person. | Survey No. | No. and date on which permission was refused. | | Remarks. |
|------------|---|-------------------------|---|----------|---|
| | | | No. | Date. | |
| 1 | Mr. S. A. Jaikar .. | 40 (2) | S.R. 15-757 | 24-1-21 | |
| 2 | Bhimabai kom Gopala Dhore, c/o Mr. G. D. Ghule .. | 47 | S. R. 15-768 | 10-3-21 | |
| 3 | Mr. I. D. Amin .. | 19 | S. R. 15-806 | 12-10-21 | |
| 4 | Mr. G. S. Dalal .. | 18 | S. R. 15-816 | 17-10-21 | |
| 5 | Mr. Narrottam Morarji .. | Aundh Rd. | S. R. 15-811 | 24-10-21 | |
| 6 | Mr. B. K. Anklesaria .. | 31 | S. R. 15-832 | 29-10-21 | |
| 7 | Mr. Daudbhai Abdulalli .. | 46 | S. R. 15-770 | 1-12-21 | |
| 8 | Mr. M. V. Sugandhi .. | 21 | S. R. 15-845 | 2-4-22 | |
| 9 | Mr. L. A. Khote .. | 41 | S. R. 15-734 | 2-3-22 | |
| 10 | Mr. Jiwaji Hassam Ali .. | 33 & 34 Aundh Rd. | S. R. 15-872 | 29-8-22 | |
| 11 | Mr. A. S. Dharadhar .. | 31 | S. R. 15-898 | 4-10-22 | |
| 12 | Raibai Sopana .. | 11 | S. R. 15-890 | 18-10-22 | |
| 13 | Khandu Raghu Mahar and others .. | 30, 37, & 39 | S. R. 15-904 | 8-11-22 | |
| 14 | Mr. V. G. Mankar .. | 5A | S. R. 15-923 | 24-4-23 | |
| 15 | Mr. D'Cunha .. | 12A | S. R. 15-947 | 30-5-23 | Since grant- ed to his wife (item 17 in list A.) |
| 16 | Mr. Hari Bhau Vithal .. | 14 | S. R. 15-954 | 20-6-23 | |
| 17 | Mr. M. Muni Swami .. | 21(2) | S. R. 15-971 | 17-9-23 | |
| 18 | Mr. S. M. Irani .. | 79 | S. R. 15-972 | 17-9-23 | |

Appendices

APPENDIX 3—concl'd.

Statement showing the cases from village Bopodi in which permission to build was granted since 1920 the area to be built upon being within one mile limit of Government House and its compound.

| Serial No. | Name of person. | Survey No. | No. and date of permission granted. | | Remarks. |
|------------|--------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|
| | | | No. | Date. | |
| 1 | Bai Anjanibai Malpekar.. | 41 | S. R. 15-662 | 12— 1—20 | |
| 2 | Mr. V. D. Kothari .. | 41 | S. R. 15-661 | 12— 1—20 | |
| 3 | Mr. Y. R. Kirtikar .. | 29 | S. R. 15-660 | 12— 1—20 | |
| 4 | Gopi Ramji Lal .. | 17 | S. R. 15-634 | 13— 1—20 | |
| 5 | Mr. B. V. Vasudeo .. | 22 | S. R. 15-689 | 13— 4—20 | |
| 6 | Mr. A. Burrow .. | 11 | S. R. 15-726 | 24— 8—20 | |
| 7 | Mr. N. E. Khote .. | 41 | S. R. 15-734 | 10— 9—20 | But since refused on 17-2-22. |
| 8 | Mr. G. B. Kotkar .. | 40 | S. R. 15-749 | 19—10—20 | |
| 9 | Sir M. B. Chaubal .. | 82 | S. R. 15-791 | 23— 4—21 | |
| 10 | Chandra Laxman .. | 21 | S. R. 15-795 | 14— 5—21 | |
| 11 | Mr. D'Cunha .. | 37 | S. R. 15-739 | 21— 4—21 | |
| 12 | Ravji Mukinda .. | 21 | S. R. 15-802 | 13— 6—21 | |
| 13 | Ashabai kom Shaik Lal.. | 21 | S. R. 15-797 | 13— 6—21 | |
| 14 | Damu Raoji .. | 21 | S. R. 15-821 | 17— 8—21 | |
| 15 | Mr. Peter Luis .. | 21 | S. R. 15-805 | 7— 7—21 | |
| 16 | Rangoo kom Dagdu Mahar. | 21 | S. R. 15-672 | 21—12—22 | |
| 17 | Mrs. D'Cunha .. | 12A | S. R. 15-995 | 6— 6—24 | |

Appendices

APPENDIX 4.

Statement showing the number of teachers deputed to the Secondary Training College (1924) with the length of service of each.

| Division. | Number of Teachers. | Service in full years on 1st August 1924. | is v am co. |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---|----------------|
| Bombay Division | 1 | 7 | |
| | 2 | 3 | |
| | 1 | 1 | |
| Total .. | 4 | .... |  |
| Central Division | 2 | 3 | |
| | 1 | 1 | |
| | 1 | New | |
| Total .. | 4 | .... |  |
| Northern Division | 5 | 4 | |
| | 1 | 3 | |
| | 2 | 2 | |
| Total .. | 8 | .... |  |
| Southern Division | 1 | 4 | |
| | 2 | 3 | |
| | 1 | 2 | |
| Total .. | 4 | .... |  |
| Sind | 2 | 3 | |
| | 2 | 2 | |
| | 1 | New | |
| Total .. | 5 | .... |  |
| Grand Total .. | 25 | .... |  |

Appendices

APPENDIX 4—*contd.*

*showing the number of teachers not yet deputed to the Secondary Training College with the length of service of each.
(17 are probationers and 30 are acting only.)*

| Division. | Number of Teachers. | Service in full years on 1st August 1924. | Remarks. |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---|----------|
| Bombay Division | 2 | 5 | |
| | 3 | 4 | |
| | 2 | 3 | |
| | 1 | 2 | |
| Total .. | 8 | .... |  |
| Central Division | 3 | 5 | |
| | 3 | 4 | |
| Total .. | 6 | .... |  |
| Northern Division | 2 | 5 | |
| | 6 | 4 | |
| | 4 | 3 | |
| | 2 | 2 | |
| | 2 | 1 | |
| Total .. | 16 | .... |  |
| Southern Division | 2 | 5 | |
| | 2 | 4 | |
| | 1 | 2 | |
| Total .. | 5 | .... |  |
| Sind | 1 | 4 | |
| | 4 | 3 | |
| | 7 | 2 | |
| Total .. | 12 | .... |  |

Appendices

APPENDIX 5.

*Statement showing information regarding water supply in Kolaba
Ratnagiri Districts.*

| District. | Years. | Govern- ment Grants. | Total Expendi- ture on water supply works. | How spent or to be spent |
|-------------------|---------|----------------------------|---|---|
| Kolaba | 1923-24 | 512 | 4,240 | The District Local Board spent the amount on the repairs of old wells, dharans & construction of new wells. |
| | 1924-25 | 1,213 | 4,500 | |
| Ratnagiri | 1923-24 | 609 | 1,828 | Includes Rs. 581 drawn in 1922-23. The amount was spent on construction and repairs of wells, dams, etc. |
| | 1924-25 | 707 | 2,122 | The amount will be spent on construction and repairs of wells, dams, etc. |

Appendices
APPENDIX 6.

No. 994 of 1922-23.

Office of the Forest Engineer,
Bombay Presidency,
Dharwar, 20th September 1922.

S. PIPE, Esq., B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E.,

Forest Engineer, Bombay Presidency ;

To

The CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS,

Bombay Presidency.

Subject.—Estimate for the Dandeli-Potoli Railway.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer you to my No. 961 of 10th instant and to inform you that the financial statements and estimates for the Dandeli-Potoli Railway were prepared as regards rolling stock on the basis of quotations for surplus war stock which was available in a limited quantity. The estimate and statements I took to you personally on 13th instant. The representative of Messrs. Robert Hudson and Co., Light Railway Engineers, met and had an interview with me on 14th instant. The first two items of this rolling stock, *viz.*, 25 double-bogie box type wagons and 6 double bogie platform wagons have already been sold and therefore no longer available. I discussed the question with this Firm's representative and made some suggestions. Accordingly he has made and confirmed certain special offers based on previous quotations, but with some reductions in prices. There are special offers, but the prices are higher than those of the war surplus rolling stock originally selected.

2. As regards the selling price of fuel, the rate is Rs. 12-8-0 per ton for all quantities above a supply of 30,000 tons. Last year's supply being over 40,000 tons, I have assumed, with your approval, a rate of Rs. 12-8-0 per ton after deducting the freight charges for fuel from Dandeli to Alnavar.

3. Revised statements have therefore been prepared and included herewith.

4. Before going into the details of the estimate and revenue calculations, I wish to point out the necessity of very early sanction to the purchase of the rolling stock at present available. It is limited in quantity, and if procured now, will represent a saving of Rs. 27,500 to Government.

Appendices

This therefore is a point which may be regarded as a reason for regards action and unless I get permission to place the orders within a few days the opportunity will be lost. As the result of my interview with Messrs. Robert Hudson's representative, I was able to effect a reduction amounting to Rs. 12,500 on previous quotations. This will not hold if there is delay. The following is a copy of their telegram confirming their special offers:—

“ Bombay 16th, Forenger Dharwar.

Confirm offer 25 bogie-wagons two thousand each, six bolster bogies at five hundred each, six platform wagons 22 ft., at 15,000 each free on rails Calcutta Ex. stock 24 gauge all bogies identical as indicated in catalogue, but Calcutta asks for prompt order. Rails to-day's mail reports show slight rise will keep 28lbs. offer Rs. 8,255 per mile open subject confirmation. Will you not purchase now steel prices tend to rise owing to involved state affairs on Continent. Wagons offered subject being unsold.

RALETRUX.”

5. *Estimate.*—The estimate for the Dandeli-Potoli Railway has been completed in general and is submitted in abstract herewith.

6. *Alignment.*—You are acquainted with the general line of the Railway. From the Dandeli depôt, it crosses the Kalinadi making use of the existing causeway as far as possible. Some special work, however, will be required in the river portion. The Railway then follows roughly the direction of the Dandeli-Shamjoida road, crossing the Bavla Zarroo nala by means of the road bridge recently constructed.

The Potoli terminus is at the top of the Potoli ghat at the site of the present dastan depôt. Allowance has been made for extending the line so as to pass through the Dandeli depôt.

7. *General description and details.*—The total length including this extension is 9 miles and one furlong. The total length of tract, including sidings, however, is approximately $10\frac{1}{4}$ miles.

As the traffic is all in one direction advantage has been taken of this in the grading. The maximum gradient against the load is 1 in 60, while the maximum reverse grade on the return journey (for the empties) is 1 in 30. The line has been designed as a gravity one as far as is possible and practicable. The alignment has furthermore been arranged so as to necessitate the minimum of earth work. This, of course, is a most important point, since the cost of earth work is a dead loss having no realisable value when the railway is closed or removed. The railway will have four sidings, one at each terminus and two intermediate, one for loading fuel and another as a crossing point at the top of the Virampalghat. Three run-rounds for the locomotive are allowed one at each terminus and one at Perdhané fuel depôt. The rail gauge is 2'.

Appendices

tion of rail selected is 28lbs. per yard which is more than ample, wise extravagance. Sleepers will be chiefly of rejected teak and will be used at the rate of 2,000 per mile.

Ballast will consist of 1'ft. depth of murrum. The formation cross section is the minimum to permit of reliable drainage, which latter means cheap maintenance. The locomotive selected is well up to its work and the estimated individual loads average three-fourths of the capacities of the rolling stock. With slow running speed, light loads and ample rail section, the wear and tear on the rolling stock and tract will be reduced to a minimum.

8. The estimate which is attached is in six parts, viz.—

Part 1.—Estimate for section from chainage 0—1500' to 7—1650' includes clearing the line earth work, ballasting, 28lbs. section tract, sleepers, laying, etc. Very generous rates have been allowed for the earth work. The quantities are from actual survey and the latest quotations for rails.

Part 2.—Estimate for section 0—to 0—1500'. This is the portion from Dandeli depôt through the river portion. The details of the river portion have not been worked out, but the amount allowed is ample.

Part 3.—Estimate for the extra cost for siding, run-rounds for locomotives, etc :—These are from actual survey and recent quotations.

Part 4.—Estimate for cross drainage works :—These are taken from the approved standard type drainage works for roads, modified to suit railway purposes and with current local rates.

Part 5.—Estimate for water supply, buildings, tools, etc.

Part 6.—Estimate for extension of the line through the Dandeli depôt :—

Actual survey for this has not been completely carried out yet, but a rough alignment has been made and the figures allowed are ample.

Attached also is an abstract of the above six estimates—

Contingencies at 5 per cent. have been allowed giving a grand total for construction of the railway of Rs. 1,90,000. The total length of the railway including the 1500' fuel-siding at Dandeli is 9 miles and 1 furlong. This gives an average cost of Rs. 20,800 per mile of main line inclusive of sidings, buildings, extensions and other miscellaneous items.

9. The possibilities of this scheme have already been investigated and a preliminary estimate and project drawn up, *vide* my No. 44 dated 8th January 1922. This, however, has been revised in the light of actual survey, and recent quotations. The revised report is given in detail in the following pages.

10. The result of the estimate and investigation as regards the financial prospects may, however, be summarised here as follows:—

| | Rs. | a. | p. |
|--|----------|----|-----------------|
| Total capital outlay | 2,90,000 | 0 | 0 |
| Annual working expenses inclusive of interest, depreciation, etc. .. | 45,000 | 0 | 0 |
| Cost of haulage (logs and fuel) .. | 0 | 9 | 3 per ton-mile. |
| Net annual profit on the scheme .. | 48,600 | 0 | 0 |

This represents an investment bringing in interest at the rate of 17 per cent. per annum on the capital outlay.

It is pointed out that liberal rates of interest and depreciation have been allowed and all items including supervision and maintenance have been taken into account assuming the working to last 10 years. With improved methods of extraction, however, there is no reason why this railway should not become practically permanent.

In a scheme of this kind, there are two classes of expenditure one recoverable, *e.g.*, rails, rolling stock, etc., and the other unrecoverable, *e.g.*, earthwork, bridges, etc., and I wish to point out that the above net annual profit is arrived at after paying off annually one-tenth of the unrecoverable expenditure. *The figures, therefore, are based on the assumption of 7 per cent. interest annually on the capital outlay and the paying off of all unrecoverable expenditure by the time of the supposed closing down of the scheme, viz., after 90 years' working:* The figures throughout are fair, with a tendency always against the project.

11. In addition to the scheme as a whole, I give also an estimate (page 11) looking merely to the Pardhane fuel portion assuming that, that portion only might be carried out. It will be seen that the ton-mile rate is Re.0-10-9 as against Re. 0-9-3 for the entire railway including the logging portion Potoli.

12. Before proceeding to the details of this report, I have the honour to point out two things, *viz.*, (1) that I have included in the projects the extension of the line through Dandeli depôt, an essential need which has been under contemplation for a long time and (2) that this railway enables us to tap an area of valueless forest (according to present conditions) which cannot be exploited without a railway or similar means of transport. These are both, in my opinion, very important points. The following pages give the details and calculations of the project.

13. *Rolling Stock.*

The material to be conveyed is as follows:—

19,000 tons of fuel from Pardhane.

4,000 tons of logs from Potoli.

The working season consists of 7 months of 25 days, *i.e.*, 175 days per year.

| <i>Fuel—</i> | Rs. |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Total tonnage | 10,000 |
| Tonnage per day | 57 |

One locomotive can average three round trips per day.

One trip with logs and two trips with fuel will represent 36 miles per day which is a very reasonable allowance.

The type selected, *viz.*, Fowler 60 I.H.P. six-wheel-coupled steam locomotive can negotiate :

- a grade of 1 in 60 with a gross load of 68 tons ;
- a grade of 1 in 50 with a gross load of 60 tons ;
- and a grade of 1 in 40 with a gross load of 50 tons.

The line has been designed with a maximum reverse grade of 1 in 60. It is therefore absolutely safe to figure on a gross train load of 50 tons. The wagon selected for this work is of the double-bogie box type with removable sides and ends and a capacity of 5 to 6 tons. The internal dimensions of the body are approximately 17' \times 5½' \times 2'. By loading up to a depth of 4', 4 tons of loosely stacked fuel can be accommodated. The tare weight of one of these wagons is 2½ tons. Loaded, therefore, one wagon will weigh 6½ tons, and 8 such loaded wagons can be hauled by the locomotive selected, *i.e.*, net load of fuel per train is 32 tons. The average designed speed of the locomotive is 8½ miles per hour. To allow for slow and careful running on grades and curves, we may safely assume an average speed of 6½ miles per hour. To obviate loss of time, while loading and unloading operations are being carried out, 24 wagons will be required.

I therefore estimate for 25 for fuel traffic allowing one extra as spare which will be necessary.

Logs—

Total annual tonnage (weight) 4,000.

Average per day $\frac{4,000}{175}$, *i.e.*, 23 tons.

The wagons selected for fuel transport can be used as a platform type for logs, if the sides and ends are removed, as they are supplied with strong stanchions. An average sized log such as comes to the dastan depôt at Potoli will be 18' long 1½' diameter and ¾ to 1 ton in weight. One of these wagons therefore could comfortably accommodate 5 or 6 logs, *i.e.*, 4 to 4½ tons weight. For longer logs, wagons with plain platforms 22' long will be used. For the longest logs, pairs of lumber bogie trucks with swivelling bolsters will be used. All rolling stock will be braked and the bogies are of standard type and can therefore be readily repaired and renewed. As it will take some time for the work to reach its maximum output, I recommend that we should purchase at the beginning :—

- 25 double bogie box wagons.
- 6 double bogie platform wagons 22' long.
- 3 pairs of lumber trucks for long logs.

I give below the comparative prices of surplus war and special material with ordinary rolling stock. All these figures are from the latest quotations in which I am up-to-date.

| Item No. | No. required. | Type of rolling stock. | Price of ordinary manufacture. | Total. | Price of surplus war and special stock. | Total. | Difference. |
|----------|---------------|--|--------------------------------|--------|---|--------|-------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| | | | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| 1 | 25 | Double bogie box wagons 15½' × 5½' × 2½'. | 2,750 | 68,750 | 2,000 | 50,000 | 18,750 |
| 2 | 6 | Double bogie platform wagon 22' × 5'. | 2,650 | 15,900 | 1,500 | 9,000 | 6,900 |
| | | | without plate bottom. | | | | |
| 3 | 3 pairs. | Lumber trucks with swivelling bolsters and one bogie braked. | 1,600 | 4,800 | 500 | 3,000 | 1,800 |
| | | Total .. | .... | 89,450 | .. | 62,000 | 27,450 |

From the above figures it will be seen that by the purchase of the rolling stock at once a saving of Rs. 27,450 can be effected. I am therefore assuming that advantage be taken of the present favourable prices for surplus war and special stock.

14. Financial statement for the entire Dandeli-Potoli Railway extension through Dandeli Depôt.

Capital outlay—

| | |
|--|----------|
| | Rs. |
| Cost of construction including buildings, etc. .. | 1,90,000 |
| Rolling stock— | |
| One 8½" × 12" locomotive including spare parts, freight, etc. | 29,000 |
| 25 Double bogie box wagons | 50,000 |
| 6 Double bogie platform wagons | 9,000 |
| 3 Pairs lumber trucks | 3,000 |
| Telephone | 3,000 |
| Pole cross-cut saw and 8 H.P. Petter oil engine .. | 3,500 |
| Loading Derrick (hand power) for logs including freight and erecting | 3,000 |
| Total, capital outlay .. | 2,90,500 |
| or say .. | 2,90,000 |

Running expenses per month—

Locomotive—

| | Rs. | Rs. |
|-----------------------------------|---------|-------|
| 1 Driver | 85 | 85 |
| 1 Fireman | 35 | 35 |
| 2 Cleaners | 20 each | 40 |
| Repairs and spares | | 90 |
| Water charges | | 60 |
| Stores, oils, greases, etc. | | 60 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Total | | 370 |
| Per season | | 2,590 |

Traffic per month—

| | Rs. | Rs. |
|--------------------------------|---------|-------|
| 8 Brakesmen | 30 each | 240 |
| 1 Permanent way maistry | 50 | 50 |
| 2 Gangmates | 30 each | 60 |
| 10 Coolies | 20 each | 200 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Total | | 550 |
| <i>i.e.</i> , per season | | 3,850 |

General Supervision.

| | Rs. | Per month. Rs. |
|---|-----|-------------------|
| <i>Logs.</i> —Potoli dastan Depôt— | | |
| 1 Forester | 45 | 45 |
| Proportionate share of one overseer | 150 | 50 |
| Proportionate share of one sub-overseer. 70 | 70 | 25 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Total | | 120 |
| Per season | | 840 |

Fuel.—Pardhane and Kumbarkop Depôts—

| | Rs. | |
|---|---------|-------|
| 2 Foresters | 40 each | 80 |
| Proportionate share of one overseer | 150 | 100 |
| Proportionate share of one sub-overseer. 70 | 70 | 45 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Total | | 225 |
| For season | | 1,575 |

| | Rs. | |
|---|-----|-------|
| Maintenance and repairs per month | 400 | |
| | | <hr/> |
| For season | | 2,800 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Total | | 5,215 |
| or say | | 5,200 |

Appendices

1471

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|----|----|----|------------------|
| Total running expenses— | | | | Rs. |
| Locomotives | .. | .. | .. | 2,590 |
| Traffic | .. | .. | .. | 3,850 |
| General and Supervision | .. | .. | .. | 5,200 |
| | | | | Total .. 11,640 |
| | | | | or say .. 11,600 |

Annual cost for entire railway including log and fuel transport.

| Items. | Cost. |
|--|--------|
| | Rs. |
| Interest on capital outlay (Rs. 29,000) at 7 per cent. | 20,300 |
| Depreciation on 54,250 rails costing Rs. 85,240 at 5 per cent. | 4,260 |
| Depreciation on 20,700 sleepers costing Rs. 10,350 .. | 1,035 |
| Depreciation on rolling stock, machinery, telephone, etc., at 7 per cent. (only in use 7 months per year) .. | 7,070 |
| Depreciation on buildings and miscellaneous plant at 10 per cent. | 900 |
| Total .. 33,568 | |
| or say .. 33,600 | |
| Running expenses per season .. | 45,200 |
| or say .. 45,000 | |

Haulage costs.—Tonnage transported annually—

Logs .. 4,000 tons. 7 miles, *i.e.*, 28,000 ton-miles.
 Fuel .. 10,000 tons. 5 miles, *i.e.*, 50,000 ton-miles.

Total.. 78,000 ton-miles.

Cost per ton-mile is $\frac{\text{Rs. } 45,000}{\text{Rs. } 78,000}$ *i.e.*, 9·23 annas.

or say Rs. 0-9-3 per ton-mile.

Financial statement for the Pardhane fuel scheme alone.

This considers the railway taken as far as Pardhane siding 25,575' and excludes the extension through Dandeli Depôt which has connection solely with log transport.

Capital outlay.

| Cost of construction— | Rs. |
|--|--------|
| Section from 1,500' to 25,575'.. | 74,815 |
| River portion 0 to 1,500' | 11,800 |
| Sidings. { | 6,937 |
| | 3,000 |
| | 1,838 |
| Cross drainage works | 8,000 |
| Miscellaneous items, buildings, water-supply, etc. | 9,000 |
| Total .. 1,15,390 | |

Rolling Stock—

| | |
|--|------------|
| One 8½" × 12" steam locomotive including freight and spare parts | Rs. 29,000 |
| 25 Double bogie box wagons at Rs. 2,000 each .. | 50,000 |

Miscellaneous—

| | |
|--|-------|
| Telephone | 2,500 |
| Pole cross-cut saw and 8 H.P. Petter engine .. | 3,500 |

| | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Total capital outlay .. | 2,00,390 |
| or say .. | 2,00,000 |

Annual Costs :—

| | |
|--|--------|
| Interest at 7 per cent. on capital outlay (Rs. 2,00,000). | 14,000 |
| Depreciation on rails costing Rs. 45,200 at 5 per cent. | 2,260 |
| Depreciation on 11,000 sleepers costing Rs. 5,500 at 10 per cent. | 550 |
| Depreciation on rolling stock machines, telephones, etc., at 7 per cent. (only in use 7 months per year) .. | 5,950 |
| Depreciation on buildings and miscellaneous plant at 10 per cent. | 900 |

| | |
|----------|--------|
| Total .. | 23,660 |
|----------|--------|

Running expenses :—

| | |
|---|-------|
| Locomotive (same as before) | 2,590 |
| Traffic (Do.) | 3,850 |
| General supervision | 1,610 |
| Maintenance and repairs (5-7th of total) .. | 2,000 |

| | |
|----------|--------|
| Total .. | 10,050 |
|----------|--------|

| | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Total annual expenses .. | 33,710 |
| or say .. | 33,700 |

Haulage Costs :—

Tonnage transported annually :—

10,000 tons fuel for 5 miles, i.e., 50,000 ton-miles.

| | |
|--------------|--------|
| Cost | 29,700 |
|--------------|--------|

i.e. Rs. 0-10-9 per ton-mile 50,000.

Note.—This rate for haulage is greater than the rate when the fuel scheme is combined with logging operations from Potoli (viz., Rs. 0-9-3 per ton-mile).

16.—*Fuel operation charge per ton.*

| | Rs. | a. | p. |
|---|-----|----|----|
| Felling cross-cutting, carting to railway and sawing into billets | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Loading, unloading and stacking | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Transport by railway 5 miles at Rs. 0-9-3 per ton-mile | 2 | 14 | 3 |
| Total.. | 7 | 8 | 3 |

To show the true financial aspect of the scheme, the unrecoverable expenditures on earth work, etc., must be wiped off in 10 years. This will be at the rate of Rs. 7,000 per year. The sum spent on such unrecoverable works, viz., Rs. 70,000 has earned interest at 7 per cent. each year, i.e., Rs. 4,900. This leaves a sum of Rs. 2,100 to be wiped off each year.

Total estimated annual profit is Rs. 48,600.

Deducting Rs. 2,100 (the annual share of the unrecoverable expenditure) we have a true annual profit of Rs. 46,500. This net true profit of Rs. 46,500 is equivalent to interest on the capital outlay (Rs. 2,90,000) of 17 per cent. approximately.

In presenting the above estimates and the accompanying estimates, I beg to point out that every detail has been very carefully considered and figures are based on information obtained from every available source.

20. I have the honour to attach herewith the estimate for the Dandeli-Potoli Light Railway and again to draw your attention to paragraph 4 above,

and to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Accompt. :

(Signed) T. S. PIPE,

Estimate.

Forest Engineer, Bombay Presidency.

DANDELI-POTOLI LIGHT RAILWAY.

Abstract Estimates.

| Estimates. | Details. | Cost. Rs. |
|---|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Part 1.—Section 0/1,500' to 7/1,650' including earth work, ballasting, rails, sleepers, etc. .. | | 1,12,400 |
| Part 2.—Section 0 to 0/1,500' including river portion. | | 11,800 |
| Part 3.—Siding, run-rounds, etc. | | 16,900 |
| Part 4.—Cross drainage works | | 8,400 |
| Part 5.—Miscellaneous, buildings, water supply, etc. | | 9,000 |
| Part 6.—Extension of railway through Dandeli Depôt. | | 22,200 |
| | Total .. | 1,80,700 |
| | Contingencies at 5 per cent. .. | 9,035 |
| | Total .. | 1,89,735 |
| | Say .. | 1,90,000 |

(Signed) T. S. PIPE,

Forest Engineer, Bombay Presidency.

Part 2.—Estimate for section chainage to 1,500' from Dandeli Depot to South end of the causeway and including 1,500' extension for fuel siding.

| | Cost. Rs. |
|---|--------------|
| Special masonry work in river crossing including diversion and remaking of existing road .. | 4,500 |
| Earthwork | 500 |
| Murum ballasting | 500 |
| 3,000' of 28 lb. section track, including sleepers laying, freight, etc. | 6,300 |
| Total .. | 11,800 |

Part 3.—Estimate for additional earthwork, track, switches and crossing for run-rounds, sidings termini, etc.

Switches and crossings.

| | Cost, Rs. |
|--|--------------|
| 3 for run-round at Potoli terminus | 750 |
| 3 Do. Dandeli terminus | 750 |
| 3 Do. Perdhane siding | 750 |
| 2 for log loading siding at Potoli | 500 |
| 2 for fuel siding at Perdhane | 500 |
| 2 for intermediate crossing siding at head of ghat | 500 |
| 2 for unloading siding at Dandeli | 500 |
| 1 for Dandeli extension | 250 |
| 18 | 4,500 |

28 lb. section track for

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| 3 Run-rounds, 560' each | 1,680 feet. |
| Potoli siding | 450 " |
| Perdhane siding | 450 " |
| Ghat head | 250 " |
| Dandeli fuel siding | 1,500 " |
| Total length .. | 4,330 " |

Cost at Rs. 11,100 per mile including sleepers, laying, freight, etc. 9,103

Earth work.

| Items. | Length. | Cost. Rs. |
|------------------------------|---------|--------------|
| Potoli run-round | 564' | 990 |
| Potoli log siding | 450' | 207 |
| Perdhane run-round | 564' | 857 |
| Perdhane fuel siding | 450' | 83 |
| Ghat-head siding | 250' | 183 |
| Total .. | 2,278' | 2,320 |

Appendices

Murum ballasting 1' deep.

| | Length. | Cost. Rs. |
|---|----------|--------------|
| For above run-rounds and sidings | 2,278' | 480 |
| For 1,500' fuel siding at Dandeli | .. | 320 |
| For run-round at Dandeli | .. | 120 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | 920 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | Total .. | 3,240 |
| | Say .. | 3,300 |

Abstract of Part 3.

| | Cost. Rs. |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Switches and crossings | 4,500 |
| 28 lb. track | 9,103 |
| Earth work and ballasting | 3,300 |
| | <hr/> |
| | Total .. 16,903 |
| | Say .. 16,000 |

Part 4.—Estimate for cross drainage works.

| S. No. | Chainage feet. | Type of drainage work and length. | Cost. Rs. |
|--------|--|---|--------------|
| 1 | 6,400 | L.T. 4' x 4' length 32' | 1,120 |
| 2 | 7,480 | L.T. 4' x 4' " 23' | 861 |
| 3 | 7,941 | L.T. 3' x 3' " 32' | 944 |
| 4 | 8,400 | L.T. 2' x 2' " 41' | 973 |
| 5 | 8,700 | Percolation drain | 100 |
| 6 | 8,922 | Do. do. | 64 |
| 7 | 9,244 | L.T. 4' x 4' 2 spans skew length 17' | 1,286 |
| 8 | 9,634 | L.T. 3' x 3' length 41' | 1,100 |
| 9 | 10,528 | L.T. 2' x 2' length 38' | 909 |
| 10 | 12,900 | Open drain | 10 |
| 11 | 13,860 | Percolation drain | 76 |
| 12 | 24,510 | Do. do. | 70 |
| 13 | 26,200 | Do. do. | 34 |
| A | 27,400 | Do. do. | 94 |
| | | | <hr/> |
| | | | 7,641 |
| | | | <hr/> |
| | Add—For escapes from side gutters in cuttings at Rs. 100 per mile .. | | 700 |

Total.. 8,314
Say 8,400

Part 5.—Miscellaneous items.

| | Cost. Rs. |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Engine shed, 15' × 30' for storing Locomotive during the monsoon. Cost Rs. 2-8-0 per Sq. ft. plinth area. | 1,200 |
| 2. Temporary buildings for railway staff | 6,000 |
| 3. Hand-pump, semi-rotary, water tank 650 gallons capacity with necessary piping and specials for watering station at Perdhane and in addition a pipe connection for Dandeli water supply system | 800 |
| 4. Tools and sundries (Jim-crows, spanners, screw jacks, levers, hammers, etc.) | 1,000 |
| Total .. | 9,000 |

Part 6.—Estimate for extension of Dandeli-Potoli Light-railway through the Dandeli Depôt. Length 1 mile and 5 furlongs.

| Items. | Cost. Rs. |
|---|--------------|
| Earth work | 2,500 |
| 28 lb. section track, sleepers laying, freight, etc. .. | 18,000 |
| Murum ballasting | 1,750 |
| Total .. | 22,250 |
| Say .. | 22,200 |

PART I.—STATEMENT WITH REVISED RATES.

Abstract estimate of cost of construction of the Potoli-Dandeli Light Railway. Section from chainage 0/1500' to chainage 7/1650'.

| Mile No. and chainage. | Clearing line. | Earth work formation. | Murum ballasting 1 thick. | Sleepers at 8 annas each 2,000 per mile. | 28 lbs. section rails including freight and carriage. | Laying track. | Total. | Remarks. |
|------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|--|---|---------------|----------|----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | |
| 0/1500 to 1 .. | 107 | 2,205 | 745 | 710 | 6,983 | 251 | 11,007 | |
| 1 to 2 .. | 150 | 8,159 | 1,040 | 1,000 | 9,755 | 350 | 20,454 | |
| 2 to 3 .. | 150 | 3,794 | 1,040 | 1,000 | 9,755 | 350 | 16,089 | |
| 3 to 4 .. | 150 | 3,137 | 1,040 | 1,000 | 9,755 | 350 | 15,432 | |
| 4 to 5 .. | 150 | 1,887 | 1,040 | 1,000 | 9,755 | 350 | 14,182 | |
| 5 to 6 .. | 150 | 3,906 | 1,040 | 1,000 | 9,755 | 350 | 16,291 | |
| 6 to 7 .. | 150 | 1,526 | 1,040 | 1,000 | 9,755 | 350 | 13,821 | |
| 7 to 7/1650 .. | 47 | 1,142 | 325 | 312 | 3,048 | 109 | 4,983 | |
| | 1,054 | 25,936 | 7,310 | 7,028 | 68,561 | 2,460 | 1,12,349 | |
| | | | | | | Say Rs. | 1,12,400 | |

APPENDIX 7.

Statement showing the results of certain examinations held by the University of Bombay during the last five years.

| Name of Examination. | Year. | Number of students who appeared. | Number of students who passed. | Percentage of successful students. |
|------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Final M.B.B.S. | 1920 | 213 | 92 | 43.19 |
| Do. | 1921 | 283 | 132 | 46.64 |
| Do. | 1922 | 347 | 161 | 46.39 |
| Do. | 1923 | 458 | 131 | 28.60 |
| Do. | 1924 | 301 | 75 | 24.91 |
| Intermediate M.B.B.S. | 1920 | 368 | 185 | 50.27 |
| Do. | 1921 | 449 | 226 | 50.35 |
| Do. | 1922 | 574 | 266 | 46.34 |
| Do. | 1923 | 554 | 243 | 43.86 |
| Do. | 1924 | 551 | 250 | 45.37 |
| B.Sc. | 1920 | 114 | 64 | 56.14 |
| Do. | 1921 | 112 | 59 | 52.67 |
| Do. | 1922 | 140 | 77 | 55.00 |
| Do. | 1923 | 151 | 86 | 56.95 |
| Do. | 1924 | 177 | 93 | 52.54 |
| B.Ag. | 1920 | 37 | 36 | 97.29 |
| Do. | 1921 | 41 | 38 | 92.68 |
| Do. | 1922 | 47 | 44 | 93.61 |
| Do. | 1923 | 45 | 38 | 84.44 |
| Do. | 1924 | 68 | 45 | 66.17 |
| B.E. | 1920 | 89 | 58 | 65.16 |
| Do. | 1921 | 63 | 42 | 66.66 |
| Do. | 1922 | 83 | 38 | 45.78 |
| Do. | 1923 | 94 | 57 | 60.63 |
| Do. | 1924 | 74 | 36 | 48.64 |
| Preliminary Scientific | 1920 | 526 | 343 | 65.20 |
| Do. | 1921 | 469 | 275 | 58.63 |
| Do. | 1922 | 593 | 296 | 49.91 |
| Do. | 1923 | 439 | 248 | 56.49 |
| Do. | 1924 |A b o l i s h e d..... | | |
| Name of Examination. | Month and year. | Number of candidates appeared. | Number of candidates successful. | Percentage of successful students. |
| Final L.C.P.S. | May 1920 | 147 | 74 | 50 |
| | November 1920 | 248 | 104 | 46 |
| | May 1921 | 172 | 85 | 49 |
| | November 1921 | 238 | 95 | 35 |
| | May 1922 | 147 | 61 | 43 |
| | November 1922 | 157 | 72 | 45 |
| | May 1923 | 209 | 69 | 33 |
| | November 1923 | 161 | 43 | 27 |
| | May 1924 | 184 | 39 | 21 |

APPENDIX 10.

Statement showing population according to the Census of 1921.

| — | Hindu, Jain and Animist. | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|----------|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | Advanced. | | Intermediats. | | Backward. | |
| | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. |
| 1. Bombay City. | 141,301 | 67,990 | 305,169 | 158,345 | 94,094 | 63,639 |
| 2. Bombay Sub-urban Division. | 11,110 | 7,809 | 31,895 | 21,135 | 19,801 | 16,005 |
| 3. Northern Division .. | 178,561 | 159,021 | 961,151 | 8,74,672 | 548,144 | 525,733 |
| 4. Central Division .. | 240,536 | 213,500 | 1,788,527 | 1,741,634 | 734,801 | 740,383 |
| 5. Southern Division .. | 214,532 | 209,779 | 1,582,548 | 1,618,542 | 372,444 | 377,997 |
| | 786,040 | 658,099 | 4,669,290 | 4,414,328 | 1,769,284 | 1,723,757 |
| Total .. | 1,444,139 | | 9,083,618 | | 3,493,041 | |

| — | Hindu, Jain and Animist—contd. | | | | Remarks. |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------|------------|----------|---|
| | Rest. | | Mussalman. | | |
| | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. | |
| 1. Bombay City. | 24,369 | 6,715 | 127,311 | 57,374 | Figures for Depressed classes are included under "Backward Hindus" and are not shown separately in the Census Tables. |
| 2. Bombay Sub-urban Division. | 3,566 | 1,744 | 8,781 | 5,648 | |
| 3. Northern Division .. | 20,715 | 16,067 | 183,487 | 165,850 | |
| 4. Central Division .. | 85,643 | 85,291 | 191,101 | 174,319 | |
| 5. Southern Division .. | 15,590 | 17,965 | 224,669 | 230,532 | |
| | 119,883 | 127,782 | 735,352 | 633,723 | |
| Total .. | 277,665 | | 1,369,075 | | |

APPENDIX 11.

Statement showing information regarding sanitary committees as per Council question put by Mr. R. G. Soman, Satara District.

| Number of Sanitary Committees in Satara District before village panchayats were established. | Amount of total grants allowed to such sanitary committees during | | | | Have any grants been allowed to the new Village Panchayats either by | | What are amounts of these grants. | Remarks. |
|--|---|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|--|---------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| | 1920-21. | | 1921-22. | | Government. | Local Boards. | | |
| | By Government. | By District Local Board. | By Government. | By District Local Board. | | | | |
| 21 | 1,550 | 2,066 | 2,000 | 3,012 | No. | Yes. | Rs. 175 D.L.B. 520 T.L.B. | |
| | | | | | | Total .. | 895 | |

APPENDIX 12.

Statement referred to in Question No. 10 put by Rao Saheb D. P. Desai.

| Name of the Training Institution. | Number of institutions (a). | Classes taught (b) and (c). | Of the number shown in column 2 how many are (d) | | Number of classes (e). | Number of students receiving instruction (f). |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|---------------------|------------------------|---|
| | | | Private or grant-in-aid institutions. | And where situated. | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| TRAINING INSTITUTIONS FOR MEN. | | | | | | |
| <i>Bombay Division.</i> | | | | | | |
| Government Training School, Alibag .. | 1 | 1st year .. | | | 1 | 50 |
| Government Training School, Ratnagiri .. | 1 | Do. .. | | | 1 | 49 |
| Government Training School, Nasik .. | 1 | Do. .. | | | 1 | 47 |
| | 3 | | | | | |
| <i>Central Division.</i> | | | | | | |
| Training College for Men, Poona. | 1 | 1st and 2nd. | | | 5 | 180 |
| Urdu Training Class, Poona .. | 1 | Do. .. | | | 2 | 49 |
| Training School, Satara .. | 1 | 1st .. | | | 1 | 48 |
| Training School, Sholapur .. | 1 | Do. .. | | | 1 | 48 |
| Training School, Ahmednagar .. | 1 | Do. .. | | | 1 | 47 |
| Union Training School, Ahmednagar .. | 1 | Junior & Senior classes. | 1 | Ahmednagar. | 2 | 71 |
| Training School, Jalgaon .. | 1 | 1st year .. | | | 1 | 50 |
| Training College for Men, Dhulia. | 1 | I and II .. | | | 4 | 115 |
| | 8 | | 1 | | | |
| <i>Northern Division.</i> | | | | | | |
| P. R. Training College for Men, Ahmedabad .. | 1 | I and II .. | | | 3 | } 189 |
| Urdu Training Class, Ahmedabad .. | 1 | I and III .. | | | 3 | |

APPENDIX 12—*contd.*

| Name of the Training Institution. | Number of institutions (a). | Classes taught (b) and (c). | Of the number shown in column 2 how many are (d) | | Number of classes (e). | Number of students receiving instruction (f). |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|---------------------|------------------------|---|
| | | | Private or grant-in-aid institutions. | And where situated. | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| TRAINING INSTITUTIONS FOR MEN—<i>contd.</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>Northern Division—contd.</i> | | | | | | |
| LP.Mission Training College for Men, Ahmedabad .. | 1 | I .. | 1 | Ahmedabad. | 1 | 7 |
| | 3 | | 1 | | | |
| <i>Southern Division.</i> | | | | | | |
| Training College for Men, Dharwar (now reduced to the status of the District Training School). | 1 | I .. | | | 1 | 34 |
| <i>Sind.</i> | | | | | | |
| Training College for Men, Hyderabad .. | 1 | I and II .. | | | 2 | 89 |
| | 1 | | | | | |
| Grand Total .. | 16 | | 2 | | | |
| TRAINING INSTITUTIONS FOR WOMEN. | | | | | | |
| <i>Bombay Division.</i> | | | | | | |
| Vanita Vishram Training College for Women, Sandhurst Road, Bombay. | 1 | I, II and III. | 1 | Bombay. | 3 | 55 |
| Seva Sadan Normal Classes, Girgaum, Bombay. | 1 | I, II and III. | 1 | Bombay. | 3 | 55 |
| | 2 | | 2 | | | |

APPENDIX 12—contd.

| Name of the Training Institution. | Number of institutions (a). | Classes taught (b) and (c). | Of the number shown in column 2 how many are (d) | | Number of classes (e). | Number of students receiving instruction (f). |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|---------------------|------------------------|---|
| | | | Private or grant-in-aid institutions. | And where situated. | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| TRAINING INSTITUTIONS FOR WOMEN—contd. | | | | | | |
| <i>Central Division.</i> | | | | | | |
| Training College for Women, Poona .. | 1 | I, II and III. | | | 3 | 103 |
| Normal Class attached to the Central Urdu Girls' School, Poona .. | 1 | I | | | 1 | 4 |
| Bai Motlibai Wadia Training College (Seva Sadan), Poona. | 1 | I, II and III. | 1 | Poona. | 3 | 109 |
| U. F. C. M. Training College, Poona .. | 1 | I, II and III. | 1 | Poona. | 3 | 28 |
| Training College at Hingne Budruk, Poona .. | 1 | I, II and III. | 1 | Hingne Budruk. | 3 | 36 |
| Z. B. M. M. Girls' Urdu Training Class, Sholapur. | 1 | I and II .. | 1 | Sholapur. | 2 | 5 |
| Mary B. Hardinge Kindergarten Training School, Sholapur .. | 1 | I .. | 1 | Sholapur. | 1 | 17 |
| First year class of the Poona Seva Sadan, Sholapur .. | 1 | I .. | 1 | Sholapur. | 1 | 42 |
| St. Monica's Normal Class, Ahmednagar .. | 1 | I, II and III. | 1 | Ahmednagar. | 3 | 33 |
| First year class of the Poona Seva Sadan at Ahmednagar .. | 1 | I .. | 1 | Ahmednagar. | 1 | 18 |
| | 10 | | 8 | | | |

APPENDIX 12—*contd.*

| Name of the Training Institution. | Number of institutions (a). | Classes taught (b) and (c). | Of the number shown in column 2 how many are (d) | | Number of classes (e). | Number of students receiving instruction (f). |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|---------------------|------------------------|---|
| | | | Private or grant-in-aid institutions. | And where situated. | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| TRAINING INSTITUTIONS FOR WOMEN—<i>concl'd.</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>Northern Division.</i> | | | | | | |
| Mahalaxmi Training College for Women, Ahmedabad .. | 1 | I, II and III. | | | 3 | 84 |
| I.P. Mission Training College for Women, Ahmedabad .. | 1 | I, II and III. | 1 | Ahmedabad. | 3 | 31 |
| M. E. Mission Training College for Women, Godhra .. | 1 | I, II and III. | 1 | Godhra. | 3 | 65 |
| <i>Southern Division.</i> | | | | | | |
| Training College for Women, Dharwar .. | 1 | I and II .. | | | 2 | 35 |
| <i>Sind.</i> | | | | | | |
| Training College for Women, Hyderabad .. | 1 | I, II and III. | | | 3 | 27 |
| C. E. Z. Mission Training College at Karachi .. | 1 | I, II and III. | 1 | Karachi. | 3 | 14 |
| Female Normal Class under the management of the Karachi Municipality .. | 1 | I, II and III. | 1 | Karachi. | 3 | 12 |
| | 3 | | 2 | | | |
| Grand Total .. | 19 | | 14 | | | |

APPENDIX 13.

*Statement giving certain information about Professors and Principals
and Imperial*

| No. | Name. | Educational qualifications. | Period of service on 1st October 1924. | Provincial or Imperial. |
|-----------------------------|---|--|--|-------------------------|
| <i>Elphinstone College.</i> | | | | |
| 1 | A. L. Covernton, Principal and Professor of English. | M.A. (Oxon.) .. | Y. M. D. 25 11 0 | Imperial. |
| 2 | A. C. Farran, Ag. Principal and Professor of History. | B.A. (Dublin) .. | 9 8 28 | Do. |
| 3 | S. G. Sathe, Professor of Logic and Moral Philosophy. | M.A. (Bombay) .. | 22 9 22 | Do. |
| 4 | A. K. Sarfraz Shaikh, Professor of Persian. | M.A. (Bombay) .. | 18 9 1 | Do. |
| 5 | S. G. Panandikar, Professor of History and Political Economy. | M.A. (Bombay), Ph. D. (Econ. London). | 1 3 13 | Do. |
| 6 | V. G. Rao, Professor of French. | B.A. (Bombay), B.A., LL.B. (Cant.), Bar-at-Law, Officer D'Academie. | 0 3 13 | Do. |
| 7 | B. N. Seal, Acting Professor of English. | B.A. (Cantab.), Bar-at-Law. | 3 3 4 | Do. |
| 8 | K. R. Gunjikar, Professor of Mathematics. | B.Sc. (Bom.), M.A. (Cantab.), 1st class in both parts of Mathematical tripos (Wrangler) and 2nd part of National Science Tripos (Physics). | 1 3 13 | Do. |
| 9 | J. C. P. D'Andrade, Lecturer in Philosophy. | M.A. (Bombay), LL.B. (Bombay). | 11 9 0 | Provincial. |
| 10 | A. B. Gajendragadkar, Professor of Sanskrit. | M.A. (Bombay) .. | 9 0 13 | Do. |
| 11 | D. P. Patravali, Professor of Mathematics. | B.A. (Cantab.), Bar-at-Law. | 0 3 1 | Do. |
| 12 | C. E. Shah, Assistant Professor of English. | M.A. (Bombay) .. | 1 3 13 | Do. |
| 13 | V. D. Alurkar, Temporary Assistant Professor of Mathematics. | M.A. (Bombay) .. | 9 6 8 | Do. |
| 14 | N. B. Divatia, Temporary Lecturer in Gujarati. | B.A. (Bombay) .. | 3 3 13 | Do. |
| 15 | G. G. Tipnis, Temporary Lecturer in Marathi. | Matric .. | 3 3 12 | Do. |
| 16 | Correia Afonso, Professor of English. | M.A. (Bombay), LL.B. (Bombay). | 0 1 3 | Do. |
| <i>Deccan College.</i> | | | | |
| 1 | H. G. Rawlinson, Ag. Principal and Professor of English. | M.A. (Cantab.), Exhibitioner and Scholar, Emmanuel College, Cambridge 1st class classical Tripos; Hare University Prize Fellow of Royal Historical Society on the staff of the Cambridge History of India. | 16 8 25 | Imperial. |

Note.—In addition to usual lectures Nos. 2 to 7, 9, 10, 12 and 15 have to correct essays of students to essays each term is at least 5.

13.

working in Government Colleges of the Bombay Presidency in Provincial grades.

| Salary (i.e., pay, Duty and Overseas pay, Compensatory allowance). | Period of work per week. | Whether he has published any original work. | Whether he has published any notes on text books appointed by the University. | Number of University examinations held by him last year. | Remarks. |
|--|--------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| Rs. 2,600 | .... | No. | Yes. | Nil. | On deputation. |
| 1,495 | 12 | No. | No. | Nil. | |
| 1,215 | 10 | No. | No. | Nil. | |
| 795 | 15 | Yes. | Yes. | 3 | |
| 600 | 12 | Yes. | No. | 1 | |
| 795 | 12 | No. | Yes. | 1 | |
| 915 | 8 | Yes. | No. | Nil. | |
| 600 | 11 | No. | No. | 2 | |
| 610 | 12 | No. | No. | 1 | |
| 558 | 11 | Yes. | Yes. | 1 | |
| 480 | 13 | No. | No. | Nil. | |
| 376 | 10 | No. | No. | Nil. | |
| 402 | 14 | No. | No. | 1 | |
| 310 | 9 | Yes. | No. | 1 | |
| 310 | 4 | Yes. | No. | Nil. | |
| 480 | 9 | Yes. | Yes. | 1 | The post is in I.F.S. but Mr. Correia is appointed in H.E.S. |
| 2,050 | 10 | Yes. | No. | 2 | In addition to duties as Principal and Member of Senate, Syndicate and two Boards of studies. |

the F.Y. Class. Nos. 2 to 6, 9 and 10 have to set and correct essays of B.A. (Insects). The number H 71-6a

| No. | Name. | Educational qualifications. | Period of service on 1st October 1924. | Provincial or Imperial. |
|-----|---|--|--|-------------------------|
| | <i>Deccan College—contd.</i> | | Y. M. D. | |
| 2 | D. D. Kapadia, Ag. Professor of Mathematics. | M.A., B.Sc. (Bom.) .. | 23 1 27 | Imperial. |
| 3 | E. A. Wodchouse, Professor of English. | M.A. (Oxon.), Scholar, C.C.C. Oxford 1898-1902. 1st class classical moderations 1st Literae Humaniores, 1902; University Prizes—English Verse Newdigate Prize, 1902; Chancellor's English Essay, 1903. | 1 3 11 | Do. |
| 4 | G. B. Jathar, Ag. Professor of History and Political Economy. | B.A. (Hons.) (Cantab.); M.A. (Hons.) (Edin.). | 7 4 0 | Do. |
| 5 | S. K. Belvalkar, Professor of Sanskrit. | M.A. (Bombay), S.T.C.D., Ph.D. (Harward). | 17 10 27 | Do. |
| 6 | E. P. Patwardhan, Professor of Indian History and Economics. | B.A. (Bom.) .. B.A. (Oxford) | 7 3 11 | Do. |
| 7 | N. D. Minocher-Homji, Professor of Persian. | B.A. (Bombay), S.T.C. .. | 23 2 16 | Provincial. |
| 8 | G. S. Dixit, Lecturer in Science. | M.A. (Bombay), S.T.C. .. | 21 6 0 | Do. |
| 9 | M. G. Shastri, Lecturer in Sanskrit. | M.A. (Bombay), S.T.C. .. | 21 5 24 | Do. |
| 10 | S. M. Shah, Lecturer in Mathematics. | M.A. (Bombay) .. | 9 3 10 | Do. |
| 11 | S. N. Chaphekar, Temporary Lecturer in Marathi. | M.A. (Bombay), LL.B. (Bombay). | 3 3 11 | Do. |
| | <i>Gujarat College.</i> | | | |
| 1 | H. Hamill, Officiating Principal. | B.A. 1st class, Hons. (Belfast). | 5 0 4 | Imperial. |
| 2 | M. S. Commissariat, Professor of History and Political Economy. | M.A. .. | 12 2 16 | Do. |
| 3 | V. B. Divatia, Professor of Physics. | M.A. (Bombay), B.A. (Cantab.). | 12 2 16 | Do. |
| 4 | D. D. Kanga, Professor of Chemistry. | M.A., A.I.C., A.I.I.Sc. .. | 14 9 0 | Do. |
| 5 | Y. D. Thanavala, Professor of Botany. | M.A. .. | 22 3 22 | Provincial. |
| 6 | K. V. Abhyankar, Professor of Sanskrit. | M.A. (Bombay) .. | 11 8 29 | Do. |
| 7 | M. E. Namazi, Professor of Persian. | B.A. (Bombay) .. | 8 3 11 | Do. |
| 8 | V. M. Gaitonde, Professor of Mathematics. | M.A. (Bombay), F.R.A.S. | 3 6 0 | Do. |
| 9 | B. V. Dalal, Lecturer in French. | M.A. Officer D'Academie. | 13 7 16 | Do. |
| 10 | Rao Bahadur K. H. Dhruva, Temporary Lecturer in Gujarati. | B.A. (Bom.) .. | 3 0 0 | Do. |
| 11 | J. S. Commissariat, Lecturer in English. | M.A., LL.B. (Bom.) .. | 8 8 22 | Do. |

13—contd.

| Salary (i.e., pay, Duty and Overseas pay, Com- pensatory allowance). | Period of work per week. | Whether he has pub- lished any original work. | Whether he has pub- lished any notes on text books appointed by the University. | Number of University examiner- ships held by him last year. | Remarks. |
|--|-----------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Rs. 1,150 | 15 | No. | Yes. | Nil. | |
| 1,250 | 15* | Yes. | No. | 2 (outside Bombay Uni- versity). | *In addition to Essay correction and super- vision of College Gymkhana. |
| 850 | 12 | No. | No. | 1 | |
| 700 | 13 | Yes. | Yes. | 1 | |
| 700 | 12 | Yes. | No. | Nil. | |
| 680 | 14 | No. | No. | 1 | |
| 450 | 18 | No. | No. | 1 | |
| 370 | 12 | Yes. | No. | Nil. | |
| 310 | 14 | No. | No. | 1 | |
| 310 | 10 | No. | No. | 1 | |
| 1,050 | 30 (average) | No. | No. | 2 | |
| 600 | 12 | Yes. | No. | 1 | |
| 750 | 26 | No. | No. | 1 | |
| 750 | 25 | Yes. | No. | 6 | |
| 610 | 25 | No. | No. | Nil. | |
| 410 | 15 | Yes. | Yes. | 1 | and 1 outside Bombay University. |
| 410 | 12 | No. | No. | 1 | |
| 310 | 13 | No. | No. | Nil. | |
| 240 | 15 | Yes. | No. | 1 | 2 periods of literary work in addition. |
| 310 | 22 | Yes. | Yes. | 2 | |
| 370 | 12 | No. | No. | Nil. | |

| No. | Name. | Educational qualifications. | Period of service on 1st October 1924. | Provincial or Imperial. |
|-----|--|--|--|-------------------------|
| | <i>Gujarat College—contd.</i> | | Y. M. D. | |
| 12 | S. G. Deshpande, Lecturer in History and Political Economy. | M.A. (Bom.) .. | 11 5 27 | Provincial. |
| 13 | J. J. Asana, Lecturer in Zoology. | M.A. (Bom.) B.A. (Hons.) (Cantab.) .. | 9 3 10 | Do. |
| 14 | S. N. Datar, Lecturer in Physics. | M.A., B.Sc. (Bom.) .. | 7 3 1 | Do. |
| 15 | F. C. Davar, Ag. Lecturer in English. | M.A., LL.B. (Bom.) .. | 4 10 17 | Do. |
| | <i>Karnatak College.</i> | | | |
| 1 | H. V. Hampton, Officiating Principal. | M.A. (Dublin), Diploma in Edn. Tri. College, Dublin. | 10 7 0 | Imperial. |
| 2 | R. N. Welinkar, Officiating Professor of English. | B.A. (Hons.) (Bom.) .. B.A. (Hons.) (Oxford). | 1 3 12 | Do. |
| 3 | N. S. Takakhav, Professor of English. | M.A. (Bom.) .. | 3 3 11 | Do. |
| 4 | C. P. Saldanha, Professor of Mathematics. | M.A. (Bom.) .. | 9 3 10 | Provincial. |
| 5 | S. G. Beri, Professor of History and Political Economy. | M.A. (Bom.) .. | 5 3 12 | Do. |
| 6 | V. G. Bhat, Professor of Sanskrit. | B.A. (Cantab.), B.A. (Bom.), Certified Teacher, Cambridge. | 4 3 12 | Do. |
| 7 | Khan Saheb A. M. Moulvi, Professor of Persian. | M.A. (Bom.) .. | 5 2 0 | Do. |
| 8 | A. D. Dhopeswarkar, Professor of History and Logic. | M.A., LL.B. (Bom.) .. | 4 3 11 | Do. |
| 9 | T. K. Deolalkar, Lecturer in Science. | M.A., B.Sc. (Bom.) .. | 8 1 21 | Do. |
| 10 | P. W. Gideon, Lecturer in Biology. | M.A. (Mad.) .. | 0 3 12 | Do. |
| 11 | R. L. Alimchandani, Lecturer in Chemistry. | M.Sc. (Bom.) .. | 0 3 12 | Do. |
| 12 | M. A. Narayanshastri, Temporary Lecturer in Kanarese. | M.A. (Vidyabhushan) .. | 3 2 19 | Do. |
| | <i>College of Engineering.</i> | | | |
| 1 | W. L. C. Trench, Principal and Professor of Civil Engineering. | B.A.I. (Dublin), A.M. I.C.E. | 10 0 0 | Imperial. |
| 2 | C. Graham Smith, Professor of Engineering. | Chartered Civil Engineer, A.M.I.C.E., A.C.G.I. | 8 8 21 | Do. |
| 3 | H. P. Jordon, Professor of Structural Design. | M.Sc. (Manchester) .. | 12 0 0* 1 10 27 | Do. |
| 4 | A. David, Professor of Mechanical Engineering. | B.Sc., A.M.I.E. .. | (in this college) 4 0 0 | Do. |
| 5 | P. G. Dani, Professor of Physics and Electrical Engineering. | B.Sc., B.A., A.C.G.I. .. | 1 2 11 | Do. |
| 6 | G. G. Narke, Professor of Chemistry and Zoology. | M.A., B.Sc., M.Sc. .. | 4 6 6 | Provincial. |

13—contd.

| Salary (i.e., pay, Duty and Overseas pay, Com- pensatory allowance). | Period of work per week. | Whether he has pub- lished any original work. | Whether he has pub- lished any notes on text books appointed by the University. | Number of University examiner- ships held by him last year. | Remarks. |
|--|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Rs. 310 | 11 | No. | No. | <i>Nil.</i> | |
| 410 | 20 | No. | No. | <i>Nil.</i> | |
| 250 | 20 | Yes. | No. | 1 | |
| 230 | 12 | No. | No. | <i>Nil.</i> | |
| 1,650 | 13 | No. | No. | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>N.B.</i> —In addition to the lectures the work of the correction of essays, exercises and science note books is required to be done. This work is very heavy. |
| 300 | 13 | No. | No. | <i>Nil.</i> | |
| 750 | 13 | Yes. | Yes. | 1 | |
| 410 | 17 | No. | No. | 1 | |
| 410 | 14 | No. | No. | <i>Nil.</i> | |
| 410 | 11 | No. | No. | 1 | |
| 370 | 17 | No. | No. | <i>Nil.</i> | |
| 410 | 12 | Yes. | Yes. | 1 | |
| 390 | 15 | No. | No. | <i>Nil.</i> | |
| 250 | 10 | No. | No. | <i>Nil.</i> | |
| 250 | 15 | Yes. | No. | 2 | |
| 310 | 8 | Yes. | No. | 2 | |
| 1,725 | On leave. | Information is not available as he is on leave. | not avail- able as he is on leave. | <i>Nil.</i> | |
| 1,150 | 30 | Yes. | No. | 4 | |
| 1,500 | 21 | Yes. | No. | <i>Nil.</i> |  | *In foreign service. |
| 800 | 30 | No. | No. | 3 | (In addition experi- mental work.) |
| 1,100 | 12 | No. | No. | 4 | Besides supervision of Laboratory work and administration of Physical and Electrical Depart- ment. |
| 710 | 18 | No. | Yes. | 3 | |

| No. | Name. | Educational qualifications. | Period of service on 1st October 1924. | Provincial or Imperial. |
|-----|--|--|--|-------------------------|
| | <i>College of Engineering—contd.</i> | | Y. M. D. | |
| 7 | W. J. Ingham, Superintendent of Workshop. | A.M.I. (Mech.E.) (London) | 19 1 9 | Provincial. |
| 8 | G. R. Sahgal, Officiating Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering. | B.A., B.Sc. | 0 6 3 | Do. |
| 9 | A. V. Pearce, Instructor in Engineering Drawing and Design. | A.M.I.Loco.E. | 3 6 0 | Do. |
| 10 | S. V. Apte, Lecturer in Physics. | M.A., B.Sc. | 11 10 0 | Do. |
| 11 | M. H. Khare, Master in Engineering. | L.C.E. | 8 9 15 (in E. D.) | Do. |
| 12 | P. L. Nagarkar, Ag. Lecturer in Engineering. | B.A., L.C.E. | 5 3 20 | Do. |
| 13 | B. D. Audich | M.A. | 21 6 5 | Do. |
| 14 | B. A. Solomon, Ag. Superintendent of Workshops. | II class Boiler Act Mechanical Engineering course. | 17 10 0 | Do. |
| | <i>* Sydenham College of Commerce and Economics.</i> | | | |
| 1 | M. L. Tannan, Principal and Professor of Banking. | B.Com. (Birm.), Bar.-at-Law. | 9 9 0 | Imperial. |
| 2 | M. J. Antia, Professor of English and Cotton Trade. | M.A. (Bom.), M.A., LL.B. (Cant.), Bar.-at-Law. | 9 3 11 | Do. |
| 3 | R. M. Joshi, Professor of Indian Economics. | M.A., LL.B. (Bom.), B.Sc. (Econ.), London. | 10 11 10 | Do. |
| 4 | H. L. Kazi, Professor of Geography. | M.A., B.Sc. (Bom.), High Court Vakil, Telang Medalist. | 15 3 27 | Do. |
| 5 | S. R. Rattan, Ag. Professor of Economic History and Administration. | B.Com. (Hon.) (Birm.) | 0 3 11 | Provincial. |
| | <i>Secondary Training College.</i> | | | |
| 1 | H. R. Hamley, Principal | M.A., B.Sc., Dip. Ed. | 0 4 16 | Imperial. |
| 2 | P. S. Katti, Vice-Principal | M.A. (Bom.), B.A. (Cant.), Dip. Ed., (Cam.). | 0 3 14 | Do. |
| 3 | R. P. Kar, Professor of Science and Geography. | B.Sc., L.T.T.D.P., London | 10 9 25 | Provincial. |
| 4 | V. H. Anklesaria, Lecturer in English. | B.A., S.T.C.D. | 17 4 9 | Do. |
| 5 | V. P. Bokli, Offg. Professor of History and Method. | M.A., S.T.C.D. | 11 10 0 | Do. |

*Note.—Each period consists of 55 minutes. In addition to the period of work per week one hour is also required to examine the home-work books in their subjects.

Some of the full-time members give special evening courses of lectures in each term for the benefit

13—contd.

| Salary (i.e., pay, Duty and Overseas pay, Com- pensatory allowance). | Period of work per week. | Whether he has published any original work. | Whether he has pub- lished any notes on text books appointed by the University. | Number of University examiner- ships held by him last year. | Remarks. |
|--|-----------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| Rs. 740 | On leave. | Information is not available as he is on leave. | not avail- able as he is on leave. | | |
| 250 | 28 | No. | No. | NH. | |
| 580 | 35 | No. | No. | NH. | |
| 310 | 17 | Yes. | Yes. | NH. | |
| 310 | 13 | No. | No. | NH. | Practical with constant attendance and instructional talking 6 periods. Practical when no constant attendance is necessary. |
| 220 | 30 | No. | No. | NH. | |
| 530 | 12 | No. | No. | 2 | |
| 250 | 44 | No. | No. | NH. | |
| 1,000 | 10* | Yes. | No. | 4 | *Exclusive of Administration. |
| 600 | 12 | No. | Yes. | 2 | |
| 600 | 9 | Yes. | No. | 3 | |
| 550 | 9 | Yes. | Yes. | 5 | |
| 450 | 10 | No. | No. | NH. | |
| 1,000 | 32 | Yes. | No. | 2 | |
| 600 | 8 | No. | No. | NH. | |
| 430 | 23 | No. | No. | 1 | |
| 310 | 28 | No. | No. | 1 | |
| 180 | 21 | Yes. | No. | NH. | |

a week is spent each for home work, Test paper, Reading and discussion class, and seminar. The staff of those engaged in business during the day.

APPENDIX

| No. | Name. | Educational qualifications. | Period of service on 1st October 1924. | Provincial or Imperial. |
|-----|---|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| | <i>Royal Institute of Science.</i> | | Y. M. D. | |
| 1 | C. J. J. Fox, Principal and Professor of Inorganic Chemistry. | B.Sc. (London) Ph.D. (Breslaw) | .. 14 11 5 | Imperial. |
| 2 | A. N. Meldrum, Professor of Organic Chemistry. | D.Sc. (Aberdeen) | .. 12 6 0 | Do. |
| 3 | G. R. Paranjpe, Professor of Physics. | M.Sc., A.I.I.S. | .. 4 3 12 | Do. |
| 4 | P. R. Awati, Professor of Zoology. | B.A. (Cantab.) D.I.C. (Lond.) | .. 2 4 0 | Do. |
| 5 | S. L. Ajrekar, Professor of Botany. | B.A. (Hom. and Cam.) | .. 15 3 0 | Do. |
| 6 | N. G. Mohile, Lecturer in Physics | M.A., B.Sc. | .. 10 8 20 | Provincial. |

* Work done in this Institution cannot be determined in terms of 'Periods per week' because most each teacher to one lecture a day *plus* about two hours routine Laboratory instructions per day the rest senior students doing research work under his direction.

13—contd.

| Salary (i.e., pay, Duty and Overseas pay, Com- pensatory allowance). | Periods of work per week. | Whether he has published any original work. | Whether he has pub- lished any notes on text books appointed by the University. | Number of University examiner- ships held by him last year. | Remarks. |
|--|------------------------------|--|--|--|----------|
| Rs. 1,930 | * | Yes. | No. | <i>Nd.</i> | |
| 1,500 | * | Yes. | No. | 1 | |
| 750 | * | Yes. | No. | 2 | |
| 1,150 | * | Yes. | No. | 3 | |
| 950 | * | Yes. | No. | 2 | |
| 350 | * | No. | No. | <i>Nd.</i> | |

of the work is laboratory work especially research work. An attempt is, however, made to restrict of his time being devoted to research work done by the teacher himself as well as by certain selected

| No. | Name. | Educational qualifications. | Period of service. | Imperial or Provincial. | Salary. |
|-----|-------------------------------------|---|--|-------------------------|---------|
| | <i>Agricultural College, Poona.</i> | | | | Rs. |
| 1 | William Burns .. | Doctor of Science (Edinburgh). | October 1908 up-to-date. | Imperial .. | 1,500 |
| 2 | V. G. Gokhale .. | L.Ag. 1907 of the University of Bombay. | 19 years and 7 months (at the end of August 1924.) | Do. .. | 700 |
| 3 | G. S. Cheema .. | M.Sc. Alfred Patiala Research Scholar of the Punjab University Trained in Horticulture in England and America. | 3 years .. | Do. .. | 500 |
| 4 | D. L. Sahasrabudhe .. | M.Ag. & M.Sc. of the Bombay University. | 18 years .. | Acting in Imperial. | 600 |
| 5 | J. P. Trivedi .. | L.C.E. of the Bombay University. | 10 years in P. W. D., 5 years College. | Provincial .. | 450 |
| 6 | G. K. Ranade .. | L.Ag. .. | 15 years About 27 years. | Do. .. | 410 |
| 7 | N. V. Kanitkar .. | M.Ag., M.Sc. .. | 15 years .. | Do. .. | 310 |
| 8 | G. B. Patwardhan .. | B.Sc. .. | 24 years and 6 months. | Do. .. | 370 |
| 9 | T. N. Jhaveri .. | L.Ag. of Bombay University and Diploma of the Post-graduate course in higher Entomology of Agricultural research. | About 17 .. | Do. .. | 250 |
| 10 | M. M. Desai .. | B.Ag. .. | 7½ months .. | Acting Provincial. | 250 |

13—contd.

| Periods of work per week. | Whether he has published any original work. | Whether he has published any notes on text books appointed by the University. | Number of University examinations held by him last year. | Remarks. |
|--|--|---|--|----------|
| 8 hours work a day teaching administration and research. Teaching alone 12 hours per week. | Yes ; much | No. | (1) Botany for Agriculture degree. (2) M.Ag. | |
| 6 of class work of one hour each besides at least the same period for preparation. 6 of practical work of 2 hours. Administrative and investigational work 12 hours and office work 6 hours. | Yes ; of such investigational and propaganda work carried on as Deputy Director of Agriculture before officiating as Professor of Agriculture since the last 3 months. Utilisation of Saline Creek waters for salt production and other notes and leaflets. Palm Gul Manufacture in Bombay Presidency. Improvement of Cotton Seed. | No. | One; in the Optional subject of Agricultural Economics, Land Development and Intensive Farming of the B.Ag. Examinations of Bombay University. | |
| Period of work in the College 2 hours only. | Has published 2 original research articles only in the Agricultural Journal of India. | No. | No. | |
| 12 hours teaching and in addition Agricultural Chemist to Government. Full-time work. No vacation. | 4 Books; 9 papers published on original investigation, 3 more are ready. | No. | No. | |
| 23 hours | No. | No. | No. | |
| 42 hours | No. | No. | No. | |
| 18 hours teaching, full day attendance, remaining time used in investigational work. No vacation. | Yes. 3 books and 2 papers (1) Rab system of cultivation Memoir. (2) Land and Labour in Deccan Village No. 1. (3) Land and Labour in Deccan village No. 2. (4) Garcinadridia. (5) Safflower oil as drying oil paper. | None. | None. | |
| 41 ; sometimes more. | Yes. Books on Rose, fruit pomgranate culture and numerous original contributions to Botanical and Horticultural journals. | None. | None. | |
| About 17 to 19 hours of teaching work and about 17 hours of investigation and administration work. | Yes. Investigation on Katra cotton boll worms jowar stem borers. N. W Locusts and several notes on pests in vernacular. A memoir on lower stem borer to be published. | NU. | NU. | |
| 46 hours. | Written some original articles in the Poona Agricultural College Magazine and the Agricultural Journal of India. | NU. | NU. | |

| No. | Name. | Educational qualifications. | Period of service. | Imperial or Provincial. | Salary. |
|-----|---|---|---|-------------------------|--|
| | Rs. | | | | |
| | <i>Grant Medical College, Bombay.</i> | | | | |
| 1 | Major B. Higham, I.M.S., Dean with attached duties as Chemical Analyser to Government, Bombay. | M.B.B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.). | 18 years and 6 months. | Imperial | Pay 1,750 L.A. 300 Dy. A. 150 H.B. 250 |
| 2 | Lt.-Col. E.F. Gordon Tucker, I.M.S., Professor of Medicine with attached duties as S.M.O., J.J. Hospital and First Physician. | M.B.B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.P. (Lond.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.). | 26 years | Do. | Pay 2,350 Dy. A. 150 C.A. 50 |
| 3 | Major P. K. Gilroy, I.M.S., Professor of Surgery and Senior Surgeon, J. J. Hospital. | M.D. (Carr b.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.). | 11 years and 7 months. | Do. | Pay 1,450 C.A. 50 |
| 4 | Major A. F. Hamilton, I.M.S., Professor of Midwifery and 1/e Bai Motilal Hospital. | M.B. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.). | 19 years and 6 months. | Do. | Pay 1,750 C.A. 50 |
| 5 | Major S. S. Vazifdar, I.M.S., Professor of Materia Medica and Second Physician, J. J. Hospital. | M.R.C.S. (Eng.), M.R.C.P. (Lond.). | 16 years. | Do. | Pay 1,600 C.A. 50 |
| 6 | Captain S. L. Bhatia, I.M.S., Professor of Physiology, Histology and Hygiene. | M.A.M.D., B.Ch. (Cantab.), L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., F.C.P.S. (Bon.). | 4 years and 4 months. | Do. | Pay 1,200 L.A. 300 Dy. A. 200 C.A. 32-8-0 |
| 7 | Dr. A. K. Dalal, Professor of Operative Surgery and 2nd Surgeon, J. J. Hospital (Ag. for I.M.S. Officer). | L.M. & S. (Bom.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.). | 3 years and 9 months. | .... | Pay 700 |
| 8 | Dr. J. N. Duggan, Professor of Ophthalmology and Ophthalmic Surgeon, J. J. Hospital. | L.M. & S. (Bom.), D.O. (Oxon.), F.C.P.S. (Bom.). | 3 years and 5 months. 1 year and 2 months. | now 1918-20 | Pay 700 |
| 9 | Dr. Y. G. Nadgir, Professor of Anatomy. | M.S. & F.C.P.S. (Bom.). | 18 years and 2 months. | Provincial | Pay 700— 50—1,200 Spl. 300 |
| 10 | Dr. V. R. Khanolkar, Professor of Pathology and Morbid Anatomy and Curator of Museum. | M.D. (Lond.), B.Sc. (Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. | 6 months | Do. | Pay 700— 50—1,200 Spl. 300 |
| | <i>Bombay Veterinary College.</i> | | | | |
| 1 | K. Howlett | M.R.C.V.S. and Post-graduate courses. | 22½ years | Imperial | 1,800 p. m. |
| 2 | M. H. Sowerly | Do. | 19½ years | Do. | 1,700 p. m. |
| 3 | K. S. N. D. Dhaknarvala. | G.B.V.C. | 34 years | Provincial | 650 |
| 4 | K. S. A. I. Shaikh | Do. | 28 years | Do. | 525 |
| 5 | P. Miranda | Do. | 20½ years | Do. | 450 |
| 6 | V. R. Phadke | G.B.V.C. and Post-graduate courses in England and India. | 20 years | Do. | 400 |

13—concl'd.

| Periods of work per week. | Whether he has published any original work. | Whether he has published any notes on text books appointed by the University. | Number of University examinerships held by him last year. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|----------|
| 33 hours. | No. | No. | Nil. | |
| Seven days. | Yes. | No. | Nil (on leave). | |
| Do. | No. | No. | Nil. | |
| Do. | No. | No. | One. | |
| Do. | No. | No. | One. | |
| Do. | Yes. | No. | One. | |
| Do. | No. | .. | One, twice a year. | |
| Do. | No. | .. | One, twice a year. | |
| 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily except Saturday. On Saturday 11 a.m. to 1-30 p.m. | No. | No. | One. | |
| Seven days. | Yes. | No | Nil. | |
| 36 hours. | Yes. | None. | None. | |
| Do. | Yes. | None. | None. | |
| Do. | Yes. | Yes. | None. | |
| Do. | None. | None. | None. | |
| Do. | None. | None. | None. | |
| Do. | Yes. | None. | None. | |

APPENDIX 14.

Statements showing the information regarding Mill Accidents in Sholapur.

| Name of the Mill. | Number of accidents. | Name of the person injured. | Nature of accident. | Amount of compensation. |
|--|----------------------|--|---|---|
| Vishnu Cotton Mill, Limited. | 1 | Sopana Aba Mohare. | Fall from the parapet of a well in the mill compound resulting in death. | Rs. 1,200 (Rs. 1,160 to the dependent widow Gitabai, Rs. 40 to the brother of the deceased for funeral expenses). |
| Lakshmi Cotton Manufacturing Co., Ltd. | 2 | 1. Mawla Mahitab. 2. Dasharath Dawla. | Injury to the thumb of right hand resulting in its amputation. Injury to the ring finger of the left hand resulting in amputation at first inter phalangeal joint. | Rs. 262-8-0 (settlement by agreement between the parties. Agreement registered). Rs. 20 (settlement by agreement between the parties. Agreement registered). |

APPENDIX 15.

Statement referred to in the reply to question No. 45 put by Mr. M. D. Karki, M.L.C.

- (a) —
- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p><i>Sirsi Taluka.</i> 1. Sirsi Depôt.</p> | <p><i>Mundgod Petha.</i> 1. Jangeri Depôt. 2. Gunjavati Depôt. 3. Katur Depôt.</p> | <p><i>Siddapur Taluka.</i> Nil.</p> |
|---|--|---|

(b)

| Year. | Sirsi Depôt. | | Jangeri Depôt.* | | Gunjavati Depôt.† | | Katur Depôt. | |
|------------|--------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|
| | Receipts. | Disposal. | Receipts. | Disposal. | Receipts. | Disposal. | Receipts. | Disposal. |
| | C.ft. | C.ft. | C.ft. | C.ft. | C.ft. | C.ft. | C.ft. | C.ft. |
| 1914-15 .. | 4,987 | 3,606 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3,842 | 3,842 |
| 1915-16 .. | 3,005 | 2,608 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 16,371 | 16,371 |
| 1916-17 .. | 5,710 | 6,659 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 17,286 | 17,286 |
| 1917-18 .. | 3,574 | 1,669 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 8,443 | 8,443 |
| 1918-19 .. | 2,719 | 1,356 | 5,747 | Nil | .. | .. | 11,784 | 11,784 |
| 1919-20 .. | 234 | 2,612 | 211 | 910 | .. | .. | 9,444 | 9,444 |
| 1920-21 .. | 7,928 | 1,186 | Nil | 387 | .. | .. | 4,130 | 4,130 |
| 1921-22 .. | 4,101 | 4,605 | 21,789 | 6,615 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1922-23 .. | 2,201 | 564 | 7,640 | 4,095 | 9,716 | .. | .. | .. |
| 1923-24 .. | Nil. | 3,770 | 3,305 | 12,831 | 7,358 | 410 | .. | .. |
| Total .. | 34,439(a) | 28,635 | 41,692(b) | 21,907 | 17,068 | 410 | 71,300 | 71,300 |

* This depôt was not in existence during 1914-15 to 1917-18.

† This depôt was started in the year 1922.

Remarks.—(a) Out of the wood received at Sirsi, 5,804 c.ft. were removed to Uppinpattan and there is no stock on hand at the present moment.

(b) Out of this, 14,079 c.ft. are on hand and 2,706 c.ft. were removed to Uppinpattan.

(c)

| Year. | Sirsi Depôt. | Jangeri Depôt. | Gunjavati Depôt. | Katur Depôt. |
|------------|--------------|--|--|--------------|
| | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| 1914-15 .. | 1,126 | This depôt was not in existence up to 1917-18. | This depôt was started in the year 1922. | 1,506 |
| 1915-16 .. | 1,599 | | | 6,075 |
| 1916-17 .. | 1,847 | | | 6,403 |
| 1917-18 .. | 867 | .... | .... | 8,220 |
| 1918-19 .. | 1,110 | 2,534 | .... | 4,423 |
| 1919-20 .. | 213 | 229 | .... | 8,577 |
| 1920-21 .. | 3,206 | 240 | .... | 1,665 |
| 1921-22 .. | 2,006 | 9,164 | .... | .... |
| 1922-23 .. | 755 | 2,990 | 4,573 | .... |
| 1923-24 .. | Nil | 853 | 3,534 | .... |
| Total .. | 12,729 | 16,010 | 8,107 | 26,929 |

APPENDIX 15—contd.

(d)

| Year. | Sirsi Depôt. | | Jangeri Depôt. | | Gunjavati Depôt. | | Katur Depôt. | |
|---------|-------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|
| | Sale realization. | Royalty.* | Sale realization. | Royalty.* | Sale realization. | Royalty.* | Sale realization. | Royalty.* |
| | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| 1914-15 | 2,619 | 1,345 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5,544 | 3,978 |
| 1915-16 | 1,669 | 721 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 23,313 | 17,238 |
| 1916-17 | 4,651 | 2,520 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 23,188 | 16,785 |
| 1917-18 | 1,805 | 1,174 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 11,114 | 7,894 |
| 1918-19 | 1,584 | 1,049 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 16,706 | 12,283 |
| 1919-20 | 1,950 | 1,067 | 832 | 313 | .. | .. | 12,141 | 11,961 |
| 1920-21 | 1,286 | 694 | 251 | -152 | .. | .. | 5,800 | 4,135 |
| 1921-22 | 2,137 | - 63 | 3,040 | 291 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1922-23 | 308 | 60 | 2,000 | 286 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1923-24 | 872 | -571 | 6,558 | 1,699 | 650 | 455 | .. | .. |
| Total | 18,861 | 8,006 | 12,681 | 2,437 | 650 | 455 | 97,806 | 74,274 |

* The net income derived by the Department in the transaction (*viz.*, sale-proceeds minus all expenditure from commencement of felling operation down to sale of the timber) is regarded as the royalty in this case.

(e)

| Sirsi Depôt. | | | Jangeri Depôt. | | | Gunjavati Depôt. | | | Katur Depôt. | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Present stock. | How long has it been lying? | Present value of same. | Present stock. | How long has it been lying? | Present value of same. | Present stock. | How long has it been lying? | Present value of same. | Present stock. | How long has it been lying? | Present value of same. |
| Quantity. | | | Quantity. | | | Quantity. | | | Quantity. | | |
| C. ft. | | Rs. | C. ft. | Since 1921-1922. | Rs. | C. ft. | For a year and a half. | Rs. | C. ft. | | Rs. |
| | | | 14,079 | | 3,000 | 16,658 | | 23,986 | | | |

APPENDIX 15A.

Statement showing information regarding nazarana, etc., levied on Inam villages.

| Name of district. | Annual and occasional nazarana levied on Inam villages and lands in the Presidency during the year 1922-23. | The Judi levied in respect of dumala villages and lands in the Southern and Central Divisions for the year 1922-23. | Fines levied under section 135F of the Land Revenue Code in Inam villages in the Central and Southern Divisions for the year 1922-23. | Kadim cash allowances which have lapsed to Government in whole or part and thus ceased to be paid but which were collected from the Inam villages in the Poona, Satara and Belgaum districts during the past five years. |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|
| | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. |
| <i>Northern Division.</i> | | | | |
| Ahmedabad .. | 4 8 3 | | | |
| <i>Central Division.</i> | | | | |
| Ahmednagar .. | 4,097 13 11 | 60,816 10 0 | 142 12 0 | .... |
| East Khandesh .. | 1,247 10 8 | 36,400 10 9 | 15 0 0 | .... |
| West Khandesh .. | 439 4 0 | 51,540 9 3 | 19 0 0 | .... |
| Nasik .. | 292 5 4 | 1,05,203 9 8 | 343 6 0 | .... |
| Poona .. | 511 13 0 | 1,09,313 8 5 | 208 0 0 | 67 12 0 |
| Satara .. | 7,321 12 4 | 3,76,786 4 4 | 678 8 0 | 980 9 6 |
| Sholapur .. | 972 1 9 | 49,970 15 10 | 76 8 0 | .... |
| <i>Southern Division.</i> | | | | |
| Belgaum .. | Nil. | 2,45,744 4 0 | 72 8 0 | 1,429 2 5 |
| Bijapur .. | 209 12 0 | 2,41,144 0 0 | 2 0 0 | |
| Dharwar .. | 101 0 0 | (i) Dumala vil- lages. 77,709 0 0 | Nil. | |
| | | (ii) Dumala lands. 5,31,332 0 0 | 0 4 0 | |
| Kolaba .. | 23 10 7 | 23,603 11 1 | 12 8 0 | |
| Ratnagiri .. | Nil. | 20,464 5 0 | (Sharakati Inam village). Nil | |
| <i>Bombay Suburban Division.</i> | Nil. | Nil. | Nil | |

APPENDIX

Officers of the Lloyd

| Name of officer whose pay is Rs. 1,000 or above per mensem. | Monthly pay. | Nationality. | Designation. |
|---|--|-----------------------------|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Mr. C. S. C. Harrison | Rs. 2,875 Barrage allow- ance .. 200 | British .. | Chief Engineer, Lloyd Barrage and Canals Construction. |
| Mr. D. E. Satarawalla | 1,850 Compensatory allowance .. 200 Barrage allow- ance .. 200 | Indian (Parsi) .. | Superintending Engineer. |
| Mr. S. C. Mould | 1,750 Barrage allow- ance .. 200 | British .. | Do. .. |
| Mr. D. R. Sawhney | 1,750 Barrage allow- ance .. 200 | Indian (Punjabi Hindu). | Do. .. |
| Mr. R. B. MacLachlan | 1,750 Barrage allow- ance .. 200 Compensatory allowance .. 200 | British .. | Do. .. |
| Mr. A. A. Musto | 1,850 Barrage allow- ance .. 200 | Do. .. | Do. .. |
| Mr. A. Gordon | 950 Barrage allow- ance .. 165 | Do. .. | Personal Assis- tant to the Chief Engineer, Lloyd Barrage and Canals Con- struction. |
| Mr. W. Kirkpatrick (on leave) | 1,275 Sind allow- ance .. 100 | Do. .. | Executive Engi- neer. |
| Mr. T. S. Mirchandani | 1,225 Barrage allow- ance .. 160 | Indian (Sindhi Hindu). | Do. |
| Mr. C. E. Altken | 1,225 Sind allowance Barrage allow- ance .. 170 | British .. | Do. .. |
| Mr. H. B. Parikh | 900 Sind allowance Barrage allow- ance ..137-8-0 | Indian (Gujarati Hindu). | Do. .. |
| Mr. C. G. Hawes | 1,275 Barrage allow- ance .. 165 | British .. | Do. .. |
| Mr. P. K. Shinde | 900 Sind allowance Barrage allow- ance ..132-8-0 | Indian .. | Do. .. |

16.

Barrage Scheme.

| Qualification. | Date of appointment. | On what pay appointed. | By whom appointed. | What pay he used to draw in the service or department in which he was last engaged ? |
|---|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| | | Rs. | | |
| R. I. E. College .. | 1st July 1923. | 2,750 | By the Local Government. | Rs. 1850 per mensem as Superintending Engineer, Sukkur Barrage Division. |
| B.A., L.C.E. .. | 17th July 1923. | 1,750 | Do. .. | Rs. 1,350 per mensem, Executive Engineer, Karachi Canals District. |
| B.A. (Cantab.), 13th Wrangler (i.e., First class) in the Mathematical Tripos, 1902. Second class in the Mechanical Science Tripos (Part I), 1903. | 5th August 1923. | ,750 | Do. .. | Rs. 1,475 per mensem, Executive Engineer, Nasik Irrigation District. |
| R.I.E. College .. | 15th October 1923. | 1,750 | Do. .. | (Services were placed at the disposal of Malerkotla Darbar) On his own pay in Indian Service of Engineers, viz., Rs. 1,475 per mensem plus 25 per thereof cent., |
| B.A., B.E., A.M. Inst.C.E. | 10th October 1923. | 1,750 | Do. .. | Rs. 1,375 per mensem as Under Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, Irrigation and Railways. |
| A.M.Inst.C.E. .. | 1st July 1923. | 1,750 | Do. .. | Rs. 1,425 per mensem, Executive Engineer, Sukkur Barrage Division. |
| B.Sc.(Eng.)(Glas.) | 26th December 1923. | 1,375 | Do. .. | Rs. 1,475 per mensem as Under Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, up to 9th June 1923. |
| B.E. .. | 14th July 1923. | 1,325 | Do. .. | Rs. 1,325 per mensem, Executive Engineer, Northern Jamrao District. |
| B.Sc. (Edin.) .. | 20th July 1923. | 1,225 | Do. .. | Rs. 1,175 per mensem, Executive Engineer, Ghar Canals. |
| B.Sc. (Edin.) .. | 7th November 1923. | 1,325 | Do. .. | Rs. 1,275, Executive Engineer, Shikarpur Canals District, up to 26th April 1923. |
| L.C.E. .. | 23rd January 1924. | 950 | Do. .. | Rs. 850 per mensem, Executive Engineer, West Khandeah District, up to 8th November 1923. |
| B. Sc. (Lond.), A.C.G.I., A.M. Inst.C.E. | 2nd August 1923. | 1,225 | Do. .. | Rs. 1,225 per mensem, Executive Engineer, Fuleli Canals District. |
| A.M.Inst.C.E. | 19th October 1923. | 950 | Do. .. | Rs. 750, Assistant Executive Engineer, Nasik. |

| Name of officer whose pay is Rs. 1,000 or above per mensem. | Monthly pay. | Nationality. | Designation. |
|---|---|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Mr. M. J. M. Cursetji | <p style="text-align: right;">Rs.</p> 975 Sind allowance. 100 Barrage allow- ance .. 145 | Indian (Parsi) .. | Executive Engi- neer. |
| Mr. E. T. Roch | 650 Sind allowance. 100 Barrage allow- ance .. 140 | British .. | Assistant Exe- cutive Engineer. |
| Mr. R. H. Hammet | 925 Barrage allow- ance .. 140 Sind allowance. 100 | Do. .. | Executive Engi- neer. |
| Mr. S. B. Hickin | 1,225 Sind allowance. 100 | Do. .. | Do. .. |
| Mr. N. H. Hey | 2,250 Compensatory allowance .. 200 Barrage allow- ance .. 200 | Do. .. | Revenue Officer, I.C.S. |
| Mr. O'Brien | 2,070 | Do. .. | Audit Officer .. |

16—contd.

| Qualification. | Date of appointment. | On what pay appointed. | By whom appointed. | What pay he used to draw in the service or department in which he was last engaged ? |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| B.Sc. (Lond.), A.K.C. | 13th April 1923. | Rs. 1,025 | By the Local Government. | Rs. 750, Assistant Executive Engineer, Southern District, Jamrao. |
| Diploma in Civil Engineering, Cardiff. | 22nd Dec- e m b e r 1923. | 925 | Do. .. | Rs. 875, Assistant Executive Engineer, Bogari Canals. |
| A.M.Inst.C.E. .. | 9th Decem- ber 1923. | 1,025 | Do. .. | Rs. 875 per mensem, Assistant Execo- tive Engineer, Fuleli Canals District. |
| Specialist Office (Mechanical and Electrical). | 24th Sept- e m b e r 1923. | 1,250 | Do. .. | Rs. 950 per mensem, Electrical Engineer, Lake Whiting District. |
| I.C.S. .. | 17th Decem- ber 1923. | 2,250 | Do. .. | Rs. 2,150 per mensem Collector and District Magistrate, Larkana. |
| B.A. (Oxon.) .. | 28th Octo- ber 1923. | 1,500 | By the Gov- ernment of India. | Rs. 1,500 as enrolled list Officer, Audit and Account Service. |

Appendices
APPENDIX 17.

| No. | Name of High School provided with Government buildings. | Year in which built. |
|---------------------------|---|----------------------|
| <i>Bombay Division.</i> | | |
| 1 | Elphinstone High School, Bombay | 1872 |
| 2 | B. J. High School, Thana | 1879-80 |
| 3 | High School, Nasik | 1919 |
| 4 | Do. Ratnagiri | 1863 |
| <i>Central Division.</i> | | |
| 1 | G. S. High School, Jalgaon | 1914 |
| 2 | Garud High School, Dhulia | 1895 |
| 3 | High School, Satara | * |
| 4 | Northcote High School, Sholapur | 1903-04 |
| <i>Northern Division.</i> | | |
| 1 | R. C. High School, Ahmedabad | 1906 |
| 2 | High School, Nadiad | 1876-77 |
| 3 | Telang High School, Godhra | 1898-99 |
| 4 | R. S. Dalal High School, Broach | 1885 |
| 5 | Sorabji J. J. High School, Surat | 1872 |
| <i>Southern Division.</i> | | |
| 1 | High School, Dharwar | 1871-72 |
| 2 | Sardar's High School, Belgaum | 1854-55 |
| 3 | High School, Bijapur | 1902-03 |
| 4 | High School, Karwar | 1871-72 |
| <i>Sind.</i> | | |
| 1 | N. J. High School, Karachi | 1855 |
| 2 | High School, Hyderabad | † |
| 3 | High School, Shikarpur | 1884-85 |

*The year in which the High School was located in the old palace of the Rajah of Satara is not traceable.

†The building is more than 60 years' old. Actual year not traceable.

APPENDIX 20.

Statement giving the names of the members of every district branch committee of the Indian-territorial force and mentioning the steps taken by each branch to promote and popularise recruitment to the force.

| Name of the District. | Personnel of the District Branch Committee. | Action taken. |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| 1. Ahmednagar. | 1 Sardar K. V. Joshi, Retired Deputy Collector. 2 Mr. S. B. Thorat. 3 Subedar Major Madhavrao Nalwade of Kada. | The leaflets issued on the subject were distributed among the public with a view to make them familiar with the advantages of joining the Indian Territorial Force. The members of the Committee also made endeavours to induce the people to become enrolled in the force. |
| 2. Belgaum .. | 1. District Magistrate—President. 2. Meherban Narayanrao Ravalojirao Desai of Nanadi. 3. Meherban Bhavusaheb Shitole, Karbhari, Ankali. 4. Rao Bahadur B. A. Palekar, M.B.E., Deputy Collector. 5. Rao Saheb V. A. Angol, Belgaum. 6. B. K. Dalvi, M.L.C., Belgaum. 7. V. A. Desai, Belgaum. 8. Subedar Babaji Chulke of Shedbal. 9. Subedar Ravu Jadhav of Takli. 10. G. R. Mane, Retired Extra Assistant Conservator of Forests, Belgaum. 11. Bhimrao Patil, Retired Extra Assistant Conservator of Forests, Belgaum. | The Committee have been given full information and have discussed the subject in meetings with the Adjutant and Administrative Commandant of the I.T.F. The Committee have distributed vernacular pamphlet and literature on the force in all parts of the district. Advantage of the agency of the Revenue Department has also been taken to disseminate information on the subject and persuade people to take advantage of the opportunity offered by Government for military training. |
| 3. Bijapur .. | 1 Collector—President .. 2 Prant Officers. 1 Huzur Deputy Collector. 1 Mamlatdar. | Meetings have been held by this Committee at one time or another with a view to popularise the Force. |
| 4. Dharwar .. | 1. Diwan Bahadur S. V. Mensinkai—President. 2—4. The 3 Prant Officers. 5. Huzur Deputy Collector. 6. Mamlatdar of Dharwar. 7. Rao Bahadur Gopal Anant Giri. 8. Khan Saheb Mahmadoos wd. Abdullasaheb Khudawand. | The work done to popularise recruitment to the Force consists of distribution of leaflets in vernacular to the public, explaining the aims and objects of the Indian Territorial Force. Assistance of influential men has been also enlisted. |

APPENDIX 20—contd.

| Name of the District. | Personnel of the District Branch Committee. | Action taken. |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| 4. Dharwar— contd. | 9. Mr. A. F. I. Pathan. 10. Mr. Vithalrao Chidambherao Jahagirdar. 11. Rao Saheb Pampappa Ballalrao Desai. 12. Mr. C. C. Hulkoti. 13. Mr. V. V. Padkhe, M.B.E. 14. Khan Saheb A. M. Moulvi. 15. The Head Karkun, Dharwar Taluka. 16. Mr. T. K. Naik. 17. Mr. A. B. Shelke. 18. Mr. B. L. Patil. 19. Mr. L. T. Patil. | |
| 5. East Khandedsh. | 1. Khan Bahadur Kamruddin Abdul Rahiman. 2. Subedar Uderaj Lalsing Lodh. 3. Rao Saheb Anandrao Shriptrao Deshmukh. 4. Rao Saheb Amrit Nilkanth Deshpande. 5. Mr. Jagatrao Yeshwantrao Deshmukh. 6. Mr. Abdul Razak Abdul Ghani. 7. Kazi Fayajuddin Kaji Kutubuddin. 8. Mr. Abdul Latif Hamidmiya Deshmukh. 9. The District Magistrate—President. | The Committee decided that members should work more or less around their villages and that there should be no allocation of any particular taluka to each member. They were requested to obtain recruits explaining the object and conditions of service of the I.T.F. and by using their personal influence. |
| 6. Kanara .. | 1. Divan Bahadur V. D. Yennemadi—Chairman. 2. Lt. Jogi Ganba Naik—Vice-Chairman. 3. Mr. Balkrishna Purushottam Naik. 4. Mr. Timma Koira Naik. 5. Mr. Sayad Davood Abdul Rahiman. 6. Mr. Rama Bhikar Naik. 7. Mr. Shiva Nilkant Naik. 8. Mr. Venkatrao Narayan Telang. 9. Mr. Rana Ganu. | The Committee consists of representatives of different castes who have influence over the members of their own caste and over the people in general. Public meetings are held in important villages and the advantages of the I.T.F. explained to the people by the members as also by Government officers who attend these meetings. The members also visit each village by batches and induce fit persons to enlist in the I.T.F. |
| 7. Kolaba .. | 1. Hon'ble Captain Sakharamrao Jagatap, Sardar Bahadur. 2. Subedar Major Babajirao Dalvi. 3. Subedar Gopal Waje. 4. Subedar Jayajirao Palande. 5. Subedar Babajirao Sawant. | The success of the Committee has not been marked though the Committee is influential. |

APPENDIX 20—contd.

| Name of the District. | Personnel of the District Branch Committee. | Action taken. |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| 8. Nasik .. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sardar N. G. Vinchurkar . 2. Mr. R. G. Pradhan, M.L.C. 3. Mr. R. D. Shinde, M.L.C. 4. Mr. H. N. Shindore. 5. Mr. Abdul Rahiman Nura Patel. 6. Mr. Nusserwanji S. Mogralia. | No recruits have been obtained. |
| 9. Poona .. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. G. M. Kalbhor, M.L.C.—Chairman. 2. Mr. P. B. Chiplunkar. 3. Lieut. Saiyid Suleiman, I.S.M.D. | Three meetings of the Committee have been held since its formation in January 1922 at which members resolved to make every effort to secure recruits but the result seems unsatisfactory. |
| 10. Ratnagiri .. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rao Bahadur D. A. Vichare, President. 2. Shantaram Narayan Dabholkar, Vengurla. 3. Subedar Sitaram Navar, Vengurla. 4. Havildar Shaikh Adam, Vengurla. 5. Captain S. N. Ghogle. 6. Subedar Sitaram Parab. 7. Subedar Janojirav Bhave. 8. Subedar Sabajirav Shivajirav Rane. 9. Subedar Vithoji Raghunathrav Vishwasrav. 10. Subedar Major Ratanrav Salvi. 11. Subedar Vithojirav Patole. 12. Sardar Bahirji Kanoji Raje Shirke. 13. Subedar Major Sitaramrav Shirke. 14. Subedar Raghunathrav Hanmantrav Chavan. 15. Subedar Major Ramajirav Kadam. 16. Havildar Gopal Anajirav Bhosle. 17. Mr. Jagatrav Babajirav Bhosle. 18. Khan Saheb Munirkhan Dost Mahamadkhan Sarguro. 19. Subedar Daji Suryajirav Powar. 20. Naik Hanmantrav Ganpatrao Shirke. 21. Mr. Sakharam Bhivarav Gujar. 22. Mr. Gulam Mahamad Haji Mahamad Ibrahim Parkar. | The Committee have done what they could to make known the advantages of joining the Force, but without result. |

APPENDIX 20—concl'd.

| Name of the District. | Personnel of the District Branch Committee. | Action taken. |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| 11. Satara .. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Risaldar Major Ganpatrao Umbre. 2. Risaldar Shaikh Haidar. 3. Mr. R. G. Rane. | <p>Only two meetings of the Committee were held in 1922 and since then no business has been transacted.</p> |
| 12. Sholapur .. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Khan Saheb Imam Mahamad. 2. Rao Saheb V. N. Jakkal. 3. Rao Saheb Ramjiwan Jagannath Soni. 4. Mr. Annarao Shivgounda Patil. 5. Mr. R. G. Salgar. | <p>Recruitment in this District has been very fair and is due to the individual efforts of the Members and of Rao Saheb Jakkal's son who holds a commission in the I. T. F. Rao Saheb Ramjiwan, Rao Saheb Jakkal and Mr. Salgar have taken special pains to secure recruits.</p> |
| 13. Thana .. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. G. B. Pradhan, M. L. C. 2. Mr. S. J. Zunzarrao, M.L.C. 3. Mr. B. C. Divecha. 4. Mr. A. S. Rais of Manor. 5. Dr. J. E. Almeida. 6. Rao Saheb D. V. Parulekar. | <p>Rao Saheb Parulekar, Honorary District Assistant Recruiting Officer, has been carrying on energetically the work of securing new ex-recruits for the I. T. F.</p> |
| 14. West Khandedsh. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Khan Saheb M. M. Baig. 2. Mr. Saifuddin Kazi. 3. Mr. Lanu Chimna Patil. 4. Mr. S. S. Ahire. | <p>The members of the Committee approach the leaders of various communities and individuals and explain to them the object of the I. T. F. and conditions of service. The District Magistrate has held recently two meetings of the Committee and urged the members to take more interest in the matter of securing recruits.</p> |

APPENDIX 21.

List showing the number of village libraries in every District.

Bombay Division.

| Name of District. | | | | Number of Vernacular libraries. |
|-------------------|----|----|----|------------------------------------|
| Thana | .. | .. | .. | 9 |
| Kolaba | .. | .. | .. | 9 |
| Ratnagiri | .. | .. | .. | 12 |
| Nasik | .. | .. | .. | 17 |
| | | | | — 47 |

Central Division.

| | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|----|------|
| Poona | .. | .. | .. | 9 |
| Satara | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Sholapur | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Ahmednagar | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| East Khandesh | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| West Khandesh | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| | | | | — 13 |

Northern Division.

| | | | | |
|--------------|----|----|----|-----|
| Ahmedabad | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Kaira | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Panch Mahals | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Broach | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Surat | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| | | | | — 4 |

Southern Division.

| | | | | |
|---------|----|----|----|------|
| Dharwar | .. | .. | .. | 8 |
| Belgaum | .. | .. | .. | 7 |
| Bijapur | .. | .. | .. | 7 |
| Kanara | .. | .. | .. | 3 |
| | | | | — 25 |

Sind.

| | | | | |
|---------------------|----|----|----|-----|
| Karachi | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Hyderabad | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Nawabshah | .. | .. | .. | 4 |
| Thar and Parkar | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Sukkur | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Upper Sind Frontier | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Larkana | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| | | | | — 6 |

Grand Total .. 94

APPENDIX 22.

| Name of the Training Institution. | | Kind of Class. | Total number of students. |
|---|----|----------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Central Division.</i> | | | |
| Training College for Men, Poona | .. | { I II | { 103 74 |
| Training College for Men, Dhulia | .. | { I II | { 77 37 |
| <i>Northern Division.</i> | | | |
| P. R. Training College for Men, Ahmedabad | .. | { I II | { 84 32 |
| <i>Southern Division.</i> | | | |
| Training College for Men, Dharwar (now reduced to the status of the District Training School) | .. | I | 34 |
| <i>Sind.</i> | | | |
| Training College for Men, Hyderabad | .. | { I II | { 70 19 |

APPENDIX 23.

Statement showing the number of Government and Private Training Colleges for Women in the Presidency and the number of students attending them.

| PART (a) OF THE QUESTION. | | PART (b) OF THE QUESTION. | |
|--|---|--|--|
| Name of the Division. | Name, locality, etc., of the Training College for Women. | Number of students undergoing training in Government Training Colleges in 1923-24. | Expenditure incurred by Government on each Government Training College in 1923-24. |
| Bombay Division. | <i>Government.</i> | | |
| | <i>Nil.</i> | | |
| | <i>Private.</i> | | Rs. |
| | 1. Vanita Vishram Training College for Women, Bombay. | | |
| | 1. Seva Sadan Normal Classes, Bombay. | | |
| Central Division. | <i>Government.</i> | | |
| | 1. The Training College for Women, Poona City. | 103 | 52,180 |
| | 2. The Normal Class attached to the Central Urdu Girls' School, Poona City. | 4 | 2,896 |
| | <i>Private.</i> | | |
| | 3. The Bai Motlibai Wadia Training College (Seva Sadan), Poona City. | | |
| | 4. U. F. C. Mission Training College for Women, Poona City. | | |
| | 5. St. Monica's Normal Class, Ahmednagar. | | |
| | 6. Z. M. Urdu Training Class for Girls, Sholapur. | | |
| | 7. The 1st year Training Class of the Seva Sadan, Sholapur. | | |
| | 8. The 1st year Training Class of the Seva Sadan, Ahmednagar. | | |
| 9. The Shrimati Nathibai Damodar Thakarsey Training College, Hingne Budruk near Poona. | | | |
| Northern Division. | <i>Government.</i> | | |
| | 1. Mahalaxmi Training College for Women, Ahmedabad. | 84 | 36,285 |

APPENDIX 23—*contd.*

| PART (a) OF THE QUESTION. | | PART (b) OF THE QUESTION. | |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|
| Name of the Division. | Name, locality, etc., of the Training College for Women. | Number of students undergoing training in Government Training Colleges in 1923-24. | Expenditure incurred by Government on each Government Training College in 1923-24. |
| | <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Private.</i></p> <p>2. I. P. Mission Training College for Christian Girls, Ahmedabad.</p> <p>3. M. E. Mission Training College for Women, Godhra.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Government.</i></p> <p>1. The Training College for Women, Dharwar.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Private.</i></p> <p><i>Nil.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Government.</i></p> | | |
| Southern Division. | 1. The Training College for Women, Dharwar. | 35 | 31,150 |
| Sind | <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Government.</i></p> <p>1. Training College for Women, Hyderabad (Sind).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Private.</i></p> <p>2. C. E. Z. Mission Teachers' Training College, Karachi.</p> <p>3. Municipal Female Normal Class, Karachi.</p> | 29 | 13,472 |

APPENDIX 24.

Statement showing prisoners under Section 108, Criminal Procedure Code, and Section 124-A, Indian Penal Code, on 31st August 1924 belonging to the Presidency Proper and Sind in the prisons of the Bombay Presidency.

| Serial No. | Name of prisoner. | Sentence. |
|----------------------------------|--|---|
| <i>Ahmedabad Central Prison.</i> | | |
| 1 | Kavi Hansraj | .. 1 year's simple imprisonment. |
| 2 | Chimanlal Chhabildas | .. 18 months' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 300 or 3 months' rigorous imprisonment. |
| 3 | Maganlal V. | .. 9 months' rigorous imprisonment and Rs. 300 or 3 months' rigorous imprisonment. |
| <i>Yeravla Central Prison.</i> | | |
| 4 | Hanmant Raghavendra | .. 2 years' and 6 months' rigorous imprisonment. |
| 5 | Pandurang M. Bapat | .. 1 year's simple imprisonment. |
| 6 | Raghunath Ramchandra | .. 2 years' rigorous imprisonment. |
| 7 | Gangaram B. Bhutekar | .. 1 year's simple imprisonment. |
| 8 | Kalyanji Vithalbhai | .. 2 years' rigorous imprisonment. |
| <i>Hindalgi Central Prison.</i> | | |
| 9 | Dattatraya Shivanand | .. 1 year's simple imprisonment. |
| <i>Hyderabad Central Prison.</i> | | |
| 10 | Allahbachayo Mahomedkhan | .. 12 months' simple imprisonment. |
| 11 | Ghulamnabi Abdul Saïm | .. 12 months' simple imprisonment. |
| 12 | Abdul Majid Lilsaram | .. 12 months' simple imprisonment. |
| 13 | Molvi Mahomed Ibrahim walad Mahomed Kasim. | .. 12 months' simple imprisonment. |
| 14 | Paragji Khandubhai Desai | .. 2 years' rigorous imprisonment and Rs. 500 or 3 months' rigorous imprisonment. |

APPENDIX 25.

Statement showing the prosecutions undertaken up to 30th June 1924 under the Bombay Prevention of Prostitution Act, 1923 (XI of 1923).

| Number of cases. | Number of accused. | Section of Act. | Result. | Remarks. |
|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---|---|
| | | | <i>Bombay City.</i> | |
| 24 | 24 | 3 | 1 acquitted, 1 sentenced to 8 days' rigorous imprisonment and 20 fined Rs. 5 to Rs. 20. | Conviction was set aside in one case on appeal and fine refunded. Notices were served under section 9 (1) on 14 persons of whom 10 complied therewith. The remaining 4 were prosecuted. |
| | | | 1 fined Rs. 15 or 2 days' rigorous imprisonment, and 1 fined Rs. 30 or 1 month rigorous imprisonment. | |
| 3 | 3 | 5 | 3 discharged. | |
| 1 | 1 | 7 | 1 acquitted. | |
| 3 | 4 | 8 | 2 discharged and 2 fined Rs. 25 or 1 month rigorous imprisonment. | |
| 4 | 4 | 9(4) | 1 acquitted, 1 sentenced to 10 days' rigorous imprisonment, and 2 pending trial. | |
| | | | <i>Karachi Town.</i> | |
| 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 fined Rs. 20. | |
| 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for one month and to pay a fine of Rs. 500. | |
| Total..37 | 38 | .. | | |

APPENDIX 26.

APPENDIX 26.

1520

| No. | Name of District. | Number of Vernacular School Masters. | | Number of Post Offices managed by School Masters. | | Number of School Masters promoted to selection grades. | | Number of School Masters posted in a district other than that in which their native place is situated. | |
|-----|--------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|---|------------|--|------------|--|------------|
| | | Hindus | Musalmans. | Hindus. | Musalmans. | Hindus. | Musalmans. | Hindus. | Musalmans. |
| 1 | Karachi .. | 109 | 65 | 15 | 4 | 3 | .. | 32 | 18 |
| 2 | Hyderabad .. | 172 | 137 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 38 | 9 |
| 3 | Nawabshah .. | 178 | 126 | 22 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| 4 | Thar and Parkar .. | 103 | 17 | 10 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 7 | 8 |
| 5 | Sukkur .. | 375 | 192 | 16 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 6 | Larkana .. | 303 | 252 | 12 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 15 | 5 |
| 7 | Jacobabad .. | 59 | 119 | 1 | 3 | .. | .. | 28 | 21 |
| | Total .. | 1,299 | 908 | 82 | 33 | 11 | 6 | 123 | 64 |

Appendices

APPENDIX 27.

*Statement showing the number of licenses in force throughout the
Bombay Presidency including Sind on 1st April 1924.*

| | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|----|-------|
| Country liquor | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1,772 |
| Foreign liquor | .. | .. | .. | .. | 301 |
| Hotels | .. | .. | .. | .. | 40 |
| Refreshment rooms (including Railway Refreshment Rooms) | | | | | 107 |

APPENDIX 28.

Statement referred to in the reply to question put by Mr. M. D. Karki, M.L.C.

1592

| a | (b) | | | | (c) | | | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|------------|----------|-----------------|---|---------------|-----|--|--|---|---|
| | Plantations existing in Kanara. | | | | Information regarding cost, revenue and period of exploitation. | | | | | | |
| | Serial No. | Name. | Acreage. | Age. | Estimated cost of artificial regenerating of 1 acre of teak plantation. | | | Net revenue realized per acre in clearing the area (after deduction of cost of exploitation) of marketable timber. | Profit or deficit on the whole operation from felling to plantings, weedings, etc. | Estimated period required before plantation becomes fit for final exploitation. | Estimated amount realizable per acre when exploited. |
| Maximum cost. | | | | | Minimum cost. | Average cost. | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 506 acres | <i>Kanara, Northern Division.</i> | | | | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | | |
| | 1 | Sihrol | 118 | } 2 to 6 years. | 100 | 75 | 88 | 170 | Profit 82 | 125 years | From thinnings Rs. 2,000 Final yield Rs. 5,000 |
| | 2 | Hudsa | 113 | | | | | | | | |
| | 3 | Amga | 160 | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | Sambrani | 120 | | | | | | | | | |
| | 4 | | 506 | | | | | | Total | Rs. 7,000 | |
| 807 acres | <i>Kanara, Eastern Division.</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1 | Nersol | 135 | 2 to 4 years. | For favourable localities | | 59 | 107 | | | |
| | 2 | Ganeshgudi | 174 | 1 to 5 " | | | | | | | |
| 3 | Kirwatti | 112 | 1 to 2 " | | | | | | | | |

Appendices

APPENDIX 28—*contd.*

| (a) Acreage of forest-lands under artificial teak plantations in Kanara. | (b) Plantations existing in Kanara. | | | | (c) Information regarding cost, revenue and period of exploitation. | | | | | | |
|---|--|--------------|----------|----------|---|---------------|---------------|--|---|---|--|
| | Serial No. | Name. | Acreage. | Age. | Estimated cost of artificial regenerating of 1 acre of teak plantation. | | | Net revenue realized per acre in clearing the area (after deduction of cost of exploitation) of marketable timber. | Profit or deficit on the whole operation from felling to plantings, weeding, etc. | Estimated period required before plantation becomes fit for final exploitation. | Estimated amount realizable per acre when exploited. |
| | | | | | Maximum cost. | Minimum cost. | Average cost. | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | |
| | 18 | Bailgudda .. | 10 | 5 years. | | | | | | | |
| | 19 | Murgoli .. | 05 | 3 to 5 " | | | | | | | |
| | 20 | Hasikeri .. | 14 | 3 to 5 " | | | | | | | |
| | 21 | Adkekuli .. | 68 | " | | | | | | | |
| | 22 | Yatnalli .. | 42 | " | | | | | | | |
| | 23 | Bastikeri .. | 204 | 3 to 4 " | | | | | | | |
| | 24 | Hakodla .. | 5 | 3 years. | | | | | | | |
| | 25 | Sampoli .. | 22 | 3 " | | | | | | | |
| | 26 | Hadi .. | 10 | 3 " | | | | | | | |
| | 27 | Kalegar .. | 30 | 1 " | | | | | | | |
| | 28 | Kcmbal .. | 5 | 5 " | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|----|----------------------------------|---------------------------|-----|--------------|----|----|----|-----|----|-----------|----|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | 29 | Yalkotgi | 9 | 5 | .. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 30 | Hukli | 20 | 5 | .. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 31 | Mahime | 20 | 5 | .. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 32 | Jankadgal | 10 | 5 | .. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | — | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 34 | <i>Kanara, Western Division.</i> | 2,054 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 274 acres | .. | 1 | Gund (regeneration area). | 274 | 1 to 6 years | 91 | 52 | 72 | 104 | 32 | 120 years | .. | From thinning Rs. 2,000 | Final yield Rs. 5,000 | Total Rs. 7,000 | | | | | |

APPENDIX 29.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 16th April 1923.

No. 7198.—In exercise of the powers conferred by section 31 of the Indian Forest Act, 1878 (VII of 1878), and in supersession of Government Notification in the Revenue Department, No. 8205-B, dated the 22nd November 1902, as subsequently amended, the Government of Bombay is pleased to make the following rules, to have effect in and for the Protected Forests of the district of Kanara on and after 1st June 1923 :—

I. Occupants of spice gardens and tenants holding under such occupants may exercise in the Protected Forest assigned as betta to the gardens or group of gardens of which they are the occupants or tenants, the following privileges :—

(1) They may graze their own cattle.

(2) They may cut grass for their own use.

(3) For the purposes of building cattle-sheds or temporary huts, sinking wells, digging water channels, clearing paths, erecting threshing floors or sugarcane mills, storing grass, straw, grain, betel nuts, manure, or growing young plants in a nursery, they may, subject to the restrictions hereinafter mentioned, clear or break up the land assigned as betta.

(4) They may burn undergrowth and lantana, due care being taken to prevent the fire spreading to reserved forests.

(5) They may remove for their own use, but not for manufacture, sale or barter, clay, earth and stones.

(6) Subject to the restrictions hereinafter mentioned, they may remove for their own use, but not for manufacture, sale or barter, any kind of forest produce in the said betta. These restrictions are :

They shall not (a) lop or in any way injure any trees or sapling of the following species :—

Teak.

Blackwood.

Sandalwood.

Ebony.

(b) except with the previous permission of the Mamlatdar, fell any living trees of the species mentioned in the Schedule hereto appended.

N.B.—Any occupant of a garden who requires, for his own use, for a *bona fide* agricultural purpose, or for the construction and repair of his house situated in or adjacent to the garden to which the betta is assigned, any tree of the kinds mentioned in the Schedule, must apply in writing to the Mamlatdar, who shall, if satisfied that the demand is reasonable, grant permission to cut and remove the trees required on payment of Re. 1 per tree.

II. Whenever the Collector is of opinion that the privileges conferred by these rules have been or are being abused, to such an extent as to

justify the suspension of such privileges, he may, subject to the general control of the Commissioner, suspend the exercise of all or any of the said privileges by any or all of the occupants or tenants of any garden or group of gardens or by their servants; or may permit their exercise on payment of such fees as may be reasonable.

Schedule.

- 1 Baighe, *Vitex altissima*.
- 2 Karimtal, *Ougenia dalbergioides*.
- 3 Shiwani, *Gmelina, arborea*.
- 4 Hirda, *Terminalia chebula*.
- 5 Honni, *Pterocarpus marsupium*.
- 6 Jhall, *Shorea talura*.
- 7 Matti, *Terminalia tomentosa*.
- 8 Nandi (Nana), *Lagerstroema microcarpa*.
- 9 Phanas, *Artocarpus integrifolia*.
- 10 Wonte, *Artocarpus lakoocha*.
- 11 Bokli or Nanja, *Mimusops elengi*.
- 12 Heddi, *Adina cordifolia*.
- 13 Sagdi, *Schleichera trijuga*.
- 14 God Hunshi, *Albizzia odoratissima*.
- 15 Holi Matti, *Terminalia arjuna*.
- 16 Sampige, *Flacourtia montana*.
- 17 Haiga or Kabsi, *Hopea wightiana*.
- 18 Manjuti, *Adenanthera pavomina*.
- 19 Surhonni, *Calophyllum tomentosum*.
- 20 Hebbalsu or Patphanas, *Artocarpus hirsuta*.
- 21 Jamba, *Xylia dolabriformis*.
- 22 Mashu or phudgus, *Alseodaphne semicarpifolia*.
- 23 Kavanchi, *Bridelia retusa*.
- 24 Kalamb, *Stephegyne parvifolia*.
- 25 Siris, *Albizzia lebbek*.
- 26 Belati, *Albizzia procera*.
- 27 Kharsing or Gensu, *Stereospermum xylocarpum*.
- 28 Hongal or Kibul, *Terminalia paniculata*.
- 29 Dadsal, *Grewia tiliaefolia*.
- 30 Dindal, *Anogeissus latifolia*.
- 31 Womb, *Saccopetalum tomentosum*.
- 32 Devdar lal, *Chikrassia tabularis*.
- 33 Devdar pandra, *Cedrela toona*.
- 34 Mhowra, *Bassia latifolia*.
- 35 Moha or Ippi, *Bassia longifolia*.
- 36 Bobbi or Irai, *Calophyllum whightianum*.

By order of the Government of Bombay
(Transferred Departments),
G. A. THOMAS,
Secretary to Government.

APPENDIX 29—*contd.*

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 4th June 1924.

No. 7198.—In exercise of the powers conferred by section 31 of the Indian Forest Act, 1878 (VII of 1878), the Government of Bombay is pleased to amend the rules published in Government Notification in the Revenue Department, No. 7198, dated the 16th April 1923, as follows, namely :—

For clause 4 of rule 1 of the said rules the following shall be substituted, namely :—

“(4) They may burn undergrowth and lantana, due care being taken to prevent the fire spreading to reserved forests.”

By order of the Government of Bombay
(Transferred Departments),

G. E. CHATFIELD,
Chief Secretary to Government.

APPENDIX 31.

Hindu-Muslim relations.

Warning against the publication of articles and pamphlets designed to stir up religious hatred between Hindus and Muhammadans.

GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY.

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL).

Resolution No. 2157-Poll.

Bombay Castle, 11th October 1924.

RESOLUTION OF GOVERNMENT.

The attention of the Governor in Council has been drawn to numerous articles in the public press and to pamphlets, which appear to be designed deliberately to accentuate the unfortunate differences which have arisen between Hindus and Mussalmans. The political sanity and moderation of the people of this Presidency have so far restricted the untoward consequences of such differences to comparatively unimportant incidents, but the Governor in Council cannot neglect the possibility that a campaign of wild accusations, of vulgar and even obscene abuse and of incitements to meet force with force may lead to outbreaks of bloodshed and murder such as have occurred in other parts of India. A perusal of these articles and pamphlets leads to only one conclusion, that the writers are deliberately and with full consciousness of what they are doing endeavouring to stir up religious hatred between the two great communities of India. Both sides are equally to blame, and for months past the baser journals—both Hindu and Mahomedan—have been vieing one with another in inflammatory attacks on the morals and religious beliefs of their opponents.

2. The Governor in Council is of opinion that the time has come for a public pronouncement in this matter and desires to give warning that, while he does not wish to interfere in any way with reasoned discussion, he will be compelled, if the campaign above described does not forthwith cease, to use all the powers entrusted to him by law to guard the feelings and religious susceptibilities of all sections of the public of the Presidency. He appeals confidently to the wise and respectable of both communities to take their share publicly in repudiating and eliminating from controversy bitter expressions and vulgar abuse which may result in actions which will bring disgrace on the whole Presidency.

ORDER.—Ordered that the above Resolution be published in a Press Note by the Director of Information, and also be published in the *Bombay Government Gazette* in English, Gujarati, Marathi, Kanarese and Urdu. The vernacular translations should be furnished to the Manager, Government Central Press, by the Oriental Translator to Government.

2. Ordered further that the Commissioner in Sind should take steps to have the Resolution published in Sind both in English and Sindhi.

By order of the Governor in Council,
A. MONTGOMERIE,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department (Political).

To

The Commissioner in Sind,
The Commissioner, Northern Division,
The Commissioner, Central Division,
The Commissioner, Southern Division,
The Commissioner, Bombay Suburban Division,
The Commissioner of Police, Bombay,
All District Magistrates,
The Oriental Translator to Government,
The Director of Information (for the issue of a Press Note),
The Manager, Government Central Press (for publication in the *Bombay Government Gazette*),
The Political Department.

APPENDIX 32.

*Statement accompanying the reply to question put by
Mr. H. B. Shivdasani at the last session of the Legislative Council.*

| Name of taluka. | Number of voters at the District and Taluka Local Boards. | | | Number of polling stations for the local board elections. | | Number of villages at a distance of more than five miles from the polling stations. | |
|-----------------|---|----------|--------|---|----------|---|----------|
| | In 1922. | In 1924. | | In 1922. | In 1924. | In 1922. | In 1924. |
| | | T.L.B. | D.L.B. | | | | |
| Chorasi .. | 1,253 | 5,027 | 2,931 | 6 | 6 | 7 | .. |
| Olpad .. | 2,220 | 5,226 | 3,519 | 6 | 3 | 13 | 47 |
| Bardoli .. | 2,900 | 7,654 | 3,847 | 6 | 6 | .. | 4 |
| Mandvi .. | 637 | 3,276 | 1,072 | 7 | 3 | .. | 65 |
| Jalalpore .. | 2,145 | 8,084 | 3,268 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 9 |
| Chikhli .. | 965 | 5,055 | 1,711 | 6 | 9 | .. | 2 |
| Bulsar .. | 1,209 | 6,342 | 1,883 | 6 | 6 | 27 | 12 |
| Parli .. | 678 | 2,539 | 827 | 6 | 7 | 7 | 9 |

APPENDIX 33.

List of clerks engaged in each section of the Development Department and the number of clerks belonging to the Hindu Backward Classes.

| Name of office. | Total number of clerks. | Number of clerks belonging to the Hindu Backward Classes. |
|--|-------------------------|---|
| Development Department (Secretariat) | 32 | <i>Nil.</i> |
| Reclamation Branch | 28 | 1 |
| No. 1 Housing and Materials Division | 51 | 2 |
| No. 2 Suburban Division | 48 | 2 |
| Office of the Superintendent, Bombay Suburban Survey | 1 | <i>Nil.</i> |
| Office of the Land Acquisition Officer for the City of Bombay | 10 | .... |
| Office of the Land Manager, Development Directorate | 24 | .... |
| Offices of the Commissioner, Bombay Suburban Division, and Collector, Bombay Suburban District | 30 | .... |
| Office of the Salsette Development Officer .. | 8 | .... |

Appendices
APPENDIX 34.

Compensatory Allowances.

Grant of — to officers at expensive places.

GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

Resolution No. 2837.

Bombay Castle, 5th December 1923.

RESOLUTION.

The Secretary of State ordered in his despatch No. 187-Public, dated 25th December 1919, that the question of special allowances for officers in stations where the cost of living is abnormally high should be taken into consideration by the Government of India in consultation with local Governments and that all reasonable grievances in respect of the heavy cost of living at such places should be removed as completely as possible and without delay.

2. The matter has been under the detailed consideration of the Government of Bombay during the last four years. In the meantime the power of passing orders relating to compensatory allowances has been delegated to the Government of Bombay by the Fundamental Rules, and it has been decided to grant compensatory allowances to officers stationed in the following expensive places, *viz.*, Bombay and Salsette, and Poona and Karachi. The scheme now approved by Government is intended to meet the case of all officers who do not already receive, in some form or other, compensation for the high cost of living in these centres; but in view of the difficulties involved in calculating the compensation already enjoyed by officers recruited on rates of pay fixed heretofore with reference to local conditions then existing at those places, the scheme is being applied in the first instance and pending further examination of the salaries of those particular posts, to officers on the mofussil time scale of pay.

3. In exercise of the powers conferred by rules 44 and 93 of the Fundamental Rules, the Governor in Council is pleased therefore to authorise the grant of compensatory allowances according to the appended rules to officers under his administrative control paid from provincial revenues on scales of pay fixed without special reference to the high cost of living in Bombay, Salsette, Karachi or Poona, who are posted for service in these places. The scheme will come into force with effect from 1st March 1923. In the meantime a list of the officers entitled under these rules is under preparation and will be issued with as little delay as possible, and a supplementary grant in respect of the current year and provision

for the next year in respect of officers whose pay is votable will in due course be submitted to the Legislative Council.

By order of the Governor in Council.

E. W. PERRY,

Deputy Secretary to Government.

To

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| The Commissioner in Sind, | The Protector of Emigrants, |
| The Commissioner, N. D., | Bombay, |
| The Commissioner, C. D., | The Protector of Emigrants, |
| The Commissioner, S. D., | Karachi, |
| The Commissioner, Bombay | The Registrar of His Majesty's |
| Suburban Division, | High Court of Judicature, |
| The Commissioner of Customs, | Appellate Side, Bombay, |
| Salt and Abkari, | The Prothonotary and Re- |
| The Collector of Bombay, | gistrar of His Majesty's High |
| The Collector of Karachi, | Court of Judicature, Original |
| The Collector of Poona, | Jurisdiction, Bombay, |
| The Collector of Thana, | All other Heads of Offices under |
| The Collector of Bombay Subur- | the several Departments of |
| ban District, | the Secretariat, at Bombay, |
| The Accountant General, | Karachi, Thana and Poona, |
| The Private Secretary to His | All Departments of the Secre- |
| Excellency the Governor, | tariat. |
| The Military Secretary to His | |
| Excellency the Governor, | |

RULES REGULATING GRANT OF COMPENSATORY ALLOWANCES.

Rule 1.—All officers on the time scales of pay not fixed with special reference to Bombay, Salsette, Poona or Karachi, other than (a) officers who are not whole time servants of the Government, (b) officers whose pay has been revised in accordance with Government Circular No. 438 of 25th June 1920 and (c) ministerial and menial Government servants are, subject to the following rules, entitled to draw a compensatory local allowance on the following scale.

Scale for Bombay and South Salsette.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. For officers on pay not exceeding Rs. 250 per mensem. | 40 per cent. |
| 2. For officers on pay exceeding Rs. 250, but not exceeding Rs. 500 per mensem. | 40 per cent. on the first Rs. 250, and 30 per cent. on the excess over Rs. 250. |

- | | |
|---|---|
| 3. For officers on pay exceeding Rs. 500, but not exceeding Rs. 1,000 per mensem. | 40 per cent. on the first Rs. 250, and 30 per cent. on the second Rs. 250, and 20 per cent. on the remainder. |
| 4. For officers on pay exceeding Rs. 1,000 per mensem, but not exceeding Rs. 1,500. | 40 per cent. on the first Rs. 250, and 30 per cent. on the second Rs. 250, 20 per cent. on the next Rs. 500, and 10 per cent. on the remainder. |
| 5. For officers on pay exceeding Rs. 1,500 per mensem. | Rs. 350 per month. |

Scale for Karachi, Poona and North Salsette.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. For officers on pay not exceeding Rs. 250 per mensem. | 20 per cent. |
| 2. For officers on pay exceeding Rs. 250, but not exceeding Rs. 500 per mensem. | 20 per cent. on the first Rs. 250, and 15 per cent. on the excess over Rs. 250. |
| 3. For officers on pay exceeding Rs. 500, but not exceeding Rs. 1,000 per mensem. | 20 per cent. on the first Rs. 250, 15 per cent. on the second Rs. 250, and 10 per cent. on the remainder. |
| 4. For officers on pay exceeding Rs. 1,000 per mensem, but not exceeding Rs. 1,500 per mensem. | 20 per cent. on the first Rs. 250, 15 per cent. on the second Rs. 250, 10 per cent. on the next Rs. 500, and 5 per cent. on the remainder. |
| 5. For officers on pay exceeding Rs. 1,500 per mensem. | Rs. 200 per mensem. |

Note.—In the case of provincial services this order is conditional on the provision of funds by the Legislative Council.

Rule 2.—The allowance will be based on pay as defined by F. R. 9 (21).

Rule 3.—Officers who are required to tour regularly will draw the allowance only for the period from 1st May to 31st October.

Rule 4.—Any existing local allowances other than local allowances of the Deputy Commissioners of Police, Bombay, or conveyance allowance or travelling allowances will be merged in the compensatory allowances now sanctioned. Officers who receive free housing accommodation otherwise than as remuneration for extra duties performed by them will deduct 10 per cent. of their pay from the amount of compensatory allowances due under these rules.

Rule 5.—Officers of the Indian Medical Service who are permitted private practice or who receive an allowance in lieu of private practice will draw the allowance at half rates.

Rule 6.—The allowance will not be admissible during leave of any kind.

Rule 7.—The above orders are provisional and are liable to be withdrawn or modified in the event of a marked change in the cost of living in the localities to which the orders relate, or in the conditions of service or pay of particular posts, whenever Government consider such modification or withdrawal to be justified. Government also reserve the right to admit or refuse the allowance to any individual officer or class of officers in any case in accordance with the general spirit of these rules.

APPENDIX 34.—*contd.**Compensatory Allowances.*

Grant of — to officers at expensive places

GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

Resolution No. 2837.

Bombay Castle, 15th March 1924.

RESOLUTION OF GOVERNMENT.

The Governor in Council is pleased to issue the following orders in amplification of Government Resolution, Finance Department, No. 2837, dated 5th December 1923.

Permanent Government servants holding substantively, or officiating in, posts in the following services and drawing only the scale pay or grade pay of these services with or without the addition of special pay, subject to the orders contained in paragraph 8 below regarding the re-scrutiny of such special pay, are entitled to this allowance :—

Indian Civil Service,
 Bombay Civil Service—Executive Branch,
 Bombay Civil Service—Judicial Branch,
 Mamlatdars,
 Head Accountants,
 Indian Forest Service,
 Bombay Forest Service,
 Indian Police Service,
 Bombay Police Service,
 Indian Educational Service,
 Bombay Educational Service,
 Indian Agricultural Service,
 Bombay Agricultural Service,
 Indian Veterinary Service,
 Bombay Veterinary Service,
 Indian Medical Service,
 Bombay Medical Service,
 Military Assistant Surgeons,
 Non-Indian Medical Service Superintendents of Prisons,
 Jailors,
 Indian Service of Engineers,
 Bombay Service of Engineers,
 Inspectors, Bombay Presidency Police,
 Superintendents of Excise.

The following officers, in order to put all services on an equality, will be considered to be entitled to this allowance :—

Conservators of Forests,
 Superintending Engineers,
 Deputy Inspectors General of Police.

Proviso :

The following officers of the above services are excluded pending further orders :—

- (1) Officers holding posts above the time-scale :—
 Members of Council,
 High Court Judges,
 Judicial Commissioner,
 Additional Judicial Commissioners,
 Commissioners of Divisions,
 Commissioner in Sind,
 Commissioner of Excise,
 Secretaries to Government,
 Chief Engineers,
 Chief Conservator,
 Inspector General of Police,
 Inspector General of Prisons,
 Director of Public Health,
 Director of Public Instruction,
 Director of Agriculture,
 Surgeon General,
 Surgeon Superintendent, St. George's Hospital.
- (2) Also officers holding posts of which the pay is specially fixed, *e.g.* :—
 Director, Labour Office,
 Commissioner of Police,
 Bombay City Police,
 Director of Industries,
- (3) and those officers who have been given advance increment or enhanced starting pay in their time-scales on account of the cost of living in Bombay, Salsette, Poona or Karachi.

2. Under rule 3 of the Rules attached to the abovementioned Government Resolution officers who tour regularly will draw the allowance for six months only. All officers who tour should draw the allowance for six months only and Heads of Departments should report for orders of Government the circumstances of any touring officer who in their opinion should be permitted to draw the allowance for a longer period than six months.

3. In the case of officers whose present conveyance allowances exceed Rs. 200 per mensem the excess will be considered as local allowance and merged in this allowance.

4. House allowances granted in lieu of housing accommodation received as remuneration for extra duties and house allowances drawn under Government Resolution, Finance Department, No. 84, dated 22nd September 1923, will not merge in this allowance. All other house-rent allowances will be deemed local allowances under Rule 4 of Government Resolution No. 2837, dated 5th December 1923.

5. When Compensatory Allowances are already attached to posts admitted to the compensatory allowance now granted, officers who held the posts on or before 5th December 1923 will receive whichever allowance or sum of allowances is greater, and will draw the allowance now granted as soon as it exceeds the existing compensatory allowances. Officers appointed after 5th December 1923 to posts admitted to this allowance will receive this allowance only.

6. Compensatory allowances which merge in this allowance will be considered to cease from the date of the introduction of this allowance.

7. In modification of Rule 5 under Government Resolution, Finance Department, No. 2837, dated 5th December 1923, all medical officers admitted to this allowance, who are permitted private practice or who receive an allowance in lieu of private practice, will draw this allowance at half rates.

8. Government consider it necessary to re-examine the duty allowances attached to certain posts. The necessity for some of these allowances appears in part to have been based on the hardship caused by the heavy local cost of living to officers appointed to the posts and not solely on the arduousness or importance of the duties attached to the posts. These allowances have been defined by the Fundamental Rules as special pay, and the decision regarding them cannot therefore be made immediately. Except in those cases in which the duty allowance was clearly given for a specific addition to the work or responsibility of a post, the compensatory allowance drawn by an officer in receipt of special pay containing a duty allowance will be diminished by an amount equal to half the amount of such duty allowance, pending the decision on the re-examination now directed.

9. Officers entitled under the orders given in paragraph 1 may draw the allowance according to the scales in Government Resolution, Finance Department, No. 2837, dated 5th December 1923. Attention is however invited to Finance Department Circular No. 2920, dated 29th January 1924, and it is notified that amounts drawn irregularly will have to be refunded to Government and any case where it is doubtful to what if any allowance an officer is entitled under this Resolution should be immediately referred to Government.

By order of the Governor in Council,

H. F. KNIGHT,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>The Commissioner of Customs, Salt and Excise, The Collector of Bombay, The Collector of Karachi, The Collector of Poona, The Collector of Thana, The Collector of Bombay Suburban District, The Accountant General, The Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor, The Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor, The Postmaster General, Bombay Circle, The Agent, G. I. P. Railway, The Agent, B. B. & C. I. Railway, The Government Examiner of Accounts, G. I. P. Railway,</p> | <p>The Government Examiner of Accounts, B. B. & C. I. Railway, The Protector of Emigrants, Bombay, The Protector of Emigrants, Karachi, The Registrar of His Majesty's High Court of Judicature, Appellate Side, Bombay, The Prothonotary and Registrar of His Majesty's High Court of Judicature, Original Jurisdiction, Bombay, All other Heads of Offices under the several Departments of the Secretariat, at Bombay, Karachi, Salsette and Poona, All Departments of the Secretariat, The Government of India.</p> |
|--|---|

Appendices
APPENDIX 35.

List of Administration Reports which are not offered for sale to the Public.

1. Annual Administration Report of Aden.
2. Administration Report of the Bombay Collectorate.
3. Irrigation* Revenue Report of the Bombay Presidency.
4. Annual Report of the Bombay Provincial Advisory Committee.
(This is not an administration report but merely gives information regarding the work done by the Committee and intended for official use only.)
5. Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Bombay Presidency, Part I (Part II is for sale).
6. Annual* Report of the supplies of water available for Irrigation Works and of the discharge from catchment areas in the Bombay Presidency.
7. Annual Report of the Government Photozinc Press, Poona.
8. Annual Report on the administration of the Salt Department at Aden.

Note.—(i) The Reports of Political Agencies under the Government of Bombay are not sold to the public as they are intended for official use only.

* (ii) These are annual reports prepared for official use and not for sale to the public.

APPENDIX 36.

A Statement about the anna valuation of the crops for the year 1923-24 at Rajuri and surrounding villages in Junnar Taluka.

| Serial No. | Name of village. | Anna valuation for the year 1923-24 in anna. |
|------------|-------------------------|--|
| 1 | Rajuri | 11 |
| 2 | Anne | 12 |
| 3 | Nalwane | 11 |
| 4 | Belhe | 13 |
| 5 | Bori Budruk | 9 |
| 6 | Sakuri Tarf Belhe | 11 |
| 7 | Pimpalwandi ' | 8 |
| 8 | Ale | 10 |
| 9 | Vadgaon Bhikar | 9 |
| 10 | Mangrul | 9 |

APPENDIX 37.

Circular issued in the Bombay Division.

The control of the District Local Board Schools is to be transferred from the Educational Department to the District Local Board. Teachers are hereby informed that any one admitted to a training institution as a Vernacular Final, 1st year, or 2nd year teacher respectively in the 1st year, 2nd year or 3rd year class, will not get, after the completion of his training, a scale of pay higher than what he as a Vernacular Final, 1st year, or 2nd year teacher gets. Subject to this condition the teacher will get, for the higher certificate that may be earned by him next year, such a rate of pay only as may be fixed, with the approval of Government, for the class of teachers by the Local Body which employs him.

25th November 1922.

*Circular issued in the Central Division.*WARNING TO STUDENTS SEEKING ENTRANCE INTO GOVERNMENT
TRAINING INSTITUTIONS.

The Compulsory Primary Education Bill and the Local Boards Bill are at present before the Legislative Council. If they are passed, the control of Primary Education will, as a result, be completely transferred from the Educational Department to District Local Boards and Municipalities. This new arrangement is likely to come into force from April 1923.

2. Government will guarantee that the rights in the matter of pay, promotion and pension of all V. F. and trained teachers who are in permanent Local Board or Municipal service on the date on which the said Acts take effect are safeguarded by the new Acts and that the scales of pay, rates of promotion and conditions of pension in force on that date are continued unaffected, subject to such modifications as may hereafter be ordered by Government from time to time.

3. In the case of those that are under training in the 1st, 2nd and 3rd year classes on the date of effect of the said Acts, as V. F., 1st year or 2nd year teachers respectively, holding permanent appointments, paragraph 2 above will be applicable in the matter of pay according to the nature of the certificate held on the said date, promotion and conditions of pension. But for the higher certificate earned by them after the said date, their rights in the matter of pay, promotion, etc., will be considered in accordance with the new rules that will be made by the local bodies under the new Acts with the sanction of Government.

4. Candidates under training in the 1st, 2nd and 3rd year classes on the date of effect of the said Acts, who hold no lien on a permanent post in the Educational Department will be subject to such rules

regarding pay, promotion and pension, as may be framed under the new Acts—to have effect from the said date—with the sanction of Government by the Local authorities under which they will serve on completion of their course of studies.

5. Candidates and teachers holding no lien on a permanent post in the Educational Department, that are under training in any class on the date of effect of the said Acts can neither be guaranteed employment nor, if employed, the application to them of the existing rules regarding pay, promotion and pension.

6. The consent of candidates and teachers to the terms mentioned above will be obtained in writing. Those that are unwilling to give such a consent will not be admitted for training. The form of agreement will be modified in accordance with the above terms.

7. The number of admissions of candidates or teachers desiring to be trained on the above terms or of teachers permitted to appear for the examination for the purpose of earning a higher certificate from outside or from inside will be restricted as circumstances may render necessary. Hereafter, on no ground can anybody *claim* either entrance into a training institution or further training.

8. The above warning is given both to candidates and teachers whether stipendiary or non-stipendiary.

21st November 1922.

Circular issued in the Northern Division.

Under instructions from the Director of Public Instruction conveyed in his letter No. Tr.—10441 of 15th November 1922, all the teachers are informed that the control of the L. B. Schools is likely to be transferred from this Department to the District Local Boards as soon as the Compulsory Elementary Education and L. B. Bills passed and put into effect, *i.e.*, probably from 1st April next. The rights in the matter of pay, promotion and pension of all teachers who are in permanent L. B. or Municipal service on the date on which the new arrangement takes effect will be safeguarded by the new Act or by rules made by Government thereunder, and they will be guaranteed the continuance of the sanctioned scales of pay and pension conditions in force on that date subject to such modifications as may hereafter be ordered by Government. The Local Bodies will be empowered to employ new teachers and to fix their own rates of pay for the various classes of such new teachers subject to certain maxima and minima to be prescribed by Government. Those students that are under training at the time that the new conditions take effect and who hold no lien on a permanent post in Government D.L.B., or Municipal primary school can neither be guaranteed employment, nor if employed, the rates of pay in force at the time of the transfer of the schools, nor the benefit of the present pension rules.

2. A teacher under training next year who holds permanent appointment in a Government or D.L.B. or a Municipal school will be

guaranteed continuance of service and the scale of pay to which he will be eligible on the date of the transfer of the schools according to the certificate held by him on that date; *i.e.*, one admitted to a training institution as a V. F., 1st year, or 2nd year teacher respectively in the 1st year, 2nd year or 3rd year class will not get, after the completion of his training, a scale of pay less than what he would be eligible for on the date of the transfer of the schools as a V. F., 1st year, or 2nd year teacher. Subject to this condition the teacher will get, for the higher certificate that may be earned by him next year, such a rate of pay only as may be fixed, with the approval of Government for the class of teachers concerned by the Local Body which employs him.

All the teachers are therefore informed that if they want to be trained or to continue their training on this express understanding they should submit their written *kabulayat* in the matter before 8th December 1922.

30th November 1922.

Circular issued in the Southern Division.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR STUDENTS SELECTED FOR TRAINING
SCHOOLS IN 1923.

It is likely that the control of Primary schools will be transferred to Local Boards by 1st April 1923. Therefore the students that will be selected for training this year, *i.e.*, in December 1922, will be guaranteed continuance of service and the scale of pay to which they will be eligible on the date of the transfer of the schools according to the certificate held by them on that date, *i.e.*, one admitted to a training institution as a V. F. 1st or 2nd year teacher respectively in the 1st, 2nd or 3rd year class will not get after the completion of their training a scale of pay less than what they would be eligible for on that date of transfer of the school as a V. F. 1st or 2nd year teacher.

2. Subject to this condition, the teachers will get for the higher certificate that may be earned by them next year, such a rate of pay only as may be fixed with the approval of Government for the class of teachers concerned by the local body which employs them.

Circular issued in the Sind Division.

All the local board and municipal teachers in the Taluka should be informed that the control of the Local Board schools is likely to be transferred from this Department to the District Local Boards as soon as the compulsory Elementary Education and Local Board Bills are passed and put into effect, *i.e.*, probably from 1st April next. The rights in the matter of pay, promotion and pension of all teachers who are in permanent Local Board or Municipal service on the date on which the new arrangement takes effect will be safeguarded by the new act or by rules made by Government thereunder, and they will be guaranteed the continuance of the sanctioned scales of pay and the pension conditions in force on that date subject to such modifications as may hereafter be ordered by Govern-

ment. The Local Bodies will be empowered to employ new teachers and to fix their own rates of pay for various classes of such new teachers subject to certain maxima and minima to be prescribed by Government. Those students that are under training at the time that the new conditions take effect and who hold no lien on a permanent post in a Government, District Local Board, or Municipal Primary school can neither be guaranteed, nor if employed, the rates of pay in force at the time of the transfer of the schools nor the benefit of the present pension rules. It is necessary to explain the position clearly to these students before they commence next year's training.

2. A teacher under training next year who holds a permanent appointment in a Government or a District Local Board or a Municipal school will be guaranteed continuance of service and the scale of pay to which he will be eligible on the date of transfer of the schools according to the certificate held by him on that date, *i.e.*, one admitted to a training institution as a Vernacular Final, 1st year or 2nd year teacher respectively in the 1st year, 2nd year or 3rd year class will not get after the completion of his training a scale of pay less than what he would be eligible for on the date of transfer of the schools as a Vernacular Final, 1st year or 2nd year teacher. Subject to the condition the teacher will get, for the higher certificate that may be earned by him next year, such a rate of pay only as may be fixed with the approval of Government for the class of teachers concerned by the Local Body which employs him.

7th July 1924.

APPENDIX 38.

APPENDIX

State

| (a) Number of cart Depôts maintained in Kanara, and the names of places where they are located. | | (b) Number of carts and animals in each of such Depôts and the average cost of a cart and an animal respectively. | | | |
|--|--|--|----------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | Carts. | Animals. | Average cost per cart. | Average cost per animal. |
| | | Number | Pairs | Rs. | Rs. |
| 1 | Depôt established at <i>Supa</i> in Kanara Northern Division in 1915-16, subsequently transferred to the Forest Department Sawmill at <i>Dandeli</i> . | 12 | 14 | 38 | 129 |
| 1 | Depôt established at <i>Yellapur</i> in Kanara Eastern Division in 1914-15, subsequently transferred to the Forest Department Sawmill at <i>Kirvatti</i> . | 12 | 10 | 36 | 109 |
| 1 | Depôt established at <i>Kadra</i> in Kanara Western Division in 1916-17, subsequently transferred to the Forest Department Sawmill at <i>Sulgeri</i> . | 4 | 5 | 77 | 99 |
| 3 | Total number of Depôts at present. | | | | |

38.

ment.

| (c) Total receipts in each Depôt from 1st June 1922 to 31st May 1924. | (d) Amount of money earned in each Depôt from 1st June 1922 to 31st May 1924. | (e) Purpose for which such Depôts are maintained. | (f) Whether the carts are let out to private individuals or forest contractors for their use. |
|--|--|---|--|
| Rs. 10,474 9 1 | Rs. 6,920 13 6 | (a) For transport of timber logs and sleeper pieces from forests to the Sawmills and for transport of sleepers and sawn timber from the Sawmills to the nearest Railway Stations and Sale Depôts. | Yes, when there is no Government work. |
| 7,262 8 7 | 5,109 12 3 | (b) for transport of Government and private kit of touring officers of all Departments. | |
| 1,996 6 4 | 1,239 3 8 | (c) for hire to Forest contractors and private individuals. | |

Appendices

APPENDIX 39.

Statement showing the progress made by the various local authorities in the Presidency towards the introduction of free and compulsory elementary education during the year 1923-24.

CENTRAL DIVISION.

Sholapur.

The Sholapur Municipality has prepared a scheme which is being submitted through the Educational Inspector.

Satara.

Satara City Municipality has already introduced free and compulsory primary education, so far as boys are concerned, under the Primary Education Act of 1918.

Ahmednagar.

The question of making primary education free and compulsory is under the consideration of the Ahmednagar Municipality.

The District Local Board, Ahmednagar, have prepared a scheme and increased the Local Fund cess to two annas with a view to secure money for free and compulsory primary education. Government have asked the Board to resubmit their scheme in accordance with the rules published by Government under the Primary Education Act, 1923, after the transfer of primary schools to local authorities has been effected.

East Khandesh.

The Jalgaon Municipality has resolved to make primary education free and compulsory as soon as Government hands over the control of the schools to it.

The District Local Board, East Khandesh, has made a rough schedule for 10 years and a detailed scheme for 3 years and has increased the Local Fund cess by 6 pies for financing the scheme.

West Khandesh.

The Dhulia Municipality has introduced a scheme of free and compulsory primary education both for boys and girls from 1st March 1923.

The District Local Board, West Khandesh, has prepared a scheme, and a Sub-Committee was appointed to suggest sources of income to meet the cost. The Committee has suggested certain taxes. A special meeting of the Board was convened, but consideration has been postponed until the new Boards are elected under the New Act.

Nasik and Poona.

No progress was made in these districts.

BOMBAY SUBURBAN DIVISION.

The Bandra Municipality has already introduced free and compulsory education under the Bombay Primary Education Act of 1918.

Appendices

The District Local Board, Bombay Suburban District, have been anxiously considering the subject and have appointed a special Committee to make the preliminary enquiries referred to in paragraph 3 of Government Circular, Educational Department, no. 2272, dated the 2nd November 1923. Beyond this no steps have yet been taken by the District Local Board, Bombay Suburban District, towards the introduction of free and compulsory education in the District during 1923-24.

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

No progress has been made by Local Bodies in this Division towards the introduction of free and compulsory Primary Education except that an extra one anna cess was collected by the District Local Board, Belgaum, for the purpose last year.

SIND.

Free Education.—All the District Local Boards and Municipalities excepting the minor-municipalities of Keti Bunder, Tatta, Manjhand, Tando Md. Khan, Hala, Mirpurkhas, Ghotki and Bubak, have made primary education free in their jurisdictions.

Increase in Local Cess.—All the District Local Boards have raised the local cess from one anna to five pice to meet the expenditure in gradually making primary education free and compulsory as funds permit.

Other preliminary steps.—The Karachi Municipality has adopted a policy of rapid expansion and schools are opened as soon as suitable buildings are available.

The Shikarpur Municipality had completed all the arrangements for free and compulsory education before the Government Resolution postponing the date of transfer of control to Local Authorities was received.

The Sukkur and Rohri Municipalities have appointed a Sub-Committee to report on the question of free and compulsory education.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

The Municipalities noted below in this Division have introduced free Primary Education in their respective areas but none of them has done anything to make it compulsory:—

Ahmedabad District.

1. Ahmedabad City Municipality.
2. Modasa Municipality.

Panch Mahals District.

3. Godhra Municipality.
4. Dohad Municipality.

Broach District.

5. Ankleshwar Municipality.
6. Jambusar Municipality.

Thana District.

7. Bhiwandi Municipality.
8. Kalyan Municipality.
9. Thana Municipality.

APPENDIX 40.

Statement showing the inam villages in which the Village Panchayat Act, city survey, etc., have been introduced.

| District. | Taluka. | Village. | Inam villages in which the Village Panchayat Act has been introduced. | Inam villages in which city survey has been introduced. | Inam villages in which co-operative credit societies have been established. | Villages which were jadd inams and which have been summarily settled with the inamdar's consent and made kadim. | Remarks. |
|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------------|---|---|---|---|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| | <i>Northern Division.</i> | | | | | | |
| Ahmedabad .. | North Daskroi .. | Ognaj .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| Kaira .. | Kapadvanj .. | Alwa .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| | | Thasra .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| | | Matar .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| Fanch Mahals .. | Halol .. | Vijthalpura .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| | | Kalol .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
|  |  | " .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
|  |  | " .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| Surat .. | Chikhli .. | Gnej .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| Thana .. | Bhiwandi .. | Kanheri .. | .... | (b) | .... | .... | City Survey introduced in a part of the village. |
| | Bhadgaon Fetha .. | Shindi Digar .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| | " .. | Anchalgaon Digar .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| | Chalisgaon .. | Khedgaon .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| | " .. | Hirapur .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| | " .. | Umbarkhed .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |

Appendices

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------|---|-----|----|-----|-----|
| | Jaunjer | .. Malkhede Digar .. | .. | .. | (e) | .. |
| | " | .. Mangaon .. | .. | .. | (e) | .. |
| | " | .. Vakhad .. | .. | .. | (e) | .. |
| | " | .. Chitgaon Digar .. | .. | .. | (e) | .. |
| | " | .. Londhari Khurd .. | .. | .. | (e) | .. |
| | " | .. Vadgaon Budruk .. | .. | .. | (e) | .. |
| | " | .. Shendurni .. | (a) | .. | (e) | .. |
| | " | .. Neri .. | .. | .. | (e) | .. |
| | " | .. Neri Khurd (Digar) (Neri Budruk and Neri Digar is a combined Panchayat). | (a) | .. | .. | .. |
| | Raver | .. Bhokari .. | .. | .. | .. | (d) |
| | " | .. Tamsawadi .. | .. | .. | .. | (d) |
| West Khandesh.. | Taloda | .. Prtappur .. | .. | .. | (e) | .. |
| | " | .. Ranzani .. | .. | .. | (e) | .. |
| | Nandurbar | .. Sundarde .. | .. | .. | .. | (d) |
| Nasik | Point | .. Kalmusta .. | .. | .. | .. | (d) |
| | Baglan | .. Kikwari Khurd .. | .. | .. | (e) | .. |
| | " | .. Joran .. | .. | .. | (e) | .. |
| | " | .. Bijorse .. | .. | .. | (e) | .. |
| | Niphad | .. Chandori .. | .. | .. | (e) | .. |
| | " | .. Vinchur .. | .. | .. | (e) | .. |
| | " | .. Shimpi Takli .. | .. | .. | (e) | .. |
| | " | .. Kasbe Sukene .. | .. | .. | (e) | .. |
| | " | .. Kothure .. | .. | .. | (e) | .. |
| | Malegaon | .. Chandanpuri .. | .. | .. | (e) | .. |
| | " | .. Vadel .. | .. | .. | (e) | .. |

APPENDIX 40—contd.

1552

| District. | Taluka. | Village. | Inam villages in which the Village Panchayat Act has been introduced. | Inam villages in which city survey has been introduced. | Inam villages in which co-operative credit societies have been established. | Villages which were jaidid inams and which have been summarily settled with the inamdar's consent and made kadim. | Remarks. |
|-----------|---------------------|------------------------------|---|---|---|---|----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| Poona | Nasik | .. Pimpalgaon Bhavia .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| | .. | .. Pimpalgaon Gurudeshwar .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| | Igatpuri | .. Taked Budruk .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| | .. Haveli | .. Ambegaon Khurd .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| | .. | .. Bhopkhel .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| | .. | .. Charohli Budruk .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| | .. | .. Dehu .. | (a) | .... | .... | .... |  |
| | .. | .. Dehu Majri Maliwadi .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| | .. | .. Hinjavdi .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| | .. | .. Narhe .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| | .. | .. Oundh .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| | .. | .. Pashan .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| | .. | .. Bhugson .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| | .. | .. Uruli Devachi .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| | .. | .. Vadgaon Budruk .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| .. | .. Vadgaon Khurd .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |  |
| .. | .. Uruli Kanchan .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |  |

Appendices

| | | | | | | | | |
|----------|------------|-------------------|----|----|------|------|------|------|
| | " | Chinchwad | .. | .. | (a) | .... | .... | .... |
| | Poona City | Aundh | .. | .. | (a) | .... | .. | .... |
| | Junnar | Belhe | .. | .. | (a) | .... | (e) | .... |
| | " | Ane | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | Mawal | Adhe | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | Khed | Davdi | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | " | Kuruli | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | " | Mahalinge | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | " | Nighoji | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | " | Peth | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | " | Retwadi | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | " | Sakurdi | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | " | Shelgaon | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | " | Alandi Devachi | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | " | Vaki Budruk | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | Indapur | Narsingpur | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | Bhimthadi | Mategaon Budruk | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | " | Vadgaon | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | Shirur | Shirasaon Kata | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | Purandhar | Nazre-supe | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | " | Pingori | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | " | Nazrekhadepathar | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | " | Pimpri | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| Sholapur | Sholapur | Shirapur Pirtakli | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | Barsi | Uplai | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | Madha | Wakav | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |

APPENDIX 40—*contd.*

| District. | Taluka. | Village. | Inam villages in which the Village Panchayat Act has been introduced. | Inam villages in which city survey has been introduced. | Inam villages in which co-operative credit societies have been established. | Villages which were jaddi inams and which have been summarily settled with the inamdar's consent and made kaditu. | Remarks. |
|-------------------------|------------|-------------------|---|---|---|---|----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| Sholapur— <i>contd.</i> | Karmala | .. Bitergaon | .. .. | .. .. | (c) | .. .. |  |
| | Pandharpur | .. Ambe | .. .. | .. .. | (c) | .. .. |  |
| | " | .. Gardi | .. .. | .. .. | (c) | .. .. |  |
| | Malsiras | .. Nimbgaon | .. .. | .. .. | (c) | .. .. |  |
| | " | .. Tandulwadi | .. .. | .. .. | (c) | .. .. |  |
| | " | .. Nevse | .. .. | .. .. | (c) | .. .. |  |
| Satara | Satara | .. Tatyapur | .. .. | .. .. | (c) | Information on the point is not available in respect of the District. | |
| | " | .. Limb | .. .. | (a) | (c) | | |
| | Karad | .. Kalawdi | .. .. | .. .. | (c) | | |
| | " | .. Koregaon | .. .. | .. .. | (c) |  | .. .. |
| | " | .. Malkhed | .. .. | .. .. | (c) |  | .. .. |
| | " | .. Shire | .. .. | .. .. | (c) |  | .. .. |
| | " | .. Tembhu | .. .. | .. .. | (c) |  | .. .. |
| | " | .. Wadgaon Haveli | .. .. | .. .. | (c) |  | .. .. |
| | Patan | .. Awarde | .. .. | .. .. | (c) |  | .. .. |
| | " | .. Chaphal | .. .. | .. .. | (c) |  | .. .. |
| " | .. Derwan | .. .. | .. .. | (c) | .. .. |  |  |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------------|----------|----|---------------------------------------|------|-----|------|
| | " | .. | Gudhe | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | " | .. | Kadwe Budruk | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | " | .. | Tarla | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | Man | .. | Bothe | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | <i>Southern Division.</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Ratnagiri | .. | Sangameshwar | .. | Golavali | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | " | " | .. | Shiposhi | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | Rajapur | .. | Fanbale | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| Kolaba | .. | Allibag | .. | Sogaon | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | Karjat | .. | Apte | .. | .. | (a) | .... | (e) | .... |
| | " | .. | Chowk | Hatnoli | .. | (a) | .... | (e) | .... |
| | | | | | | (Included in one group Panch-chayat.) | | | |
| Dharwar | .. | Dharwar | .. | Hebbali | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | " | " | .. | Hangarki | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | Navalgund | .. | Javur | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | " | .. | Shanwad | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | Kalghatgi | .. | Nagur | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | " | .. | Begur | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | " | .. | Khalsa Hunshikatti | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | Ron | .. | Alur Gadgoli | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | Karajgi | .. | Agadi | .. | .. | (e) | .... | (e) | .... |
| | " | .. | Handigaur | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | Ranebennur | .. | Tumminakatti | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | " | .. | Chikkamannur | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |
| | Hangal | .. | Kallapur | .. | .. | .... | .... | (e) | .... |

APPENDIX 40—contd.

1556

| District. | Taluka. | Village. | Inam villages in which the Village Panchayat Act has been introduced. | Inam villages in which city survey has been introduced. | Inam villages in which co-operative credit societies have been established. | Villages which were jaded inams and which have been summarily settled with the inamdar's consent and made kadim. | Remarks. |
|-----------|----------|-------------------|---|---|---|--|----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| Belgaum | Belgaum | Adkur | .. | .. | (c) | .... |  |
| | | Turkewadi | .. | (a) | .... | ... |  |
| | Parasgad | Chachadi | .. | (a) | .... | (c) | ... |
| | | Inamhonga | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | | Rudrapur | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | | Shirsangi | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | | Sirsangi Kallapur | .. | (a) | .... | .... | .... |
| | | Gurthosur | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | | Hulikatti | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | | Tallur | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | | Yargatti | .. | (a) | .... | (c) | .... |
| | Gokak | Kowjalgi | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | | Bettigeri | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | | Maldinni | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | | Hirepandi | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | | Shindikurbat | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | Athni | Adhalli | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |

Appendices

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|---------|------------|---------------|---------------|----|------|------|------|------|
| | " | .. | Bedag | .. | .. | (a) | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | .. | Bellanki | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | .. | Saptasagar | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | Chikodi | .. | Ankali | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | .. | Bedkihal | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | .. | Chandur | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | .. | Kallol | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | .. | Kamatnabhatti | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | .. | Nej | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | .. | Mankapur | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | .. | Shahapur | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | .. | Yadur | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | Hukeri | .. | Ammangi | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | .. | Kamatnur | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | .. | Nerlee | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | .. | Sanakeshwar | .. | .. | (a) | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | .. | Yallmanoli | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | .. | Yadgud | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | .. | Nidsoi | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| Bijapur | .. | Bagalkot | .. | Bilkerur | .. | .. | .... | (c) | .... |
| | .. | Badami | .. | Dhamak Shirur | .. | .. | .... | (c) | .... |
| | .. | Sindgi | .. | Gbuttargi | .. | .. | .... | (c) | .... |
| | .. | Muddebihal | .. | Amargoal | .. | .. | .... | (c) | .... |
| | .. | " | .. | Talkot | .. | .. | (a) | .... | (c) |

APPENDIX 40—contd.

1558

| District. | Taluka. | Village. | Inam villages in which the Village Panchayat Act has been introduced. | Inam villages in which city survey has been introduced. | Inam villages in which co-operative credit societies have been established. | Villages which were jaidid inams and which have been summarily settled with the inamdar's consent and made kadim. | Remarks. |
|--------------------------|---------|----------------|---|---|---|---|----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| <i>Central Division.</i> | | | | | | | |
| Ahmednagar | Nevasa | Ghodegaon | (a) | .... | (c) | Information on the point is not available and there are no jaidid inams converted into kadim after the preparation of the Land Alienation Register in 1886. | |
| | | Usthal | .... | .... | (c) | | |
| | | Miri | (a) | .... | (c) | | |
| | | Shingwe Keshav | .... | .... | (c) | | |
| | | Karajgam | .... | .... | (c) | | |
| | | Newasa Budruk | .... | .... | (c) | | |
| | | Pravara Sangam | (a) | .... | .... |  |  |
| | | Shevgaon | .... | .... | (c) | | |
| | | " " | (a) | .... | .... |  |  |
| | | Itahuri | .... | .... | (c) |  | .... |
| | | Kopergaon | .... | .... | (c) |  | .... |
| | | Akola | .... | .... | (c) |  | .... |
| | | Karjat | .... | .... | .... |  | .... |
| | | " " | (a) | .... | .... |  | .... |
| | | Nagar | .... | .... | (a) |  | .... |
| | | " " | (a) | .... | .... | .... |  |
| | | " " | (a) | .... | .... | .... |  |

Appendices

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|-----------|--------------------------|----|------|------|------|------|------|
| East Khandesh .. | Tarner | Alkuti | .. | .. | (a) | .... | .... | .... |
| | Bhusaval | Bhusaval | .. | .. | .... | (b) | .... | .... |
| | Parola | Vichkhede | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | Pachora | Nagardevia | .. | .. | (a) | .... | .... | .... |
| | " | Nagar Deole Budruk Digar | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | Varkhedl Budruk | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | Wal | Dahyat | .. | .. | .... | .... | (a) | .... |
| | Koregaon | Shirambe | .. | .. | .... | .... | (a) | .... |
| | " | Shirdhon | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | Khanapur | Tadsar | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | Walwa | Islampur | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | Khed-turf Walwa | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | Bagni | .. | .. | (a) | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | Karve | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | Bahe | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | Vashi | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | Surul | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | Nagnon | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | Ozarde | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| | " | Chfkurdl | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |
| " | Shirala | .. | .. | (a) | .... | .... | .... |  |
| Shirala (Peta) | Ingrul | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| " | Karmala | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| " | Natoli | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |
| " | Pachumbri | .. | .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |

APPENDIX 40—contd.

| District. | Taluka. | Village. | Inam villages in which the Village Panchayat Act has been introduced. | Inam villages in which city survey has been introduced. | Inam villages in which co-operative credit societies have been established. | Villages which were jaid inams and which have been summarily settled with the inamdar's consent and made kadim. | Remarks. | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|---|---|---|---|----------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | |
| | | <i>Central Division—contd.</i> | | | | | | |
| East Khandesh— <i>concd.</i> | Shirala (Peta) | .. Mangali .. .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |  |
| | .. | .. Kapri .. .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |  |
| | Tasgaon | .. Chikhalgaothan .. .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |  |
| | .. | .. Kalmbi .. .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |  |
| | .. | .. Gundewadi .. .. | .... | .... | (c) | .... |  |  |
| | | <i>Bombay Suburban Division.</i> | | | | | | |
| Bombay Suburban District. | Salsette | .. Malad .. .. | .... | (b) | .... | .... |  |  |

Note.—(a) Denotes the villages in which the Village Panchayat Act has been introduced.

(b) Denotes the villages in which city survey has been introduced.

(c) Denotes the villages in which co-operative credit societies have been established.

(d) Denotes the villages which were jaid inams and which have been summarily settled with the inamdar's consent and made kadim.

APPENDIX 41.

APPENDIX 41.

Statement showing names of contractors and firms, etc., to whom contracts of the value of Rs. 25,000 and above have been given in connection with the Lloyd Barrage and Canals Construction Scheme.

| Name of Contractor or Firm. | Amount of contract. | Name of work. | Date of contract. | Date of expiry of contract. | By whom given. | Amount of deposit taken. |
|---|---------------------|---|-------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| | Rs. | | | | | |
| 1. Mr. Allahbux Haji Mahomed Umar. | 33,558 | Constructing buildings at mile 20 of the Khirtar Branch. | 3 Jan. 24 | 17 Oct. 24 | Superintending Engineer, North Western Circle. | Cash Rs. 1,700 <i>plus</i> deduction from bills at 5 per cent. |
| 2. Mr. Kishenchand Mehtar. | 42,807 | Constructing buildings at Garhi Yasin. | 3 Jan. 24 | 2 Dec. 24 | Do. .. | Cash Rs. 2,200 <i>plus</i> deduction from bills at 5 per cent. |
| 3. Mr. Kishenchand Mehtar. | 60,962 | Constructing buildings at Shahdad kot. | 3 Jan. 24 | 2 Sept. 24 | Do. .. | Cash Rs. 3,250 <i>plus</i> deduction from bills at 5 per cent. |
| 4. Messrs. Gopaldas and Ladharam. | 43,050 | Supplying burnt bricks. | 3 Dec. 23 | 1 June 24 | Superintending Engineer, Lloyd Barrage Circle. | Cash Rs. 2,300. |
| 5. Messrs. Ratansingh Deomal and Kundandas. | 1,00,000 | Supplying stone at Barrage Township. | 27 Nov. 23 | 27 July 24 | Do. .. | Cash Rs. 3,000 <i>plus</i> deduction from bills at 5 per cent. |
| 6. Messrs. Ardesar and Company. | 25,000 | Supplying pitching stone and cleaning overburden from Quarries. | 29 Dec. 23 | 29 May 24 | Do. .. | Cash Rs. 1,000 <i>plus</i> deduction from bills at 5 per cent. |
| 7. Messrs. The Tata Construction Company, Limited | 3,15,000 | Constructing bungalows in the Barrage Township, Sukkur. | 24 Mar. 24 | 23 Mar. 25 | Chief Engineer, Lloyd Barrage and Canals Construction. | Rs. 29,000 in Government Promissory Notes. |

| | | | | | | | |
|--|----------|--|------------|------------|--|--|------------|
| 8. Messrs. The Tata Construction Company, Limited. | 2,47,000 | Constructing Establishment and Menial quarters in Barrage Township, Sukkur. | Do. | Do. | Do. | Do. | |
| 9. Mr. Hassanand Hotchand. | 41,500 | Constructing 1st class Inspection bungalow and other buildings at Dadu. | 28 July 24 | 27 Jan. 25 | Superintending Engineer, Western Circle. | Cash Rs. 1,660 deduction from at 6 per cent. | plus bills |
| 10. Mr. Bulchand Chandiram. | 36,064 | Constructing 1st class Inspection Bungalow with subsidiary buildings at Tando Allahyar. | 28 Aug. 24 | 27 Aug. 25 | Superintending Engineer, Rohri Canal Circle. | Cash Rs. 720 deduction from at 3 per cent. | plus bills |
| 11. Mr. Menghraj H. Gidwani. | 33,248 | Constructing 1st class Inspection Bungalow with subsidiary buildings at Shahadadpur. | 20 Aug. 24 | 7 Sept. 25 | Do. | Cash Rs. 700 deduction from at 3 per cent. | plus bills |
| 12. Mr. Menghraj H. Gidwani. | 26,067 | Constructing 2nd class Inspection Bungalow out-office and Subordinates Rest House at Bulgai. | 14 Mar. 24 | 7 Jan. 25 | Do. | Cash Rs. 579 deduction from at 3 per cent. | plus bills |
| 13. Mr. Hundraj Thadharam. | 26,216 | Constructing 1st class Inspection Bungalow with subsidiary buildings at Sakrand. | 29 Aug. 24 | 28 June 25 | Do. | Cash Rs. 525 deduction from at 3 per cent. | plus bills |

Appendices

APPENDIX 42.

Statement regarding transit loss of spirit in consignments despatched from the Nasik Distillery to the Warehouses in the Kolaba District.

| Serial No. | Name of warehouse. | Year. | Spirit lost in transit. | Amount of cost price of spirit* lost in transit. | Amount of freight charges on spirit lost in transit. |
|------------|--------------------|---------|-------------------------|--|--|
| | | | Proof gallons. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. |
| 1 | Panwel† .. | 1922-23 | 26·6 | 32 15 7 | 2 6 0 |
| 2 | Panwel .. | 1923-24 | 748·4 | 927 11 3 | 73 14 0 |
| 3 | Panwel .. | 1924-25 | 394·1 | 488 8 4 | 43 9 0 |
| 4 | Mahad .. | 1923-24 | 114·5 | 141 14 11 | 10 13 0 |
| 5 | Mahad .. | 1924-25 | 31·1 | 38 8 10 | 4 15 0 |
| 6 | Pen .. | 1923-24 | 572·4 | 709 8 7 | 64 2 0 |
| 7 | Pen .. | 1924-25 | 616 5 | 764 5 3 | 77 14 0 |
| | Total .. | | 2,503·6 | 3,103 0 9 | 277 9 0 |

*There is no loss of still-head duty on the spirit lost in transit, as the duty is recovered at the time the spirit is issued from the warehouse.

†The Panwel warehouse was supplied from the Nasik Distillery from 1922-23 and the Pen and Mahad warehouses from 1923-24.

APPENDIX 43.

List of roads crossing the Northern Frontier Line in the Dholka Taluka showing the distance between different gateways placed on the Line.

There are five beats on the Southern Section of the Northern Frontier Line, out of which two, viz., Sial and Gundi, are situated in the Dholka Taluka. The number of roads in each of these two beats together with the number of gates located thereat with the distance between each gate or road is as follows:—

*Sial Beat.**(a) Roads.*

1. Dharji Meni Road.
2. Dharji Vanalia Road.
3. Dharji Devthal Road.
4. Vanthal Nall Road.
5. Sandhida Nall Road.
6. Sandhida Sial Road.
7. Dumali Nall and Sankhnera Road.
8. Sial Dharji Road.
9. Sial Sankhnera Road.
10. Sial to Velji and Mithapur Road.
11. Sial to fields of Sial.

12. Bagodra Mithapur Road.
13. Bagodra Balol Road.
14. Bagodra to fields of Bagodra.

(b) *Gates.*

There are six gates on the Sial Beat on the following roads :—

1. Sial to Sankhnera.
2. Sial to Velji Mithapur.
3. Sial to fields of Sial.
4. Bagodra to Mithapur.
5. Bagodra to Balol.
6. Bagodra to fields of Bagodra.

The remaining 8 roads are open as hedge does not grow on this portion of the Line, the land being salt marsh.

(c) *Distance.*

- Between 1st and 2nd $\frac{1}{2}$ mile.
 Between 2nd and 3rd $\frac{3}{4}$ mile.
 Between 3rd and 4th 3 miles.
 Between 4th and 5th $\frac{1}{2}$ mile.
 Between 5th and 6th $\frac{3}{4}$ mile.

Gundi Beat.(a) *Roads.*

1. Dholka-Limbdi *via* Bagodra and Koth (Kanakpura Road).
2. Koth to Mithapur *via* Dhingda.
3. Dholka to Balol *via* Koth and Bhurki *via* Dhingda.
4. Dholka to Dhandhuka *via* Lolla and Fedra.
5. Dholka to Dhandhuka *via* Utelia and Lolla.
6. Dholka to Dhandhuka *via* Utelia.
7. Boru to Fedra *via* Utelia.
8. Dholka to Dhandhuka *via* Samani near Sragvala.
9. Dholka to Dhandhuka *via* Dhanala and Fedra near Bholad.
10. Dholka-Dhollera Road *via* Varna and Moti Boru near Napania.

(b) *Gates.*

All the above roads are open except that at No. 1, *viz.*, Dholka-Limbdi Road. The gate is known as Kanakpura Road gate.

(c) *Distance.*

- Between 1st and 2nd $\frac{3}{4}$ mile.
 Between 2nd and 3rd 1 mile.
 Between 3rd and 4th 2 miles.
 Between 4th and 5th $\frac{3}{4}$ mile.
 Between 5th and 6th $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles.
 Between 6th and 7th 2 miles.
 Between 7th and 8th 1 mile.
 Between 8th and 9th 1 mile.
 Between 9th and 10th 2 miles.

Points of restriction.

Day and night sentries are maintained at important roads crossing the Northern Frontier Line. Passenger and wheeled traffic is allowed to cross the Line after search is made by the sentry on duty. Gates are kept open throughout the day, while they are closed at night; but a portion of the Line being open there is nothing to prevent the public from crossing it at night.

APPENDIX 44.

Statement referred to in the reply to Question No. 1 put by Mr. H. D. Saheba.

| Name of Division. | Number of vacancies during the last 3 years. | Number filled by acting men. |
|---------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Bombay Division | 10 | 8 |
| Central Division | 11 | 10 |
| Northern Division | 6 | 4 |
| Southern Division | 7 | 5 |
| Sind | 3 | 1 |
| Total .. | 37 | 28 |

APPENDIX 45.

Statement showing the length of service of discharged Registration karkuns of the Satara District.

| Name. | Date of entry into Government service. | Date of discharge. |
|----------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| 1. Mr. G. B. Avagal | 27 Nov. 04 | 1 July 24 |
| 2. Mr. K. R. Dhawalikar | 1 Nov. 07 | 1 July 24 |
| 3. Mr. H. K. Kulkarni | 1 Nov. 07 | 1 July 24 |
| 4. Mr. V. K. Vaidya | 1 Nov. 07 | 1 July 24 |
| 5. Mr. Y. R. Shiwade | 1 Nov. 07 | 1 July 24 |
| 6. Mr. K. L. Phatak | 1 March 09 | 1 July 24 |
| 7. Mr. Y. R. Vanjari | 27 Sept. 19 | 1 July 24 |
| 8. Mr. V. B. Arawindekar | 1 Nov. 19 | 1 June 24 |
| 9. Mr. P. A. Karkhanis | 22 Dec. 23 | 1 June 24 |
| *10. Mr. V. D. Kulkarni | 1 June 17 | 1 June 24 |

* No. 10 is engaged as Photo Registrar after his discharge.

APPENDIX 46.

A.—Statement showing annual expenses incurred on maintaining the Resident Magistrate's Court at Matli for each of the last three years of its existence and those incurred on travelling allowance of witnesses attending the Mukhtiarkars' Courts during the same period.

| Year. | Resident Magistrate, Matli. | Mukhtiarkars of the Divisions. | | | | | Grand Total. |
|---------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|
| | | Guni. | Badin. | Tando Bago. | Dero Mahbat. | Total. | |
| | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. |
| 1920-21 | 3,264 12 11 | 8 0 0 | 109 14 0 | 1 2 0 | .. | 119 0 0 | 3,383 12 11 |
| 1921-22 | 4,956 7 10 | .. | 141 10 0 | .. | .. | 141 10 0 | 5,098 1 10 |
| 1922-23 | *3,111 15 0 | .. | 88 5 0 | 17 0 0 | .. | 105 5 0 | 3,217 4 0 |

* The court was closed on 16th December 1922. So figures for 1922-23 relate to 8½ months only.

B.—Statement showing annual expenses on bhatta and travelling expenses and petty supplies since the abolition of the Resident Magistrate's Court at Matli.

| Year. | Travelling allowance, etc., to witnesses attending courts of— | | | | | Total. |
|----------|---|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|
| | Sub-Judge, Tando. | Mukhtiar-kar, Guni. | Mukhtiar-kar, Badin. | Mukhtiar-kar, Tando Bago. | Mukhtiar-kar, Dero Mahbat. | |
| | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | | Rs. a. p. |
| †1922-23 | 2 2 0 | 19 12 0 | .... | .... | .... | 21 14 0 |
| 1923-24 | 80 8 0 | 115 14 0 | 18 8 0 | 16 14 0 | .... | 231 12 0 |
| ‡1924-25 | 233 1 1 | 72 2 0 | 5 12 0 | 39 6 0 | .... | 350 5 1 |

† The information for 1922-23 is from 16th December 1922, i.e., the date from which Resident Magistrate's Court was abolished.

‡ The information for 1924-25 is from 1st April 1924.

o

Statement showing information regarding the

| Name of the Village Panchayat, Taluka, etc., with date of establishment. | Whether there was a Sanitary Committee before the establishment of village panchayats. |
|---|---|
| <i>Alibag Taluka.</i> | |
| 1. Poyanad Ambepur, 6th Dec. 1922 | Sanitary Committee. |
| 2. Kusumble group do. | No. |
| 3. Chikhali group do. | No. |
| 4. Shahapur do. | No. |
| <i>Roha Taluka.</i> | |
| 5. Medhe December 1922 | Sanitary Committee. |
| 6. Chanere do. | Do. |
| 7. Kolad do. | Do. |
| 8. Ghosale do. | No. |
| 9. Nagothna do. | Sanitary Committee. |
| <i>Mahad Taluka.</i> | |
| 10. Poladpur, 17th Dec. 1922 | Do. |
| 11. Nate do. | Do. |
| <i>Panvel Taluka.</i> | |
| 12. Sai, 29th Dec. 1922 | Do. |
| 13. Apte do. | Do. |
| <i>Karjat Taluka.</i> | |
| 14. Karjat, 2nd Dec. 1922 | No. |
| 15. Dahivli do. | Sanitary Committee. |
| <i>Khalapur Peta of the Karjat Taluka.</i> | |
| 16. Khalapur, 16th Dec. 1922 | Do. |
| 17. Khopoli do. | Do. |
| 18. Chowk do. | Do. |

47.

Village Panchayats in the Kolaba District.

| Yearly grants made to the Sanitary Committee by | | Grants made to the Village Panchayat in 1923-24 by | | Grants made to the Village Panchayats in 1924-25 by | |
|---|-----------------------|--|-----------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Government. | District Local Board. | Government. | District Local Board. | Government. | District Local Board. |
| Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. |
| 26 13 7 | 35 12 10 | Nil. | Nil | Nil. | Nil. |
| Nil. | Nil. | " | " | " | " |
| " | " | " | " | " | " |
| " | " | " | " | " | " |
| 54 13 3 | 73 1 7 | " | 91 4 6 | " | " |
| 41 8 10 | 45 6 5 | " | 25 3 11 | " | " |
| 35 4 0 | 47 0 0 | " | Nil. | " | " |
| Nil. | Nil. | " | " | " | " |
| 94 0 10 | 125 6 5 | " | " | " | " |
| 53 11 2 | 71 9 8 | " | " | " | 131 7 7 |
| 49 8 0 | 66 0 0 | " | 183 12 11 | " | Nil. |
| 88 2 0 | 117 8 0 | " | 183 12 11 | " | " |
| 35 1 7 | 46 12 10 | " | 183 12 11 | " | " |
| Nil. | Nil. | " | Nil. | " | " |
| 34 3 2 | 45 9 8 | " | " | " | " |
| 0 14 5 | 1 3 3 | " | 118 4 6 | " | 120 0 0 |
| 80 1 7 | 106 12 19 | " | 98 3 0 | " | 97 12 0 |
| 29 13 7 | 39 12 10 | " | Nil. | " | 180 8 5 |

APPENDIX

STATEMENT A.—Showing approximate expenditure
out on 45th mile left bank

| Name of Distributary. | Years. | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1916-17 | | | 1917-18 | | | 1918-19 | | | 1919-20 | | |
| | Reduction of sluices. Silt clearance. Other improvements. | Reduction of sluices. Silt clearance. Other improvements. | Reduction of sluices. Silt clearance. Other improvements. | Reduction of sluices. Silt clearance. Other improvements. | Reduction of sluices. Silt clearance. Other improvements. | Reduction of sluices. Silt clearance. Other improvements. | Reduction of sluices. Silt clearance. Other improvements. | Reduction of sluices. Silt clearance. Other improvements. | Reduction of sluices. Silt clearance. Other improvements. | Reduction of sluices. Silt clearance. Other improvements. | Reduction of sluices. Silt clearance. Other improvements. | Reduction of sluices. Silt clearance. Other improvements. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 4th Mile Left Bank Distribu- tary Mithrao Canal. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1,344 | .. | .. | .. | .. |

48.

*incurred on reduction and other improvements carried
Distributary since its construction.*

| Years. | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1920-21 | | | 1921-22 | | | 1922-23 | | | 1923-24 | | |
| Reduction of sluices. | Silt clearance. | Other improvements. | Reduction of sluices. | Silt clearance. | Other improvements. | Reduction of sluices. | Silt clearance. | Other improvements. | Reduction of sluices. | Silt clearance. | Other improvements. |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| .. | 2,179 | .. | .. | 2,142 | .. | .. | 2,000 | .. | 745 | 6,975 | .. |

APPENDIX 48—*contd.*

STATEMENT B.

Showing designed and observed discharges, length of canal, Gauge Readings, etc., before and after reduction of karias of 45th mile Left Bank Distributary in year 1924.

| Year. | Length of canal. | Designed discharge in cusecs. | Actual discharge in cusecs. | Gauge readings at | | | | Portion in which water was deficient. |
|-------|------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------------|--|
| | | | | Head. | 4th mile. | 7th mile. | Tail. | |
| 1923 | 10—7 | 206 | 210 | 45th 4.5 | mile 3.9 | distrib 2.7 | utary. <i>Nil.</i> | Deficiency was felt in portion 17/18 to 10/17 for a discharge of 60 cusecs. Worked right up to tail.* |
| 1924 | 10—7 | 206 | 240 | 4.5 | 5.3 | 5.4 | 5.0 | |

* Early in year 1924 regrading of 45th mile Left Bank Distributary was carried out.

APPENDIX 49.

Statement showing the anna valuation of principal crops in Khatav, Man, Khanapur and Tasgaon Talukas during the last 10 years ending 31st July 1924.

| Name of the Taluka. | Names of principal crops. | | | | | Cotton. |
|----------------------|---------------------------|--------|---------|--------|------------------|---------|
| | Wheat. | Jwari. | Bajari. | Gram. | Ground nut. | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| <i>Year 1914-15.</i> | | | | | | |
| Khatav .. | 8 | 9 | 9 | 7 | } Not available. | |
| Man .. | 8 | 10 | 10 | 9 | | |
| Khanapur .. | 8 | 10 | 7 | 6 | | |
| Tasgaon .. | 8 | 12 | 8 | 10 | | |
| <i>1915-16.</i> | | | | | | |
| Khatav .. | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 11 | 3 |
| Man .. | 11 | 10 | 10 | 11 | 10 | 4 |
| Khanapur .. | 12 | 12 | 8 | 12 | 12 | 7 |
| Tasgaon .. | 8 | 12 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 8 |
| <i>1916-17.</i> | | | | | | |
| Khatav .. | 11 | 11 | 10 | 10 | 10 | .. |
| Man .. | 10 | 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 5 |
| Khanapur .. | 10 | 10 | 8 | 10 | 9 | 6 |
| Tasgaon .. | 6 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 4 |
| <i>1917-18.</i> | | | | | | |
| Khatav .. | 12 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 5 | .. |
| Man .. | 8 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 5 | .. |
| Khanapur .. | 10 | 10 | 6 | 12 | 10 | .. |
| Tasgaon .. | 6 | 6 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 8 |
| <i>1918-19.</i> | | | | | | |
| Khatav .. | 2 to 4 | 3 to 6 | 3 to 6 | 2 to 4 | 2 to 4 | .. |
| Man .. | 3 to 6 | 3 to 6 | 3 to 6 | 3 to 5 | 3 to 5 | .. |
| Khanapur .. | 4 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 5 | .. |
| Tasgaon .. | 2 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 4 | .. |
| <i>1919-20.</i> | | | | | | |
| Khatav .. | 7 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 7 | .. |
| Man .. | 6 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 5 | .. |
| Khanapur .. | 9 | 8 | 10 | 8 | 8 | .. |
| Tasgaon .. | 10 | 9 | 8 | 10 | 4 | 8 |

APPENDIX 49—contd.

| Name of the Taluka. | Names of principal crops. | | | | | Cotton. |
|---------------------|---------------------------|--------|----------------------|--------|-------------|---------|
| | Wheat. | Jwari. | Bajari. | Gram. | Ground nut. | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| | | | <i>Year</i> 1920-21. | | | |
| Khatav .. | 4 to 6 | 4 to 6 | 4 to 6 | 3 to 4 | 3 to 5 | .. |
| Man .. | 4 to 6 | 4 to 7 | 3 to 6 | 2 to 5 | 4 to 5 | .. |
| Khanapur .. | 2 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 4 | .. |
| Tasgaon .. | 3 | 3 | .... | 6 | 3 | .. |
| | | | 1921-22. | | | |
| Khatav .. | 6 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 7 | .. |
| Man .. | 8 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 8 | .. |
| Khanapur .. | 6 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | .. |
| Tasgaon .. | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 7 |
| | | | 1922-23. | | | |
| Khatav .. | 6 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 6 | .. |
| Man .. | 6 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | .. |
| Khanapur .. | 9 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 8 | .. |
| Tasgaon .. | 6 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 8 | 6 |
| | | | 1923-24. | | | |
| Khatav .. | 4 to 6 | 4 to 8 | 4 to 8 | 4 to 6 | 4 to 8 | .. |
| Man .. | 2 to 6 | 2 to 6 | 1 to 6 | 1 to 4 | 1 to 4 | .. |
| Khanapur .. | 2 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 3 | .. |
| Tasgaon .. | .... | 1 | 3 | .. | 3 | 2 |

APPENDIX 50.

Statement of District Local Boards' Grants to Village Panchayats in the Poona and Kolaba Districts for the years 1922-23 and 1923-24.

| Name of Panchayat. | Grant in the form of Book, etc., supplied to village Panchayats. | District Local Board grant. | | Total. |
|------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|-----------|------------|
| | | 1922-23. | 1923-24. | |
| <i>Poona District.</i> | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. |
| 1. Ghoda .. | 36 13 0 | 76 10 0 | 76 8 0 | 189 15 0 |
| 2. Dhond .. | 146 14 9 | 8 7 0 | 6 4 0 | 161 9 9 |
| 3. Paud .. | 23 8 9 | 18 13 0 | 18 12 0 | 61 1 9 |
| 4. Vadgaon .. | 26 2 3 | 18 15 0 | 18 15 0 | 64 0 3 |
| 5. Bhigwan .. | 102 13 9 | 0 10 0 | 17 6 0 | 120 13 9 |
| 6. Hadapsar .. | 95 5 9 | 68 13 0 | 69 3 0 | 233 5 9 |
| 7. Manchar .. | 20 12 6 | 78 0 0 | 78 14 0 | 177 10 6 |
| 8. Dehu .. | 31 3 3 | .... | 47 14 0 | 79 1 3 |
| 9. Khed .. | 56 15 9 | 122 15 0 | 122 12 0 | 302 10 9 |
| 10. Chinchwad .. | 113 1 3 | 35 12 0 | 35 12 0 | 184 9 3 |
| 11. Mundhwa .. | 22 3 3 | 36 5 0 | 33 14 0 | 92 6 3 |
| 12. Narayangaon .. | 27 5 0 | 117 7 0 | 116 6 0 | 261 2 0 |
| 13. Talegaon Dhamdhere .. | 94 6 6 | 40 12 0 | 131 1 0 | 266 3 6 |
| 14. Aundh .. | } 34 12 0 | { | 21 4 0 | 56 0 3 |
| 15. Bopodi .. | | | 22 15 0 | 22 15 0 |
| 16. Malegaon (Bk.) .. | 15 1 3 | 77 10 0 | .... | 92 11 3 |
| 17. Belha .. | 25 3 9 | 298 6 0 | .... | 323 9 9 |
| Total .. | 872 11 0 | 999 7 0 | 817 12 0 | 2,689 14 0 |
| <i>Kolaba District.*</i> | | | | |
| Medhe .. | .... | .... | 91 4 6 | 91 4 6 |
| Chanera .. | .... | .... | 25 3 11 | 25 3 11 |
| Nate .. | .... | .... | 183 12 11 | 183 12 11 |
| Khopoli .. | .... | .... | 98 3 0 | 98 3 0 |
| Khalapur .. | .... | .... | 118 4 6 | 118 4 6 |
| Total .. | .... | .... | 516 12 10 | 516 12 10 |

* Note.—No grants were made to other Village Panchayats of this District.

APPENDIX 51.

Statement showing the total area of occupied assessed land held by Hindus and Mahomedans respectively in the years 1912-13 and 1923-24.

| Nams of District. | Total area of occupied assessed land. | | Total area of occupied assessed land held by Hindus. | | Total area of occupied assessed land held by Mahomedans. | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|--|-----------|--|-----------|
| | 1912-13. | 1923-24. | 1912-13. | 1923-24. | 1912-13. | 1923-24. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| | Acres. | Acres. | Acres. | Acres. | Acres. | Acres. |
| Karachi .. | 499,114 | 510,902 | 125,918 | 133,002 | 373,196 | 377,900 |
| Hyderabad .. | 1,090,746 | 1,064,377 | 266,018 | 286,737 | 824,728 | 777,640 |
| Nawabshah .. | 1,171,842 | 1,157,876 | 366,905 | 417,161 | 804,937 | 740,715 |
| Sukkur .. | 703,646 | 729,215 | 190,648 | 221,717 | 512,998 | 507,498 |
| Larkana .. | 1,118,125 | 1,159,791 | 299,240 | 330,276 | 818,885 | 829,515 |
| Thar Parkar .. | 1,961,343 | 2,115,898 | 736,729 | 852,287 | 1,224,614 | 1,263,611 |
| Upper Sind Frontier .. | 953,295 | 972,158 | 111,341 | 155,233 | 841,954 | 816,925 |
| Total .. | 7,498,111 | 7,710,217 | 2,096,799 | 2,396,413 | 5,401,312 | 5,313,804 |

APPENDIX 52.

Statement showing the number of school-going children belonging to the depressed classes in Kanara and the amount spent by Government on their education during the years 1921-22 to 1923-24.

| Year. | | | No. of children studying in schools. | Amount spent on education. |
|---------|----|----|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | | | Rs. |
| 1921-22 | .. | .. | 302 | 7,068 |
| 1922-23 | .. | .. | 306 | 6,483 |
| 1923-24 | .. | .. | 324 | 7,571 |

1577

APPENDIX 55.

APPENDIX

| Serial No. | Name of District. | Names of villages at which the Ayurvedic Dispensaries have been opened since October 1921 by the | |
|------------|---------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| | | Local Board. | Municipality. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1 | Ahmednagar | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> |
| 2 | Nasik | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> |
| 3 | Satara | 1. Vaduj (Taluka Khatav). 2. Khandala (Taluka Wai). 3. Koregaon (Taluka Koregaon). 4. Khanapur (Taluka Khanapur). | <i>Nil.</i> |
| 4 | East Khandesh | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> |
| 5 | Poona | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> |
| 6 | Sholapur | <i>Nil.</i> | Pandharpur (Taluka Pandharpur). |
| 7 | West Khandesh | <i>Nil.</i> | Dhulia (Taluka Dhulia). |

55.

| Date of opening the dispensary. | Names of villages at which the Ayurvedic Dispensaries are intended to be opened in the year 1924-25 by the | | Remarks. |
|---|---|--|----------|
| | Local Board. | Municipality. | |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| .. | Kotul (Taluka Akola). Kharda (Peta Jamkhed). Suregaon (T a l u k a Kopargaon). Miri or Sonai (Taluka Newasa). Alkuti (Taluka Parner). Belapur (Taluka Rahuri). Kolhar (Taluka Rahuri). Ashvi (Taluka Sangam- ner). | <i>Nil.</i> | |
| .. | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> | |
| (1) 1st April 1922. (2) 1st August 1923. (3) 1st October 1923. (4) 1st April 1924. | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> | |
| .. | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> | |
| .. | <i>Nil.</i> | One or two dispensaries are to be opened in Poona City but the dates of their opening are not yet fixed. | |
| 1923 (exact date and month not reported by the Collector). | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> | |
| 1st January 1923. | The District Local Board has only resolved to open Ayurvedic Dispen- saries but the places where they are to be opened have not yet been settled. | <i>Nil.</i> | |

Appendices
APPENDIX 56.

Statement.

| Taluka or Petha. | No. of cases. | Area forfeited in each case. | | | | |
|------------------|---------------|------------------------------|----|----|----|---|
| | | A. | g. | a. | | |
| Karwar | 2 | 13 | 37 | 1 | | |
| | | 3 | 17 | 0 | | |
| Ankola | 2 | 3 | 39 | 0 | | |
| | | 89 | 18 | 0 | | |
| Kumta | 1. | 14 | 2 | 0 | | |
| Siddapur | 10 | 0 | 18 | 10 | | |
| | | 1 | 27 | 6 | | |
| | | 4 | 21 | 0 | | |
| | | 5 | 6 | 0 | | |
| | | 6 | 7 | 0 | | |
| | | 4 | 16 | 0 | | |
| | | 0 | 5 | 8 | | |
| | | 5 | 36 | 5 | | |
| | | 1 | 19 | 10 | | |
| | | 0 | 20 | 0 | | |
| | | Sirsi | 11 | 35 | 29 | 0 |
| | | | | 21 | 15 | 0 |
| | | | | 0 | 2 | 4 |
| 12 | 3 | | | 0 | | |
| 1 | 35 | | | 0 | | |
| 11 | 0 | | | 0 | | |
| 6 | 7 | | | 0 | | |
| 2 | 13 | | | 0 | | |
| 37 | 30 | | | 0 | | |
| 13 | 17 | | | 0 | | |
| 5 | 24 | | | 0 | | |
| Yellapur | 2 | | | 12 | 18 | 0 |
| | | | | 2 | 25 | 0 |
| Mundgod | 33 | 25 | 21 | 0 | | |
| | | 6 | 38 | 0 | | |
| | | 6 | 21 | 0 | | |
| | | 8 | 7 | 0 | | |
| | | 7 | 24 | 0 | | |
| | | 0 | 25 | 0 | | |
| | | 52 | 2 | 0 | | |
| | | 40 | 38 | 0 | | |
| | | 7 | 3 | 0 | | |
| | | 15 | 35 | 0 | | |
| | | 8 | 25 | 0 | | |
| | | 5 | 39 | 0 | | |
| | | 7 | 14 | 0 | | |
| | | 8 | 16 | 0 | | |
| | | 6 | 7 | 0 | | |
| | | 14 | 32 | 0 | | |
| | | 3 | 17 | 0 | | |
| | | 15 | 21 | 0 | | |
| | | 1 | 23 | 0 | | |
| | | 5 | 30 | 0 | | |
| 10 | 6 | 0 | | | | |
| 0 | 18 | 0 | | | | |
| 12 | 27 | 0 | | | | |
| 13 | 36 | 0 | | | | |
| 0 | 32 | 0 | | | | |
| 11 | 32 | 0 | | | | |
| 17 | 25 | 0 | | | | |

APPENDIX 56—contd.

| Taluka or Petha. | No. of cases. | Area forfeited in each case. | | |
|------------------|---------------|------------------------------|------|----|
| | | A. | g. | a. |
| Haliya | 11 | 3 | 32 | 0 |
| | | 11 | 31 | 0 |
| | | 2 | 14 | 0 |
| | | 11 | 10 | 0 |
| | | 2 | 21 | 0 |
| | | 4 | 25 | 0 |
| | | 2 | 6 | 0 |
| | | 21 | 28 | 0 |
| | | 21 | 28 | 0 |
| | | 11 | 19 | 0 |
| | | 10 | 5 | 0 |
| | | 14 | 1 | 0 |
| | | 14 | 1 | 0 |
| | | 7 | 28 | 0 |
| 10 | 27 | 0 | | |
| Supa | 20 | 3 | 9 | 0 |
| | | 27 | 8 | 0 |
| | | 9 | 34 | 0 |
| | | 7 | 36 | 0 |
| | | 20 | 11 | 0 |
| | | 9 | 19 | 0 |
| | | 8 | 10 | 0 |
| | | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 27 | 7 | 0 |
| | | 22 | 36 | 0 |
| | | 8 | 27 | 0 |
| | | 12 | 7 | 0 |
| | | 3 | 4 | 0 |
| | | 8 | 24 | 0 |
| 21 | 31 | 0 | | |
| Honawar | Nil. | 4 | 34 | 0 |
| | | 7 | 28 | 0 |
| | | 5 | 30 | 0 |
| | | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 15 | 28 | 0 |
| | | 3 | 16 | 0 |
| | | 17 | 31 | 0 |
| Bhatkal | Nil. | Nil. | Nil. | |

APPENDIX 57.

1582

Statement showing the inam lands resumed by Government for the participation of the holders in non Co-operation movement.

| Serial No. | Name of the Inamdar. | Name of the District and the Village. | Kind of Inam. | Area. | Assessment. | Remarks. | | |
|------------|------------------------------------|--|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|--|-------|---------|
| 1 | Rangrao Swawirao Tilgu. | <i>District Bijapur.</i> | | A. G. | Rs. s. p. | The share of the inamdar in the watan ^d lands held by his father was resumed by the levy of full assessment. | | |
| | | Chokavi, taluka Muddebihal .. | Pargana watan. | 1 32 | 1 2 8 | | | |
| | | Yatwar, taluka Bagewadi .. | Do. .. | 4 | 3 13 4 | Do. | | |
| | | <i>Dhar-war District, taluka Hangal.</i> | | | | | | |
| 2 | Narsingrao Shridivasrao Desai. | Kallapur .. | Pargana watan. | 201 4 | 202 8 0 | The resumption was effected by the levy of full assessment. | | |
| | | Balur .. | Do. | 202 20 1/2 | 399 0 0 | | | |
| | | Huvaneri .. | Do. | 3 4 | 35 13 0 | | | |
| | | Yattinbali Mahal Adur .. | Do. | 50 9 | 79 1 0 | | | |
| | | Jakoikankop .. | Do. | 19 31 | 27 14 0 | | | |
| | | Chik Hullal .. | Do. | 6 22 | 10 11 0 | | | |
| | | Hadargeri .. | Do. | 24 34 | 51 1 0 | | | |
| | | Basapur M. Adur .. | Do. | 33 12 | 12 4 0 | | | |
| | | | | | (1/3th Share) | | | |
| | | | | Alur .. | Do. | | 26 16 | 79 8 0 |
| | | | | Kalwaykallapur .. | Do. | | 11 14 | 31 11 0 |
| | | | | Naregal .. | Do. | | 27 35 | 91 8 0 |
| | | Obapur .. | Do. | 33 34 | 37 0 0 | | | |
| | | Dembal .. | Do. | 5 1 | 19 4 0 | | | |
| | | <i>Belgaum District.</i> | | | | | | |
| 3 | Vishvambhar Ram-chandra Deshpande. | Mavnur .. | Pargana watan. | 2 14 | 4 13 0 | Do. | | |
| | | Gumchinmardi .. | Do. .. | 3 27 | 7 2 0 | Do. | | |
| | | <i>Satara District.</i> | | | | | | |
| 4 | Shirpad Vishnu Pandit .. | Ruighar, taluka Javli .. | Personal inam. Do. | | 126 1 0 (Judl Rs. 50-8-7). | The village is joint inam held by several inamdars. Pandit's name is registered as chief dumaldar. He had no proprietary rights in the village but held 5/36th share of the land revenue, i.e., the assessment minus judl, by right of purchase. | | |

Appendices

APPENDIX 58.

Statement showing the position of town planning schemes

| Places whose local authorities have declared their intention to make a Town Planning Scheme. | The Date on which local authorities made the declaration. | Name of person appointed Arbitrator. |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| <i>Ahmedabad.</i> | | |
| Jamalpur, Ahmedabad, No. 1 .. | 18th Mar. 1918 .. | A. E. Mirams. |
| Kankaria, Ahmedabad, No. 2 .. | 21st Aug. 1924 .. | Not appointed. |
| Ellis Bridge, Ahmedabad, No. 3 .. | 5th June 1924 .. | Do. |
| Kankaria-Manipur, Ahmedabad, No. 4. | 14th April 1924 .. | Do. |
| City Wall Improvement Scheme, Ahmedabad, No. 5 .. | 6th Sept. 1923 .. | Do. |
| <i>Poona City.</i> | | |
| Poona, No. 1 .. | 12th Dec. 1916 .. | A. E. Mirams. |
| | 21st July 1917 .. | Do. |
| Poona, No. 2 .. | 17th July 1919 .. | Not appointed. |
| <i>Poona Suburban.</i> | | |
| T. P. Scheme, No. 1 .. | 3rd Sept. 1917 .. | A. E. Mirams. |
| T. P. Scheme, No. 2 .. | 29th Sept. 1921 .. | Do. |
| T. P. Scheme, No. 3 .. | 15th July 1922 .. | Not appointed. |
| <i>Panchgani.</i> | | |
| T. P. Scheme, No. 1 .. | 10th April 1918 .. | A. E. Mirams. |
| T. P. Scheme, No. 2 .. | 6th Sept. 1921 .. | Do. |
| T. P. Scheme, No. 3 .. | 26th Sept. 1922 .. | Do. |
| Bagalkot .. | 4th Dec. 1919 .. | Do. |
| Amalner .. | 18th July 1920 .. | Do. |
| Shikarpur .. | 16th July 1920 .. | T. H. G. Stamper. |
| Dhulia .. | 29th Jan. 1925 .. | Not appointed. |
| Dharwar .. | 15th July 1922 .. | A. E. Mirams. |
| Tatta .. | 21st Nov. 1918 .. | G. R. Desai. |
| Miran Pir (Lyari Quarter) .. | 31st Jan. 1923 .. | Not appointed. |
| Miran Pir (Garden Quarter) .. | 25th Jan. 1922 .. | Do. |
| Soldier Bazar Quarter .. | 15th Dec. 1924 .. | Do. |
| Ahmednagar .. | 4th June 1919 .. | A. E. Mirams. |
| Nasik .. | 25th Dec. 1923 .. | Not appointed. |

58.

(excepting those in the Bombay Suburban District).

| <p>Place and date on which Town Planning Scheme has been made final.</p> <p>4</p> | <p>Remarks.</p> <p>5</p> |
|---|---|
| <p>22nd Jan. 1923 ..</p> | <p>Final Scheme is in print at the Press.</p> <p>Draft Schemes are in course of preparation.</p> <p>Void <i>ab initio</i>, to be started <i>de novo</i>.</p> <p>Arbitration proceedings of a portion completed.</p> <p>The sanction to scheme refused.</p> <p>Award is being drawn up. Arbitration proceedings still to be held. Scheme awaiting Government sanction and appointment of Arbitrator.</p> <p>Final Scheme sanctioned. Final copies are under-print. Scheme sanctioned and Arbitrator appointed. <i>Bombay Government Gazette</i>, dated 12th February 1925. Award published. Arbitration proceedings completed and award is being drawn up. Award published and final scheme being drawn up. Fresh declaration published in <i>Bombay Government Gazette</i>, dated 12th February 1925. Arbitration proceedings completed. Award is being drawn up. Award published in <i>Bombay Government Gazette</i>, dated 12th February 1925. Sanction to scheme refused.</p> <p>Declaration of intention published. Arbitration proceedings completed and award is being drawn up. Making of scheme sanctioned.</p> |

APPENDIX 59.

*List of villages affected by the floods in 1923 in the districts of
Dharwar and Kanara.*

DHARWAR DISTRICT.

Ranebenur Taluka.

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| 1. Chavadadanapur. | 5. Kotihal. |
| 2. Kudrihal. | 6. Hiladhalli |
| 3. Hirebidri. | 7. Udagatti. |
| 4. Maknur. | |

Karajgi Taluka.

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Harlhalli. | 5. Belvigi. |
| 2. Galagnath. | 6. Kordur. |
| 3. Kanchargatti. | 7. Karajgi. |
| 4. Havanur. | 8. Nirlgi. Mahal Guttal. |

Hangal Taluka.

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. Byatanhal. | 2. Lakamapur. |
|---------------|---------------|

Mundargi Petha.

- | |
|---------------|
| 1. Singtalur. |
|---------------|

KANARA DISTRICT.

Honavar Taluka.

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Haldipur. | 23. Mandalkurve. |
| 2. Madgeri. | 24. Hosad. |
| 3. Kadtoke. | 25. Nagarbastikeri. |
| 4. Kekkar. | 26. Upponi. |
| 5. Chandavar. | 27. Sarligi. |
| 6. Mallapur. | 28. Harangdi. |
| 7. Salkod. | 29. Kelgin-Mudkani. |
| 8. Hosakuli. | 30. Kerwalli. |
| 9. Navilgone. | 31. Jalwalli. |
| 10. Gundhala. | 32. Jalwalkarki. |
| 11. Kudrigi. | 33. Padukuli. |
| 12. Molkod. | 34. Hadinbal. |
| 13. Kelgin-Idgunji. | 35. Karva. |
| 14. Melin-Idgunji. | 36. Chikkankod. |
| 15. Heggur. | 37. Mutta. |
| 16. Balkur. | 38. Karki. |
| 17. Beranki. | 39. Pavinkurve. |
| 18. Kodani. | 40. Nagre. |
| 19. Magod. | 41. Mugve. |
| 20. Hinnur. | 42. Kulkod. |
| 21. Anilgod. | 43. Arolli-Mundgod. |
| 22. Mavinkurve. | |

APPENDIX 59—contd.

Kumta Taluka.

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. Gokarn. | 10. Divgi. |
| 2. Chitrigi. | 11. Konalli. |
| 3. Muroor. | 12. Kallabbe. |
| 4. Hegde. | 13. Karki-makki. |
| 5. Holegadde. | 14. Uppinpattan. |
| 6. Antravalli. | 15. Bhandival. |
| 7. Alkod. | 16. Shirgunji |
| 8. Urkeri. | 17. Malwalli. |
| 9. Talgod. | |

Supa Petha.

- | | |
|------------|----------|
| 1. Ambeli. | 2. Supa. |
|------------|----------|

APPENDIX 60.

| Year. | (a) Number of cattle in the town of Mungod. | (b) Number of cattle impound- ed by the Forest Department. | (c) Amount of fine levied by the pound- keeper. | (d) Amount of compensation recovered by the Forest Department. | (e) Number of prosecu- tions. | (f) Total amount of fine levied. |
|------------|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| | | | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | . | |
| 1921-22 .. | 856 | 78 | 35 12 0 | 18 4 0 | .... | .... |
| 1922-23 .. | 963 | 57 | 16 0 0 | 21 8 0 | .... | .... |
| 1923-24 .. | 999 | 27 | 6 4 0 | 15 12 0 | .... | .... |

APPENDIX 61.

| District. | Taluka, place. | Quantity of salt supplied (in Bengal maunds). | Number of purchasers. |
|--------------------------|----------------|---|-----------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1922-23. | | | |
| <i>Konkan Division.</i> | | | |
| Thana | Rai | 180 | 5 |
| " | Dadar | 50 | 1 |
| Kolaba | Shewa | 30 | 1 |
| " | Revdanda | 10 | 1 |
| Ratnagiri | Ratnagiri | 11 | 12 |
| " | Jaitapur | 12 | 4 |
| " | Malwan | 215 | 12 |
| " | Vengurla | 384 | 23 |
| North Kanara | Karwar | 33 | 27 |
| " | Honavar | 115 | 16 |
| | | 1,040 | 102 |
| 1923-24. | | | |
| <i>Konkan Division.</i> | | | |
| Thana | Maroli | 50 | 3 |
| " | Bassein | 16 | 7 |
| " | Rai | 50 | 11 |
| " | Trombay | 25 | |
| " | Bhandup | 60 | |
| " | Dadar | 40 | 3 |
| Kolaba | Shewa | 38 | 7 |
| " | Revdanda | 19 | 3 |
| Ratnagiri | Bankot | 50 | 2 |
| " | Dabhol | 25 | 3 |
| " | Ratnagiri | 139 | 20 |
| " | Jaitapur | 40 | 7 |
| " | Malwan | 145 | 28 |
| " | Vengurla | 1,142 | 42 |
| North Kanara | Karwar | 53 | 35 |
| " | Honavar | 131 | 69 |
| " | Sanikatta | 92 | 20 |
| <i>Gujarat Division.</i> | | | |
| Surat | Dharasna | 10 | 1 |
| " | Dharasna | 450½ | 18 |
| | | 2,575½ | 279 |

APPENDIX 63.

To,
The Editors,
"Times of India" and "Bombay Chronicle".

Sir,

I am sorry there should be any misapprehension as to my statement tendered in evidence on the 21st of November last to the Chairman of the Committee of Enquiry on the Reforms at Delhi as a Member of the Bombay Government.

The statement was my own statement prepared from my own information after a personal examination of the official records and was not submitted beforehand for opinion or perusal of any of the Ministers or other Executive Members. Indeed it would not have been practicable to have done so as the majority were at the time absent on tour out of Bombay.

Sir Chimanlal has courteously acknowledged in his statement published in your issue of to-day several of the inaccuracies in his evidence which it was my duty to point out. He has also dealt with several matters of interpretation and opinion. It is not my purpose further to pursue those questions as they have been included in the Enquiries of the Committee on the Reforms. It is my present purpose merely to explain that the statement published now upon receipt of the final proof of my evidence was my own statement tendered over a month ago in evidence to the Chairman of the Committee of Enquiry on the Reforms at Delhi as a Member of the Bombay Government. It was signed by me personally and not formally by a Secretary to Government and was not, and was not intended to be taken as, a formal pronouncement by the Bombay Government.

Yours truly,

(Signed) M. H. W. HAYWARD.

Secretariat, Bombay, December 24.

APPENDIX 64.

Letter from Mr. P. Lory, Director of Public Instruction, no. 96-D.
dated the 11th April 1924.

I have the honour to invite a reference to paragraph 2 of the Press Note, Educational Department, no. 206, dated the 19th February 1923, on the above subject, and to state that the Educational Inspectors were asked to report the names of schools managed by each Local Authority to which admission was refused to children of the depressed classes. They report as under :—

Educational Inspector, B.D.—No refusals or complaints regarding admissions of the children in question to any kind of schools in the Division have been reported except in the case of the following schools :—

| | | |
|-----------------|----|--|
| Kolaba District | .. | Local Board School, Nizampur. |
| Nasik District | .. | Local Board Schools at Nihal and Kalvan. |
| Thana District | .. | Local Board School, Nalla-Sopara (<i>vide</i> this office no. O—34-D, of 8th March 1924). |

The Deputy Educational Inspectors concerned have been instructed to explain the Government orders in the matter to the people of the above villages.

Educational Inspector, C.D.—No difficulty is reported to have been experienced in admitting the depressed class children except in a few cases where the Local Board Schools are held in temples. Objections are raised by the villages to seating such boys in the class among other boys. In such cases the boys are seated outside the temple with the consent of their parents. The Deputy Educational Inspectors have been instructed to provide other accommodation for such schools as early as possible, but it is reported that it is not always easy to find another building.

Educational Inspector, N.D.—In the following schools in the Surat District only people have protested against the seating of the depressed class children along with the other children in school buildings :—

| | | |
|-----------------|----|--|
| Olpad Taluka | .. | Saras, Sandhier, Karamla, Vihara, Gothan, Umra, Achharan, Madhar, and Mulad. |
| Chorasi Taluka | .. | Mohni, Mota Varachha and Bhatha. |
| Jalalpur Taluka | .. | Vachharvad, Moldhara and Un class (under Sisodra school). |

In dealing with the villagers the Deputy Educational Inspector and his assistants noticed that the very idea of their children touching the depressed class ones was shocking to them from a religious stand-point. In such cases it has been arranged to seat the depressed class children inside the school building but a little apart from the other children. In some cases the parents of the depressed class children preferred that their children should not sit alongside the other pupils. They were afraid that the higher caste parents would trouble them, and said they would only send their children to school if they were allowed to sit in

APPENDIX 64—*contd.*

the verandah or outside as before. Another difficulty experienced is that in the National Schools which are working side by side with the District Local Board schools the depressed class children are not allowed to sit along with the other children. In such villages the Deputy Educational Inspector has been instructed to exercise due tact. The Educational Inspector is of opinion that it will take time to overcome the longstanding prejudices of the higher castes.

Educational Inspector, S.D.—In the following schools admission was refused to children of the depressed classes on account of the schools being held in temples :—

| | | |
|------------------|----|----------------------|
| Dharwar District | .. | Ugginkari, Shivalli. |
| Bijapur District | .. | Khed. |
| Belgaum District | .. | Shunpali, Badkihal. |

Satisfactory arrangements have, however, since been made for the admission of depressed class children to these schools by providing sheds in some cases.

Educational Inspector in Sind.—In no school was admission refused to the children of the depressed classes except one Local Board school at Panwhar in the Sukkur District. The Hindu people of the village objected to sending their boys to the schools if the boys of the depressed classes were admitted to it. The Deputy Educational Inspector has instructed the headmaster to admit the depressed class boys to the school and to seat them at some distance from other boys in the class to avoid the difficulty.

APPENDIX 65.

Statement showing the information asked for in Mr. Rahimtoola's question No. 3.

| Name of Court. | Designation and number of Posts carrying a monthly salary of Rs. 500 and above. | Whether the present incumbents are British Colonial, Foreigner, Hindu, Parsi, Mahomedan, Jew, Indian Christian or Anglo-Indian. |
|--|---|---|
| High Court, Bombay, Appellate Side. | 1 Registrar, High Court, Appellate Side .. 1 Deputy Registrar, High Court, Appellate Side. 1 Assistant Registrar, High Court, Appellate Side. | Parsi. Parsi. Hindu. |
| High Court, Bombay, Original Jurisdiction. | 1 Prothonotary and Registrar, Original Jurisdiction. 1 Assistant Prothonotary .. 1 First Deputy Registrar and Commissioner for taking affidavits. 1 Master and Registrar in Equity, Commissioner for taking Accounts and Taxing Master. 1 Assistant Commissioner and Assistant Taxing Master. 1 Chief Clerk, Insolvent Debtors' Court .. 1 Clerk of the Crown .. 1 Chief Translator and Interpreter .. 1 Second Translator and Interpreter .. | Parsi. Hindu. Parsi. Parsi. British. Hindu. Parsi. Hindu. Parsi. |
| Court of Small Causes, Bombay. | 1 Chief Judge 1 2nd Judge 1 3rd Judge 1 4th Judge 1 5th Judge 1 Additional Judge (Temporary) 1 Registrar | Hindu. Mahomedan. Hindu. Parsi. Indian Christian. Hindu. Parsi. |
| Courts of Presidency Magistrates. | Chief Presidency Magistrate 2nd Presidency Magistrate 3rd Presidency Magistrate 4th Presidency Magistrate 5th Presidency Magistrate 6th Presidency Magistrate Chief Clerk | Hindu. Mahomedan. Parsi. Parsi. Hindu. Hindu. British. |

APPENDIX 65—*contd.*

Statement showing the information asked for in Mr. Rahimtoola's question No. 4.

| Name of Court. | Number of appointments made to posts carrying a salary of Rs. 500 and above during the period from 1st January 1921 to 31st December 1924. | | Number of appointments given to the British, Colonial, Foreigner, Hindu, Parsi, Mahomedan, Jew, Indian Christian and Anglo-Indian Communities. | |
|--|--|------------|--|---|
| | Permanent. | Temporary. | Permanent. | Temporary. |
| High Court, Appellate Side, Bombay. | <i>Nil.</i> | 4 | .. | 3 Parsis. 1 Hindu. |
| High Court, Original Jurisdiction, Bombay. | 17 | .. | 4 British. 5 Hindus. 8 Parsis. | |
| Court of Small Causes, Bombay. | 2 | 3 | 1 Parsi. 1 Indian Christian. | 1 Hindu. 1 Parsi. 1 Indian Christian. |
| Courts of Presidency Magistrates, Bombay. | 4 | 14 | 1 British. 1 Hindu. 2 Parsis. | 11 Hindus. 3 Parsis. |

APPENDIX 66.

Statement showing number of people and their dependants engaged in various cottage industries of the Bombay Presidency (British only).

(Compiled from Imperial Tables, XVII, Census Report for 1921, Part II, Volume VIII, page 212.)

| Groups. | Cottage* Industries. | Home workers and their dependants. | Divisions. |
|------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 25 (a) | .. Cotton Ginning (by hand .. | 20,000 | All Divisions and Sind. |
| 26 (a) | .. Cotton Spinning (by hand) .. | 23,000 | Do. |
| 27 (a) and half 38 (b) | .. Cotton Sizing and Weaving .. | 2,00,000 | Do. |
| 29 and 30 | .. Rope, twine, coir, straw, etc. .. | 53,000 | Mostly in Central Division and Sind. |
| 31 (a) | .. Wool Spinning .. | 7,000 | Central and Southern Divisions. |
| 32 (a) } | .. Wool Weaving .. | 20,000 | Do. |
| 33 (a) } | .. Wool Weaving .. | 20,000 | Do. |
| 34 (a) | .. Silk Spinning .. | 12,000 | Mostly in Southern Division. |
| 35 (a) | .. Silk Weaving .. | 10,500 | Mostly in Northern Division. |
| 37 (a), (b) and (c) | .. Dyeing, Bleaching, Printing, etc. .. | 28,000 | All Divisions and Sind. |
| 38 (a) | .. Lace and Embroidery, etc. .. | 17,000 | Do. |
| 39, 40 and 78 | .. Leather tanning, trunks, boot and shoe making, etc. .. | 1,70,000 | Do. |
| 45 | .. Basket making (cane, bamboo, etc.) .. | 50,000 | Do. |
| 45 | .. Making of iron tools, pots, etc. .. | 78,000 | Do. |
| 49 and 50 | .. Making of copper and brass pots, etc. and tin, lead and zinc manufacture. .. | 30,000 | Do. |
| 52 and 53 | .. Glassware, bangles, beads, etc. .. | 5,000 | Mostly in Central Division. |
| 55 | .. Earthenware pots, bowls, etc. .. | 96,500 | All Divisions and Sind. |
| 56 | .. Bricks and Tiles .. | 21,000 | Do. |
| 61 | .. Oil Milling .. | 37,000 | Do. |
| 98 | .. Goldsmiths, gilders, enamellers, etc. .. | 1,20,000 | Do. |
| | Total .. | 9,98,500 | |

* Note.—Carpentry, smithy, tailoring, etc., have not been included.

APPENDIX 67.

No. 1480-B.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 12th December 1924.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,
Local Self-Government Department.

Subject.—School of Indian Medicine, Madras.

Sir,

I am directed by the Government of Bombay (Transferred Departments) to request that, with the permission of the Government of Madras, you will be so good as to favour this Government with information regarding the course of study, syllabus and the staff of teachers employed at the School of Indian Medicine, which has already been opened by the Madras Government, and the salaries or honoraria paid to the staff.

I have, etc.,

(Sd.) H. D. (Baskerville),

Deputy Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
General Department.

Local Self-Government Department.

No. 34866-1 P.H.

Fort St. George, 15th January 1925.

From

P. L. MOORE, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of Madras;

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY,
General Department, Bombay.

Subject.—School of Indian Medicine, Madras.

Sir,

In reply to your letter No. 1480-B., dated 12th December 1924, I am directed to furnish the following information regarding the School of Indian Medicine, Madras.

APPENDIX 67—*contd.*

2. The school consists of three sections corresponding to the three systems of Indian Medicine in vogue in this Presidency, namely, the Ayurveda, the Unani and the Siddha. The course of instruction extends over three years. The training given in the respective Indian systems will be supplemented by an elementary course in Anatomy and Physiology according to the Western system. Details of the course of study are given in the annexure.

3. The accommodation provided in the school includes a library, a museum and a herbarium in addition to the usual class rooms, office, etc. The intention is to open a dispensary in October 1925 and an inpatient hospital of 30 beds in April 1926.

4. The number of admissions to the school has been fixed at 120 a year, 60 for the Ayurveda section and 30 each for the other two sections. Candidates are expected to possess a knowledge of Sanskrit or Telugu, Hindustani or Tamil (for the three sections respectively) and in addition a working knowledge of English. Twenty free studentships are awarded annually, preference being given to members of backward communities. The other students have to pay fees at the same rates as in the existing Allopathic Medical Schools, namely, Rs. 60 a year in the case of students belonging to this Presidency and Rs. 100 a year in the case of others. Admissions are made by a Selection Committee appointed by the Government, consisting of the Principal of the School and two representatives of each of the three Indian systems.

5. The staff consists of a Principal (Pay Rs. 600—50—900), a lecturer in Anatomy and Physiology (medical graduate of the Madras University), two lecturers in Ayurveda, one in Unani and one in Siddha. An assistant lecturer will be appointed for each section from October 1925. With a view to economy, it has been decided that the lecturers and assistant lecturers need not be whole time Government servants but only part time officers receiving fixed honoraria of Rs. 100 and Rs. 50 per mensem respectively. A small clerical and menial staff is also provided; compounding and ward attendants will be appointed when the dispensary and the hospital are opened.

6. The school was formally opened by His Excellency the Governor on 24th November 1924. As the appointment of lecturers and the selection of candidates for admission took some time, actual working could be commenced only this month.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) P. L. MOORE,
Secretary to Government.

APPENDIX 67—contd.

ANNEXURE.

DETAILS OF THE COURSE OF STUDY.

First year.

| | | |
|--|---------------|----------------------------------|
| (1) <i>Dravya Guna Shastra-Nighantu</i> (Materia, Medica and Pharmacy) | .. I Course | Theoretical and Practical. |
| (2) <i>Rasa Shastra</i> (Mineral preparations) | .. One Course | .. |
| (3) <i>Shareera Shastra</i> (Physiology according to Indian System supplemented by an element- ary knowledge of modern Physiology and Anatomy) | .. I Course | .. |
| (4) <i>Nadi Vijnana</i> (Examination of the Pulse) | .. One Course | .. |

There will be an examination at the end of the First Year Course for promoting candidates for the 2nd Year Class.

Second Year.

| | | |
|---|--------------|----------------------------------|
| (1) <i>Dravya Guna Shastra</i> | .. II Course | Theoretical and Practical. |
| (2) <i>Shareera Shastra</i> | .. II .. | .. |
| (3) <i>Nidana and Roga Vijnana</i> (General Pathology and Diagnosis) | .. I .. | Theoretical and Clinical. |
| (4) <i>Kaya Chikitsa</i> (General Medicine) | .. I .. | .. |
| (5) <i>Shalya Tantra</i> (General Surgery) | .. I .. | .. |

There will be an examination at the end of the 2nd Year Course for promoting candidates to the 3rd Year.

Third Year.

| | | |
|---|--------------|---------------------------------|
| (1) <i>Nidana and Roga Vijnana</i> (General Pathology and Diagnosis) | .. II Course | Theoretical and Clinical. |
| (2) <i>Kaya Chikitsa</i> (General Medicine) | .. II .. | .. |
| (3) <i>Shalyatantra including Shalakyatantra</i> (Surgery—General and Special). | II .. | .. |

APPENDIX 67—*contd.*

- | | | |
|--|------------|---------------------------|
| (4) <i>Prasutitantra and Kaumara Britya</i> (Concerning Labour and the care of children). | One Course | Theoretical and Clinical. |
| (5) <i>Swastavaitta</i> (Hygiene and Sanitation). | One Course | „ |
| (6) <i>Agada Tantra</i> (Treatment of Poisoning). | One Course | „ |

Final qualifying examination at the end of the 3rd Year.

The course of study mentioned above is generally applicable to all the three sections—Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani, though text-books, will be different for the different sections.

APPENDIX 69.

No. Rev. Circular D.

Office of the Collector of Kanara.

Camp Anshi, 2nd February 1923.

Memorandum.

It is essential that the collection of land revenue should be made punctually this year. The Mamlatdars and Mahalkaris are therefore directed to issue necessary instructions to the village officers in this connection. The public should also be warned that one-fourth fine is leviable on all amounts of land revenue due, but not paid by February 15th in the case of first instalment and April 15th in the case of the second. The one-fourth fine must be levied on all amounts outstanding beyond three days of grace which may be allowed.

A statement in the following form should be submitted to the Collector on the treasury closing day of the month of February 1923:—

Amount of land revenue due at 1st instalment. Amount collected.

(1)

(2)

Balance on 19th February 1923.

Balance at the end of month.

Reasons for the Balance.

(3)

(4)

(5)

Amount of arrears in respect of which $\frac{1}{4}$ fine is demanded.

(6)

(Signed) G. F. S. COLLINS,
Collector.

Forwarded to all Mamlatdars and Mahalkaris (including ex-officio Mahalkaris).

Copy f.w.c. to P.I, P.II and Ex-officio Assistant Collectors.

(Signed) K. V. KOUNDINYA,
for Collector.

APPENDIX 70.

Statement showing the names, castes, date of appointment, etc., of
Provincial Civil Service Assistant Judges in the Bombay
Presidency.

| Names of Assistant Judges of Provincial Civil Service employed in the Bombay Presidency. | Home of Family. | Caste. | Date of appointment. |
|--|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>Permanent Officers.</i> | | | |
| Khan Bahadur M. I. Kadri, O.B.E. | Ahmedabad District. | Mahomedan | 23rd Feb. 1923. |
| Chandiram Kotumal | Sind | Lohana | 23rd Feb. 1923. |
| N. V. Desai | Kaira District | Brahma Kshatriya. | 1st March 1923. |
| R. E. Sane | Ahmednagar District | Konkana s t h a Brahmin. | 15th June 1923. |
| B. N. Sanjana | Bombay City | Parisi | 25th July 1923. |
| D. D. Cooper | Surat District | Parisi | 29th Nov. 1924. |
| D. S. Oka (on probation) | Ratnagiri District | Konkana s t h a Brahmin. | 12th Jan. 1925. |
| <i>Acting Officers.</i> | | | |
| Dayalmal Daulatram | Sind | M a n e h a n d e Kshatriya. | 30th Jan. 1924. |
| S. G. Kharkar | Thana District | Chandrase n i y a Kayastha Prabhui. | 5th Dec. 1923. |
| M. G. Mehta | Surat District | Bania | 25th July 1924. |
| K. K. Thakor | Ahmedabad District. | Brahma Kehatriya. | 18th Aug. 1924. |
| K. G. Kulkarni | Dharwar District | Brahmin | 21st July 1924. |
| A. K. Asundi | Dharwar District | Brahmin | 8th Aug. 1924. |
| Thawardas Dayaram | Sind | Amil | Appointed in February 1925. |
| Abdullah Shafi Muhammad Akhund | Sind | Mahomedan | Appointed in February 1925. |

APPENDIX 71.

Statement giving information regarding Gurcharan land in the
Thana District.

| Taluka or Peta. | Gurcharan land at the original survey. | | Gurcharan land at the revision survey. | | Area convert- ed into wood- land plots. | Area convert- ed into Reserv- ed Forest. | Area convert- ed into Pro- tected Forest. | |
|------------------------|---|-----|---|-----|---|--|---|-----|
| | A. | g. | A. | g. | A. | g. | A. | g. |
| Kalyan .. | 12,343 | 11½ | 11,940 | 15¼ | 614 | 19¼ | 0 | 0 |
| Shahapur .. | 1,44,982 | 37 | 44,110 | 3 | 6,582 | 0 | 1,02,481 | 0 |
| Murbad .. | 49,304 | 39½ | 49,299 | 10½ | 4,868 | 26¾ | 5,706 | 17½ |
| Bhiwandi .. | 13,216 | 28¼ | 5,002 | 10¾ | 925 | 33¼ | 0 | 0 |
| Vada .. | 13,115 | 0 | 13,127 | 29 | 1,921 | 0 | 14 | 0 |
| Mahim .. | 32,500 | 27½ | 50,669 | 0 | 5,612 | 17 | 0 | 0 |
| Dahanu .. | 36,818 | 0 | 31,283 | 0 | 9,957 | 0 | 2,758 | 0 |
| Bassein .. | 6,070 | 3½ | 6,773 | 2½ | 93 | 22¾ | 101 | 29 |
| Umbergaon .. | 14,038 | 27 | 5,399 | 8 | 4,135 | 0 | 93 | 0 |
| North Sal- sette .. | 2,846 | 4¼ | 2,949 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Mokhada .. | 19 | 32 | 38 | 22 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total .. | 3,25,256 | 10½ | 2,20,591 | 35 | 34,709 | 39 | 1,11,154 | 6½ |
| | | | | | | | 1,10,678 | 42¾ |

APPENDIX 72.

Statement showing the Resolutions passed at the July session of the Legislative Council 1924, and the action taken by Government thereon.

| Serial No. | Name of the mover. | Subject matter of the Resolution. | Action taken by Government. |
|------------|----------------------|--|---|
| 1 | Haji Abdoola Haroon | Suspension of Revision Settlements in Sind. | Accepted and orders issued to the Commissioner in Sind. |
| 2 | Mr. D. R. Patil .. | Appointment of a Committee to enquire into grievances of ryots in forest matters and to submit suggestions for the consideration of Government. | Accepted as amended. A Committee has been appointed. |
| 3 | Mr. C. M. Saptarshi. | Goal of the Excise policy of Government. | Under consideration. |
| 4 | Mr. R. G. Soman .. | Issue of orders to district officers to allow the representatives of district in the several legislatures to see or obtain certified copies of the district administration reports excepting the confidential parts of such reports with the sanction of Government. | Accepted as amended. Requisite orders issued to district officers. |
| 5 | Mr. H. D. Saheba .. | Grant of tagai loans for sinking wells. | Under consideration. |
| 6 | Mr. V. N. Jog .. | Conditional release of Mr. R. R. Divakar, under-going 2 years' rigorous imprisonment under sections 124-A and 153-A, Indian Penal Code. | Attention is invited to the reply given to the question by the Honourable Member for the Dharwar District in the October sessions of the Council. |

APPENDIX

Statement to accompany the reply to parts (ii) and (iii)

| No. | Name of Institution. | Number of students of the classes mentioned on 1st July 1924. | | |
|-----|--|---|-----------------------|--|
| | | Advanced classes. | Intermediate classes. | Backward Hindus excluding Depressed classes. |
| 1 | Elphinstone High School, Bombay .. | 643 | 158 | .. |
| 2 | High School, Satara | 168 | 121 | .. |
| 3 | Do. Sholapur | 268 | 162 | .. |
| 4 | Do. Jalgaon | 185 | 101 | .. |
| 5 | Do. Dhulia | 304 | 67 | 5 |
| 6 | Do. Ahmedabad | 229 | 52 | 1 |
| 7 | Do. Surat | 207 | 46 | .. |
| 8 | Do. Broach | 205 | 43 | 6 |
| 9 | Do. Nadiad | 141 | 154 | 7 |
| 10 | Do. Godhra | 119 | 46 | 9 |
| 11 | Do. Dharwar | 215 | 87 | .. |
| 12 | Do. Belgaum | 269 | 84 | .. |
| 13 | Do. Bijapur | 213 | 100 | .. |
| 14 | Do. Karwar | 235 | 65 | 3 |
| 15 | Do. Ratnagiri | 136 | 78 | .. |
| 16 | Do. Thana | 278 | 46 | .. |
| 17 | Do. Nasik | 328 | 120 | 2 |
| 18 | Anglo-Urdu High School, Poona .. | 32 | .... | .. |
| 19 | Anglo-Urdu High School, Hubli .. | .... | .... | .. |
| 20 | Government Middle School, Ahmed- abad | 190 | 93 | 3 |
| 21 | Government Middle School, Surat .. | 153 | 43 | 4 |

Note.—Information regarding Intermediate Hindus and Backward Hindus both these categories are included in the term "Backward Hindus" used

73.

of the Council Question No. 2 put by Mr. S. J. Zunzarrao.

| Depressed classes. | Mahomedans. | Number of free-studentships of the classes mentioned on 1st July 1924. | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------|--|-----------------------|--|--------------------|-------------|
| | | Advanced classes. | Intermediate classes. | Backward Hindus excluding Depressed classes. | Depressed classes. | Mahomedans. |
| 1 | 20 | 21½ | 21½ | .. | 1 | 1 |
| 3 | 41 | 15 | 21 | .. | 3 | 10 |
| 5 | 51 | 23 | 21½ | .. | 4 | 11 |
| 5 | 36 | 14½ | 10 | .. | 2 | 7 |
| 11 | 36 | 23½ | 15 | .. | 8 | 9 |
| 1 | 21 | 22½ | 11½ | 1 | 1 | 8 |
| .. | 26 | 20½ | 16 | .. | .. | 2 |
| 2 | 41 | 15 | 12 | 1 | 2 | 12 |
| .. | 17 | 11½ | 31 | 4½ | .. | 5 |
| .. | 54 | 9 | 7 | 5½ | .. | 8½ |
| 5 | 29 | 16 | 16 | .. | 3 | 6 |
| 5 | 58 | 18½ | 16½ | .. | 5 | 13 |
| .. | 49 | 17 | 12 | .. | .. | 11 |
| .. | 21 | 20 | 12 | 3 | .. | 4½ |
| .. | 12 | 10 | 17½ | .. | .. | 3 |
| 4 | 2 | 18½ | 10 | .. | 3½ | .. |
| 14 | 39 | 25 | 27 | .. | 11 | 7 |
| .. | 150 | 3 | .... | .. | .. | 20½ |
| 1 | 152 | .. | .... | .. | ½ | 24 |
| 9 | 28 | 15½ | 14 | 3 | 9 | 3½ |
| .. | 57 | 12½ | 6 | 4 | .. | 9 |

excluding Depressed classes is given in the statement separately on the assumption that in the question.

APPENDIX 74.

A

Statement showing the number of open High and Middle School scholarships held by boys of the advanced and backward classes on 1st August 1924.

| Division. | Open High School Scholarships. | | | Open Middle School Scholarships. | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|---|---------------------|----------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| | Held by Advanced Hindu boys. | Held by non-Mahomedan Backward classes. | Held by Mahomedans. | Held by Advanced Hindu boys. | Held by non-Mahomedan Backward classes. | Held by Mahomedans. |
| Bombay Division .. | 7 | 1 | .. | 10 | .... | .. |
| Central Division .. | 11 | 1 | .. | 12 | 2 | .. |
| Northern Division .. | 10 | 4 | .. | 12 | 3 | .. |
| Southern Division .. | 7 | 3 | .. | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| Total .. | 35 | 9 | .. | 39 | 9 | 1 |

B

Statement showing the number of special High and Middle School scholarships held by boys of the backward classes on 1st August 1924.

| Division. | Number of scholarships sanctioned for | | Number of scholarships held in Government Secondary schools by boys belonging to | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|--|-------------|
| | Non-Mahomedan Backward Classes. | Mahomedans. | Non-Mahomedan Backward Classes. | Mahomedans. |
| Bombay Division .. | 75 | 25 | 15 | 3 |
| Central Division .. | 91 | 21 | 20 | 6 |
| Northern Division .. | 49 | 22 | 6 | 7 |
| Southern Division .. | 53 | 23 | 9 | 10 |
| Total .. | 268 | 91 | 50 | 26 |

APPENDIX 75.

Memorandum giving the information asked for in the question put by Mr. Hoosenally M. Rahimtoola on the subject of changes in the rules for Government Vernacular Training colleges, etc.

(1) (a) i The number of admissions has been regularised to meet the actual requirements of each district.

ii Rules have been made to provide for an adequate number of Intermediate and Backward class men being appointed.

(b) i To bring about greater uniformity in the proportion of trained teachers in each district.

ii To give non-Brahman classes a reasonable share of the vacancies.

(2) (a) The only change is that candidates are not allowed to appear for the Training College Examination without previous residence at a training institution.

(b) A teacher who has not actually attended a training institution ought not to be considered as a trained teacher.

(3) (a) No fees are charged for studying at Training Colleges or for the Training College Examinations.

The fees for the Vernacular Final Examination have been raised from Rs. 2 to Rs. 3, but all depressed class candidates now included under 'Backward' have been exempted from payment.

(b) The object was to enable more adequate remuneration to be paid to examiners. As expenditure under the head was not sanctioned by the Legislative Council, it is proposed to use the savings for prizes.

APPENDIX 76.

*List of members of the Advisory Committee, J. J., G. T. and
Cama and Albless Hospitals, Bombay.*

J. J. HOSPITAL, BOMBAY.

- (1) Mr. Kanji Dwarkadas.
- (2) Sir Mahomedbhoy Currimbhoy.
- (3) Mr. Jehangir H. Cama.
- (4) Mr. Meyer Nissim.
- (5) Mr. A. N. Surve, M.L.C., B.A., LL.B.
- (6) Mrs. Manecklal Premchand.
- (7) Miss Dhun Desai.
- (8) Mrs. Janabai Rokade.

G. T. HOSPITAL, BOMBAY.

- (1) Mr. Mahomed Hussein A. Havelivala.
- (2) Mr. Shamji Hemraji.
- (3) Mr. Morarji Mulraj Khatao.
- (4) Mr. Byramji Jeejibhoy.
- (5) Mr. Hoosenally M. Rahimtoola.
- (6) Mr. Mawaji Govindaji.
- (7) Rao Saheb R. V. Wandekar, J.P.

CAMA AND ALBLESS HOSPITAL, BOMBAY.

- (1) Mrs. Palmer.
- (2) Mrs. Awantikabai Gokhale.
- (3) Miss Engineer.
- (4) Mrs. Faiz Tayabji.
- (5) Dr. A. G. Viegas.
- (6) Rao Bahadur D. G. Padhye, M.A., J.P.
- (7) Mrs. Janabai Rokade.

APPENDIX 77.

Statement showing the average yield in gallons of toddy per tree in the Surat District during the years 1922, 1923 and 1924.

| Year. | | Surat City. | Chorasi. | Olpad. | Jalal-pore. | Chikhli. | Bul-sar. | Pardi. | Bar-doli. | Mand-vi. |
|-------|----|-------------|----------|--------|-------------|----------|----------|--------|-----------|----------|
| | | Gls. | Gls. | Gls. | Gls. | Gls. | Gls. | Gls. | Gls. | Gls. |
| 1922 | .. | 31 | 18 | 32 | 25 | 15 | 24 | 23 | 14 | 11 |
| 1923 | .. | 33 | 20 | 23 | 21 | 15 | 24 | 25 | 16 | 7 |
| 1924 | .. | 32 | 20 | 26 | 26 | 18 | 24 | 26 | 15 | 10 |

Note.—These figures are based on the sales shown by licensees and the number of trees tapped. They cannot be relied on as accurate but no other figures are available.

APPENDIX 78.

Statement showing the average sale price per gallon of toddy in (a) Surat City and (b) each taluka of the Surat District during the years 1922, 1923 and 1924.

| Year. | Surat City. | Surat District (excluding Surat City). | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-------------|--|--------|-------------|----------|----------|--------|-----------|----------|-------|
| | | Chorasi. | Olpad. | Jalal-pore. | Chikhli. | Bul-sar. | Pardi. | Bar-doli. | Mand-vi. | |
| | | A. p. | A. p. | A. p. | A. p. | A. p. | A. p. | A. p. | A. p. | A. p. |
| 1922 | .. | 8 5 | 7 6 | 9 0 | 10 0 | 6 6 | 8 0 | 7 0 | 6 0 | 6 0 |
| 1923 | .. | 8 4½ | 7 4 | 10 0 | 10 0 | 6 6 | 8 0 | 8 0 | 8 0 | 8 0 |
| 1924 | .. | 13 6 | 9 0 | 11 0 | 12 0 | 7 6 | 9 0 | 9 0 | 10 0 | 8 0 |

APPENDIX 79.

| District. | | 1921. | 1922. | 1923. | 1924. |
|--------------|----|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Ahmedabad | .. | 36 | 34 | 37 | 39 |
| Kaira | .. | 30 | 39 | 35 | 37 |
| Panch Mahals | .. | 24 | 25 | 25 | 24 |
| Broach | .. | 55 | 57 | 57 | 57 |
| Surat | .. | 62 | 50 | 47 | 48 |
| Total | | 207 | 205 | 201 | 205 |

APPENDIX 80.

| Place. | | Date of Declaration. | Name of Arbitrator. | Date of final sanction. |
|--------------------------|------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Bandra Town Planning | Scheme No. | I 29th Mar. 1915 . | Mr. A. E. Mirams .. | 19th Aug. 1918. |
| | Do. | II 8th June 1915 .. | Do. .. | 4th Jan. 1921. |
| | Do. | III 25th Apr. 1919 . | Mr. E. M. Gilbert-Lodge. | |
| | Do. | IV 18th Aug. 1921 . | Not yet appointed. | |
| | Do. | V 24th Jan. 1922.. | Mr. E. M. Gilbert-Lodge. | |
| Santa Cruz Town Planning | Scheme No. | I 8th May 1915 .. | Mr. A. E. Mirams | 16th May 1919. |
| | Do. | II 23rd Jan. 1917.. | Do. .. | 16th Aug. 1922. |
| | Do. | III 14th Sept. 1920 . | Mr. E. M. Gilbert-Lodge .. | 27th Jan. 1925. |
| | Do. | IV 18th Dec. 1920 . | Do. | |
| | Do. | V 15th Mar. 1922 . | Do. | |
| Vile Parle Town Planning | Scheme No. | I 28th Apr. 1915 . | Mr. G. B. Soparkar.. | 12th July 1920. |
| | Do. | II 5th Apr. 1919 .. | Mr. E. M. Gilbert-Lodge .. | 5th Sept. 1924. |
| | Do. | III 4th Jan. 1921 .. | Do. | |
| | Do. | IV and IVa 10th Dec. 1921. | Do. | |
| | Do. | V 18th Aug. 1922. | Not yet appointed. | |
| | Do. | VI 15th Jan. 1925.. | Do. | |
| Andheri Town Planning | Scheme No. | I 27th Oct. 1915 . | Mr. A. E. Mirams .. | 7th Oct. 1919. |
| | Do. | II 23rd Jan. 1917.. | Do. .. | Do. |
| | Do. | IV Cancelled. | | |
| | Do. | V 12th Apr. 1921 . | Not yet appointed. | |
| | Do. | VI 18th Aug. 1922 . | Do. | |
| Malad Town Planning | Scheme No. | I 10th May 1915.. | Mr. A. E. Mirams .. | 25th Nov. 1919. |
| Kandivli Town Planning | Scheme No. | I 24th Feb. 1920 . | Mr. E. M. Gilbert-Lodge. | Proposed to be cancelled. |
| Borivli Town Planning | Scheme No. | I 17th May 1915.. | Mr. A. E. Mirams .. | 28th May 1919. |
| | Do. | II 23rd May 1922.. | Mr. E. M. Gilbert-Lodge. | |
| Ghatkopar Town Planning | Scheme No. | I 6th Feb. 1920 .. | Do. | 27th Jan. 1925. |
| | Do. | II 16th June 1921 . | Do. .. | |
| | Do. | III 16th Aug. 1923 . | Not yet appointed. | |

APPENDIX 82.

Statement showing the average expense to a toddy tree owner who is a cultivator of drawing toddy from a single date tree in the Surat District inclusive of tree tax, labour, license fee, land tax, etc., during the years 1922, 1923 and 1924.

| Years. | Surat City and Chorasi Taluka. | | Olpad. | Chikhli. | Bardoli. | Pardi. |
|------------|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. |
| 1922 | 8 14 6 | 6 13 8 | 6 8 1 | 5 4 0 | 5 0 0 | |
| 1923 | 12 8 0 | 10 8 9 | 6 14 6 | 8 1 0 | 6 8 0 | |
| 1924 | 15 8 0 | 13 4 1 | 8 9 10 | 8 8 0 | 7 8 0 | |

| Years. | Jalalpor. | Bulsar. | | Mandvi. | |
|------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| | | Higher Duty. | Lower Duty. | South. | North. |
| | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. |
| 1922 | 9 0 2 | 5 4 0 | 3 12 0 | 4 2 0 | 3 6 6 |
| 1923 | 8 11 7 | 5 4 0 | 3 12 0 | 4 2 6 | 3 6 6 |
| 1924 | 11 3 7 | 8 4 0 | 5 4 0 | 7 10 6 | 5 10 6 |

Note.—These figures are only approximate as it is impossible with the present system to determine the actual expense.

APPENDIX 83.

Statement showing the number of trained and untrained but qualified primary school teachers in the Local Board primary schools in each of the districts and municipal towns of Sind.

| Serial No. | Name of the District. | Number of teachers. | | | Remarks. |
|--------------------|--|---------------------|--------------------------|--------|----------|
| | | Trained. | Untrained but qualified. | Total. | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1 | KARACHI— <i>Local Board</i> | 111 | 59 | 170 | |
| | <i>Municipal—</i> Manjhand | 3 | 3 | 6 | |
| | Ketti Bunder | 1 | 2 | 3 | |
| | Tatta | 5 | 5 | 10 | |
| | Kotri | 12 | 3 | 15 | |
| | Karachi | 202 | 100 | 302 | |
| | Total Municipal .. | 223 | 113 | 336 | |
| Total District .. | 334 | 172 | 506 | | |
| 2 | HYDERABAD— <i>Local Board</i> | 159 | 59 | 218 | |
| | <i>Municipal—</i> Hyderabad | 57 | 12 | 69 | |
| | Tando Mahomed Khan | 3 | 4 | 7 | |
| | Hala | 5 | 3 | 8 | |
| | Nasarpur | 3 | 3 | 6 | |
| | Matiari | 5 | 1 | 6 | |
| | Tando Allahyar | 6 | 2 | 8 | |
| Total Municipal .. | 79 | 25 | 104 | | |
| Total District .. | 238 | 84 | 322 | | |
| 3 | NAWABSHAH— <i>Local Board</i> | 268 | 31 | 299 | |
| | <i>Municipal—</i> Shahadadpur | 6 | 2 | 8 | |
| | Tando Adam | 6 | 3 | 9 | |
| | Total Municipal .. | 12 | 5 | 17 | |
| | Total District .. | 280 | 36 | 316 | |

APPENDIX 83—contd.

| Serial No. | Name of the District. | Number of teachers. | | | Remarks. |
|------------|--|---------------------|--------------------------|--------|----------|
| | | Trained. | Untrained but qualified. | Total. | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 4 | THAR & PARKAR— <i>Local Board</i> | 116 | 23 | 139 | |
| | <i>Municipal—</i> Mirpurkhas | 8 | 2 | 10 | |
| | Umerkote | 5 | 2 | 7 | |
| | Total Municipal .. | 13 | 4 | 17 | |
| | Total District .. | 129 | 27 | 156 | |
| 5 | SUKKUR— <i>Local Board</i> | 310 | 64 | 374 | |
| | <i>Municipal—</i> Ghotki | 4 | 1 | 5 | |
| | Garhi Yasin | 7 | 1 | 8 | |
| | Rohri | 17 | 5 | 22 | |
| | Shikarpur | 53 | 6 | 59 | |
| | Sukkur | 33 | 12 | 45 | |
| | Total Municipal .. | 114 | 25 | 139 | |
| | Total District .. | 424 | 89 | 513 | |
| 6 | UPPER SIND FRONTIER— <i>Local Board</i> | 141 | 37 | 178 | |
| | <i>Municipal—</i> Jacobabad | 11 | 5 | 16 | |
| | Total District .. | 152 | 42 | 194 | |
| 7 | LARKANA— <i>Local Board</i> | 394 | 109 | 503 | |
| | <i>Municipal—</i> Larkana | 25 | 2 | 27 | |
| | Ratodero | 11 | 1 | 12 | |
| | Kambar | 7 | .. | 7 | |
| | Sehwan | 5 | 1 | 6 | |
| | Bubak | 6 | 2 | 8 | |
| | Total Municipal .. | 54 | 6 | 60 | |
| | Total District .. | 448 | 115 | 563 | |

APPENDIX 83—contd.

Statement showing the number of Taluka Masters and the number of Teachers who draw postal allowance in each district of Sind.

| Serial No. | Name of the District | Number of taluka masters. | | | Number of teachers who draw postal allowance. | | | Remarks. |
|------------|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------|--------|---|-------------|--------|----------|
| | | Hindus. | Mahomedans. | Total. | Hindus. | Mahomedans. | Total. | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 1 | Karachi .. | 8 | 1 | 9 | 14 | 5 | 19 | |
| 2 | Hyderabad .. | 1 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 11 | |
| 3 | Nawalshah .. | 4 | 1 | 5 | 22 | 5 | 27 | |
| 4 | Thar and Parkar .. | 7 | .. | 7 | 10 | 4 | 14 | |
| 5 | Sukkur .. | 5 | 2 | 7 | 16 | 2 | 18 | |
| 6 | Upper Sind Frontier | 3 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 4 | |
| 7 | Larkana .. | 7 | 4 | 11 | 12 | 10 | 22 | |

APPENDIX 84.

Statement showing the number of posts of Head Clerks to Collectors in the Presidency including Sind and the castes of persons appointed to hold them.

| Total number of posts of Head Clerks to Collectors. | Castes of present incumbents of the posts shown in column 1. | Number and castes of officers appointed as Head Clerks to Collectors during the last ten years. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|----|--------------|---|-------------|---|----------|---|---|-------------|----|--------------|----|-------------|---|----------|---|
| 27 | Hindus 18 { <table style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr><td>Brahmins ..</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>Non-Brahmins</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>Lingayat ..</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Jains ..</td><td>0</td></tr> </table> Mahomedans 0 Christians .. 7 Parsee .. 1 Jew .. 1 Budhists .. 0 | Brahmins .. | 11 | Non-Brahmins | 6 | Lingayat .. | 1 | Jains .. | 0 | Hindus 84 { <table style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr><td>Brahmins ..</td><td>56</td></tr> <tr><td>Non-Brahmins</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>Lingayat ..</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Jains ..</td><td>0</td></tr> </table> Mahomedans 2 Parsees .. 3 Christians .. 13 Jews .. 4 Budhists .. 0 | Brahmins .. | 56 | Non-Brahmins | 27 | Lingayat .. | 1 | Jains .. | 0 |
| Brahmins .. | 11 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Non-Brahmins | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lingayat .. | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Jains .. | 0 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Brahmins .. | 56 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Non-Brahmins | 27 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lingayat .. | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Jains .. | 0 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

APPENDIX 87.

Statement showing Tree Tax, Vend Fees, etc., recovered in the Surat District during the years 1921-22 to 1923-24.

| | 1921-22. | 1922-23. | 1923-24. |
|------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| Toddy Tree Tax | 5,73,395 | 6,11,064 | 8,05,322 |
| Vend Fees | 1,66,000 | 2,64,031 | 4,67,218 |
| Domestic Consumption | 31,976 | 22,417 | 39,133 |
| Kaliparaj Pass | 18,929 | 22,110 | 26,266 |

APPENDIX 88.

| Place. | Total area of land available for building sites prepared by the Development Department. | Area disposed of. | Cost of acquisition of the area. | Cost of road making so far incurred in the area. | Cost of water supply so far incurred in the area. | Cost of drainage so far incurred in the area. |
|--|---|-------------------|----------------------------------|--|---|---|
| | | | | | | |
| (Exclusive of interest and establishment, etc., charges.) | | | | | | |
| Chembur Sector— | | | | | | |
| (Suburban Scheme No. 3— Chembur Garden Suburb).. | 6,00,100 | 1,66,557 | 1,84,305 | 4,69,167 | 1,82,384 | Nil. |
| Ghatkopar— | | | | | | |
| (Suburban Scheme No. 18— Kiorl North - Eastern Sector) | 83,877 | 22,318 | 1,54,818 | 39,197 | Nil. | Nil. |
| Kurla | Nil. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Suburban Scheme No. 7— Khar Model Suburb—Sec- tors A and B | 2,80,491 | 1,32,074 | 5,33,970 | 2,86,660 | 10,309 | Nil. |

APPENDIX 91.

Statement showing further action taken by Government on the following recommendations of the retrenchment committee which were still under consideration in October last.

| Serial No. in the original statement. | Recommendations. | Savings estimated by the Committee. | Action taken by Government. |
|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| | <i>General Administration.</i> | Rs. | |
| II | Abolition of the posts of Secretaries, Revenue and General Departments. | 70,500 | Attention is invited to the remarks on these items in the consolidated statement placed on the Council Table in March last. Government have since then considered the whole subject of Secretariat establishments very carefully and have come to the decision that radical changes in the system are not feasible, and that the present Secretariat establishments are not excessive. They have however proposed for the sanction of the Secretary of State the conversion of the post of Deputy Secretary in the General, etc., Departments into that of an Under Secretary, and the reduction of one post in the Legal Department, the Deputy Secretary in which is now doing the work both of Assistant Remembrancer of Legal Affairs and of Secretary to the Legislative Council. |
| III | Abolition of the posts of Deputy Secretaries, Revenue, General and Home Departments. | 76,500 | |
| IV | Abolition of the posts of 5 Assistant Secretaries, viz., two of Revenue Department, two of General Department and 1 of Home Department. | 46,800 | |
| V | Abolition of two-thirds of the whole cost of clerical establishment in the Revenue Department. | 1,00,080 | |
| VI | Abolition of two-thirds of the clerical establishment in the General Department excluding one branch dealing in Ecclesiastical and Marine work. | 95,260 | |
| VII | Abolition of two-thirds of three-fifths of the whole cost of clerical establishment in Home Department. | 51,768 | |
| | Discontinuance of tentage allowance and supply of Government tents to be made to those officers for whom they are really necessary. | .... |  | After full consideration Government have come to the conclusion that the proposed change would not be economical. The question of the discontinuance of free supply of Government tents to District Judges is under consideration of Government. |
| | Revision of classification of officers for the purposes of travelling allowance and the adoption of the system of fixed travelling allowance as far as possible. | | The revision of the rules about travelling allowance is not yet complete. |

APPENDIX 91—*contd.*

| Serial No. in the original statement. | Recommendations. | Savings estimated by the Committee. | Action taken by Government. |
|---------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| X | <p><i>Director of Agriculture.</i></p> <p>Twenty per cent. reduction in clerical establishment of the Director's Office.</p> | 6,558 | <p>The report of the special officer appointed by Government has since been received and on his recommendations on the reorganisation of the office staff of the Director of Agriculture, the reduction of the post of one clerk only was found feasible. Orders have been issued in Government Resolution, Revenue Department, No. 8768 dated 10th December 1924, a copy of which has been placed on the Council Table.</p> |
| I | <p><i>Department of Land Revenue, Presidency Proper.</i></p> <p>Reduction of 33 per cent. of talatis.</p> | 5,25,000 | <p>It has been decided to reduce 14 posts of talatis and 2 posts of Assistant talatis, to convert 5 posts of talatis into those of Assistant talatis and to reduce gradually 23 posts of talatis and 2 posts of Assistant talatis. This is estimated to effect a saving of Rs. 16,560.</p> |
| I | <p><i>Public Works Department.</i></p> <p>A strong Committee should be appointed in order to revise thoroughly the present method of procedure and to eliminate unnecessary work.</p> | .... | <p>The Committee has submitted a report which is being considered.</p> |

APPENDIX 92.

A Table showing the number of dacoities, murders, etc., in the Larkana District.

| Year. | Murders. | Dacoities. | Robberies. | Thefts. |
|----------------------------------|----------|------------|------------|---------|
| 1922 | 43 | 1 | 18 | 557 |
| 1923 | 50 | 7 | 29 | 512 |
| 1924 (1st January to 30th June). | 35 | 6 | 24 | 464 |

| | Total number. | Detected. | Convicted. |
|-------------------|---------------|-----------|------------|
| <i>1922.</i> | | | |
| Murders | 43 | 28 | 9 |
| Dacoities.. .. . | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Robberies | 18 | 10 | 4 |
| Thefts | 557 | 196 | 112 |
| <i>1923.</i> | | | |
| Murders | 50 | 23 | 5 |
| Dacoities.. .. . | 7 | 5 | 3 |
| Robberies | 29 | 13 | 11 |
| Thefts | 512 | 152 | 121 |
| <i>1924.</i> | | | |
| Murders | 35 | 20 | 3 |
| Dacoities.. .. . | 6 | 4 | 1 |
| Robberies | 24 | 10 | 5 |
| Thefts | 464 | 143 | 75 |

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

Supplementary Agenda for the First Session of the Bombay Legislative Council which commenced on the 19th February 1925. [*Vide* Standing Order X-1 (d).]

DISCUSSION OF MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.

Resolutions by Mr. S. A. Sardesai, M.L.C.

1. "In view of the recurring famines in Bijapur district, this Council recommends to Government that two irrigation schemes should be taken up immediately with a view to irrigate a large area in the Bijapur district."
2. "This Council recommends to Government that primary school teachers be given their salaries according to the Sathe-Paranjpye Scheme with effect from the 1st March 1923."

Resolutions by Mr. M. R. Gunjal, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that the photocopying system introduced recently in the Registration Department of this Presidency as an experimental measure be abolished forthwith and the old system be restored."
2. "This Council recommends to Government that they be pleased to give substantial help to the Shrimati Nathibai Damodar Thakersey Indian Women's University as a mark of appreciation of their efforts in conducting for the last eight years the very useful and important experiment of imparting secondary and higher education to women through the medium of the vernacular and that this help be given without imposing any such restrictions as may interfere with the internal administration of the said University or affect its independence."

Resolution by Mr. C. M. Saptarshi, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that a committee of officials and non-officials with a non-official majority be appointed to report on the question of the recognition and encouragement of the indigenous systems of medicine in vogue in this Presidency with a view to enabling Government to declare their policy regarding State-help and State-encouragement to be given to such systems."

Resolution by Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmad, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that they be pleased to establish a chair for Arabic at the Elphinstone College, Bombay, and lecturers for Urdu in Government Arts Colleges at Poona and Bombay."

Resolutions by Mr. H. H. Narielvala, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government that in order to allay the discontent prevailing among the agriculturists of the presidency and to give them real relief, the following fees and fines, wherever they have been recently increased, be reduced to their original level :—

Grazing fee per head of cattle,
 Fees per cart and head-load of grass,
 Fees per cart and head-load of Anjan leaves,
 Fees per cart-load of thorns,
 Fees per cart and head-load of fuel,
 Fees per cart-load of stones of various kinds, and
 Fines per head of cattle impounded."

2. "This Council recommends to Government to suspend the introduction of the revised rates of assessment in the Sindkheda taluka in West Khandesh till legislative or other action is taken by Government on the resolution passed by this Council on the 15th March 1924 regarding the revision of the land revenue assessment."

3. "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that the present system of appointing honorary magistrates be abolished."

4. "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that he may be pleased to vest all the non-irrigational tanks in district local board areas in the district local boards concerned or that Government may be pleased to order that the proceeds of the sales of trees standing in the beds of the tanks may be credited to the local funds of the district local boards concerned."

5. "This Council recommends to Government that in view of repeated scarcity in many parts of Northern Gujarat an investigation be undertaken on scientific lines with the help of experts and such number of non-official members of the Council as Government may deem necessary, to consider the possibilities of irrigational projects by deep boring, construction of dams and barrage works on rivers like the Narbada and any other methods that may be suitable."

6. "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that Government be pleased to empower the Municipality of Bombay to determine the number and location of liquor-shops within their jurisdiction."

7. "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that Government be pleased to communicate and commend to all local bodies in the presidency the resolution of the Bombay Corporation for establishing one Unani and one Ayurvedic dispensary in each of the wards of the city and to intimate that any effort made by any local body for the encouragement of the indigenous systems of medicine will have the whole-hearted sympathy and support of Government."

8. "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council to make charkha spinning a compulsory subject in the girls' schools of this presidency."

9. "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council to appoint a committee with non-official majority to report on the necessary changes to be introduced in the curriculum and the next books of the primary and secondary schools so as to bring them into greater accord with the requirements of the times and to ensure a healthy growth of national sentiment."

10. "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that all political prisoners convicted in this presidency for offences not involving violence to person or property be forthwith released."

11. "This Council recommends to Government that the photocopying system introduced recently in the Registration Department of this presidency as an experimental measure be abolished forthwith, and the old system restored."

N. J. WADIA,

Secretary to the Legislative Council
of the Governor of Bombay.

Bombay, 10th March 1925.

INDEX

A

| | PAGES, |
|--|--|
| Abdul Latif Haji Hajrat Khan— | |
| Asks questions | 472, 1211—12, 1320 |
| Acts— | |
| Act X of 1865, Bill to amend the — | 390—417, 1159 |
| Act XV of 1865, Bill to amend the — | 390—417, 1159 |
| Act XXI of 1866, Bill to amend the — | 390—417, 1159 |
| Act IV of 1869, Bill to amend the — | 390—417, 1159 |
| Act VII of 1870, Bill to amend the — | 390—417, 1159 |
| Act V of 1881, Bill to amend the — | 390—417, 1159 |
| Act II of 1882, Bill to amend the — | 390—417, 1159 |
| Act VII of 1889, Bill to amend the — | 390—417, 1159 |
| Act VIII of 1890, Bill to amend the — | 390—417, 1159 |
| Act II of 1899, Bill to amend the — | 331—390, 390—417, 1159 |
| Act V of 1908, Bill to amend the — | 390—417, 1159 |
| Act VII of 1923, Bill to amend the — | 390—417, 1159 |
| Bombay Act III of 1888, Bill to amend the — | 1159—1204 |
| Bombay Act III of 1901, Bill to amend the — | 1259—1274 |
| Bombay Act II of 1918, Bill to amend the — | 1159—1204 |
| Bombay Act VII of 1918, Bill to amend the — | 1159—1204 |
| Bombay Act II of 1922, Bill to amend the — | 331—390 |
| Addyman, Mr. J.— | |
| Appointed member of select committee on Rent Acts Amendment Bill | 1203 |
| Adjournment of Business— | |
| Motion for — regarding— | |
| Provincial Contribution, Bombay's | 404, 506—30 |
| Reforms Enquiry Committee Report | 21, 937—56 |
| Adwani, Mr. D. B.— | |
| Appointed member of select committee on Rent Acts Amendment Bill | 1203 |
| Asks questions | 85, 303—04, 472—73, 774, 1212—13, 1348 |
| Bills— | |
| Court-fees Act Amendment Bill | 410—412 |
| Sind Hindu Monogamous Marriages Bill— | |
| Motion for leave to introduce | 1275 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Artillery Maidan, Karachi, Public building on — | 457, 458—50 |
| Civil Works | 914, 915—16 |
| Civil Works (60) not charged to revenue | 424, 463—64 |
| Development Scheme, Bombay | 550—53 |
| Duty allowance to Engineers | 888—89, 889—90 |
| Government Central Press, Stationery Office, etc. — | |
| Building for — | 442 |
| Government House, Karachi, Construction of stables, etc. | 851—852, 853 |
| High Commissioner, expenditure in England through | 712, 747 |
| Housing (World) Works | 500 |
| Indus River Gauging District, Chief Engineer | 901—02 |
| Irrigation Works, construction of — | 705 |
| Karachi Arsenal and Magazine, Acquisition of land for resiting | |
| of, | 623—624, 627, 628 |
| Karachi New Arsenal— | |
| Construction of — at Drigh Road | 628 |
| Lloyd Barrage Allowance | 800, 895 |
| Lloyd Barrage and Canals | 672—76, 694—95 |
| Lloyd Barrage Establishment | 931—32 |

A—contd.

| | PAGES. |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Adwani, Mr. D. B.— <i>contd.</i> | |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Salsette-Trombay Railway | 504 |
| Sind allowance to Engineers | 887, 888 |
| Stationery and Printing | 753 |
| General discussion on— | 206—10 |
| Resolution regarding— | |
| Salaries of Government peons in Bombay City | 1391—92 |
| Standing orders, Motion to amend— | 1367—68 |
| Agenda | 1—21 |
| Ahmad, Moulvi Rafiuddin— | |
| Adjournment of business, Motion for— regarding— | |
| Provincial Contribution, Bombay's | 526—27 |
| Reforms Enquiry Committee Report | 944 |
| Bills— | |
| Rent Acts Amendment Bill | 1185—86 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Civil Works | 917 |
| Dapuri Workshop Manager. Pay of— | 884 |
| Education | 1113—15 |
| Government Central Press, Stationery Office, etc.—Building for, | 450—451 |
| Industries Department | 970—971 |
| Karias, Zamindari— Construction of sluices over | 646—647 |
| Law charges, Development Department | 539—40 |
| Lloyd Barrage allowance | 891—92 |
| Medical | 1076—78 |
| Photo-copying, Stores for | 733—34 |
| Police | 1150 |
| Poona Cantonment Water Supply— Improvement of— | 622—23 |
| Public health laboratory for Sind | 997 |
| Sergeants, Pay of— | 1131—32 |
| Vernacular literature— Encouragement of, | 1088—89 |
| Council business, arrangement of— | 111 |
| Elected Member of Public Accounts Committee.. .. . | 109 |
| Motion regarding— | |
| Representation to Government of India about Provincial contribution | 1069 |
| Resolution regarding— | |
| Fishing in the Sabarmati near Kasandra | 1387 |
| Salaries of Government peons in Bombay City | 1393 |
| Standing Orders, Motion to amend— | 1292—93, 1365, 1376, 1378, 1381 |
| Angadi, Mr. S. N.— | |
| Bills— | |
| Court-fees Act Amendment Bill | 415—16 |
| Elected Member of Public Accounts Committee.. .. . | 109 |
| Appendices— | 1405—1619 |
| A. Statement referred to in paragraph 11 of the Honourable Mr. Lawrence's budget speech | 1405 |
| B. Stamp Act Amendment Bill (Bill No. II of 1925) | 1406 |
| C. Representation to the Government of India regarding Bombay's Provincial contribution | 1408—22 |
| D. Court-fees Act Amendment Bill (Bill No. III of 1925) | 1423—39 |
| E. Rent Acts Amendment Bill | 1440—45 |
| F. District Municipal Act Amendment Bill | 1455—48 |
| G. Report of the Select Committee on Motions Nos. III to VIII of 1923 to amend standing Orders | 1449—55 |
| Supplementary Agenda | 1617—19 |

B

| | PAGES. |
|--|------------------------------|
| Baptista, Mr. J.— | |
| Adjournment of business, Motion for— regarding Provincial contribu- tion, Bombay's | 515—17 |
| Appointed member of select committee on Rent Acts Amendment Bill | 1203 |
| Bills— | |
| Court-fees Act Amendment Bill | 409—10 |
| Rent Acts Amendment Bill | 1177—79 |
| Stamp Act Amendment Bill | 379—82 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Development scheme, Bombay | 565—71 |
| Education | 1093—94 |
| Housing (Worli) Works | 501 |
| General discussion on — | 217—23 |
| Resolution regarding— | |
| Salaries of Government peons in Bombay City | 1396—97 |
| Standing Orders, Motion to amend | 1367, 1374 |
| Vote, Interference with exercise of free, | 699—700 |
| Bhopatkar, Mr. Mr. L. B.— | |
| Appointed member of select committee on Rent Acts Amendment Bill | 1263 |
| Asks questions 35, 40, 85, 102, 160—61, 305—06, 474, 774—76, 1016—19, 1213—14, 1236, 1320—21 | |
| Bills— | |
| Court-fees Act Amendment Bill | 402—05 |
| District Municipal Act Amendment Bill | 1259—67 |
| Town Planning Act Amendment Bill (Motion for leave to introduce) | 1277—78 |
| Budget — | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Agriculture | 986—88 |
| Development Scheme, Bombay | 563—65 |
| Education | 1092—93 |
| Education, European | 1125 |
| Poona, Quarters for Nurses | 435—36 |
| Photo-copying, Stores for | 726—30 |
| Secret Service Money | 1146—47 |
| General discussion on — | 264—68 |
| Standing Orders, Motions to amend | 1293—94, 1365—66, 1371, 1372 |
| Bhurri, Mr. J. M.— | |
| Asks questions | 475 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grants for— | |
| Karias, Zamindari—Construction of sluices over | 647, 636—642 |
| Lloyd Barrage and Canals | 676—678, 680 |
| Bills— | |
| Bill No. XXII of 1924 (A Bill further to amend the Bombay District Police Act, 1890)— | |
| Second reading postponed | 1257—58 |
| Bill No. XXVI of 1921 (A Bill to alter the constitution and to widen the powers of municipalities)— | |
| First reading | 1259—72 |
| First reading (further consideration of) postponed | 1273 |
| Bill No. I of 1925 [A Bill further to amend the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions) Act, 1918, and the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions No. 2) Act, 1918]— | |
| First reading | 1159—1203 |
| Bill referred to select committee | 1203 |
| Bill No. II of 1925 (Stamp Act Amendment Bill)— | |
| First reading | 331—60, 363—90 |
| First reading rejected | 300 |

| | PAGES. |
|--|--|
| <i>Bills—contd.</i> | |
| Bill No. III of 1925 (A Bill further to amend the Court-fees Act, 1870)— | |
| First reading | 390—417 |
| Withdrawn and consideration postponed | 1159 |
| Cattle Trespass Act Amendment Bill (Motion for leave to introduce).. | 1280—81 |
| Hereditary Offices Act Amendment Bill (Motion for leave to introduce). | 1281—83 |
| Land Revenue Code Amendment Bill (Motion for leave to introduce) | 1275—76, 1277 |
| Local Boards Act Amendment Bill (Motion for leave to introduce) .. | 1278—80 |
| Sind Hindu Monogamous Marriages Bill (Motion for leave to introduce). | 1274—75 |
| Town Planning Act Amendment Bill (Motion for leave to introduce). | 1277—78 |
| Village Police Act Amendment Bill (Motion for leave to introduce) .. | 1283 |
| Bole, Mr. S. K.— | |
| Asks questions | 85—89, 304—05, 474, 589, 815—19, 1019, 1214—15, 1321 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for Famine Relief and Insurance | 771 |
| Resolution regarding— | |
| Salaries of Government peons in Bombay City | 1390—91, 1399—1400 |
| Brander, Mr. J. P.— | |
| Oath of office | 1159 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Accountants (Public Works Department). Increase in the | |
| cadre of | 840—43 |
| Administration of Justice | 11540 |
| Agriculture | 977—94 |
| Agriculture and Civil Veterinary Services | 9987 |
| Ahmedabad Police Lines | 433—352 |
| Ahmednagar, Quarters for Sub-Inspector, head constable, | |
| etc., at — | 431—32 |
| Ambemath Works | 503—04 |
| Andheri, Acquisition of lands for Salsette-Trombay Railway .. | 504 |
| Arsenal, Construction of new — at Drigh Road, Karachi .. | 628 |
| Arsenal, Karachi, Acquisition of land for re-siting | 623—28 |
| Artillery Maidan, Karachi, Public buildings on — | 457—59 |
| Assistant to the Dean, Grant Medical College. | 1061—63 |
| Bombay Development Scheme | 466—69, 494—98 |
| Building for Government Central Press, Stationery Office, etc. .. | 437—57 |
| Buildings, Judicial — at Jalgaon | 625—30 |
| Buildings, Police — in Bombay | 430, 431 |
| Civil Veterinary Services | 995 |
| Civil Works (Reserved and Transferred) | 837—40 |
| Civil Works | 460—66 |
| Civil Works | 912—18 |
| Civil Works (Reserved) | 960 |
| Civil Works (not charged to Revenue, Account head 60) | 422—66 |
| Construction of Irrigation Works | 629—635, 700—11 |
| Dapuri Workshop Manager, pay of— | 882—87 |
| Deccan Irrigation, additional districts | 849 |
| Development Scheme, Bombay | 466—69, 494—98 |
| Discretionary grants | 853—55 |
| Dispensaries and other medical institutions—Grants-in-aid to—.. | 1060—61 |
| Duty allowance to Engineers | 888—90 |
| Education | 1091—97, 1101—24 |
| Education (Inspecting staff | 190—95 |
| Excise | 1155 |

B—contd.

| Budget—contd. | PAGES |
|--|------------------------|
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Famine Relief and Insurance | 821—37 |
| Forest— | |
| Forest Capital Outlay (Forest Transferred) | 811, 1155 |
| General Administration | 1154 |
| Government Central Press, Stationery Office, etc., Building for— | 437—57 |
| Government House, Karachi, Construction of stables, etc. .. | 851—53 |
| Grant-in-aid to dispensary and other medical institutions .. | 1060—61 |
| Grant Medical College; Assistant to the Dean | 1061—63 |
| Great Marak Canal, Karia sluices on — | 600 |
| Hospitals, Orthopædic appliances to — | 1059 |
| Housing (Worli) Works | 499—502 |
| Housing (Worli and Sewri) Works | 502 |
| Hyderabad, Mounted Armed Police lines at — | 432—33 |
| Indus Canals, Left Bank, Masonry sluices over kacha karia heads | |
| on — | 660 |
| Indus Canals, Right Bank, Masonry sluices over kacha karia heads | |
| on — | 660 |
| Indus Left Bank Division, Superintending Engineer for — .. | 912 |
| Indus Right Bank Division, Superintending Engineer | 907—11 |
| Indus River Gauging District, Chief Engineer in — | 897—907 |
| Industries Department | 960—976 |
| Inspecting staff (Education) | 1090—91 |
| Irrigation districts, additional — for Deccan | 849—51 |
| Irrigation (including working expenses) | 1155 |
| Irrigation Capital, interest on | 1155 |
| Irrigation Works, Construction of — | 629—35, 700—11 |
| Jails and convict settlements | 1154 |
| Joint demand for reserved and transferred departments, | |
| Discussion on — | 844—849 |
| Judicial buildings at Jalgaon | 426—30 |
| Justice, Administration of — | 1154 |
| Kahi Canal and branches, Masonry sluices over kacha karia heads | |
| along, | 660 |
| Kandivli Quarry acquisition | 498—99 |
| Karachi Arsenal and Magazine. Acquisition of land for | |
| re-siting of — | 623—28 |
| Karachi, Artillery Maidan, Public buildings on — | 457—59 |
| Karachi Government House, Construction of stables, etc. .. | 851—53 |
| Karachi, New Arsenal, Construction of — at Drigh Road .. | 628 |
| Karia heads, Masonry sluices over kacha— | |
| along Kahi Canal and branches | 660 |
| along Masuwah | 660 |
| on Indus Canals, Left Bank | 660 |
| on Indus Canals, Right Bank | 660 |
| on Pinyari Canal | 660 |
| Karia heads, screw gates over — ex-Gujra on Nasrat Canal .. | 660 |
| Karia sluices on Great Marak Canal | 660 |
| Karia sluices on Sarfraz Canal | 660 |
| Karias, Zamindari — Construction of sluices over | 635—659 |
| Khar works | 502—03 |
| Laboratory, Public Health — for Sind | 995—1000 |
| Land Manager, Personal Assistant to — | 505—06 |
| Land Revenue | 1155 |
| Lloyd Barrage allowance | 890—97 |
| Lloyd Barrage and Canals | 661—66, 669—99 |
| Lloyd (Sukkur) Barrage Establishment | 921—37 |
| Loans and Advances bearing interest | 420 |
| Mechanical Engineer. Temporary Establishment | 881—82 |
| Mechanical Engineer. Temporary — Pay of | 876—81 |
| Medical | 1059, 1063—68, 1071—87 |
| Medical Service (reserved) | 1087 |
| Medical Service (transferred) | 1087 |

Budget—contd.

Demands for grants—

Grant for—

| | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Miscellaneous Departments | 960 |
| Municipal schools | 1091 |
| Musuwah, Masonry sluices over kacha karia heads, along, .. | 660 |
| Nasrat Canal, Screw gates over karia heads ex-Gujra on — .. | 660 |
| Nurses, Quarters for — at Poona | 435—436 |
| Orthopædics, Appliances to hospitals | 1059 |
| Orthopædics, Technical Adviser for | 1063 |
| Personal Assistant to Land Manager, Development Department | 505—06 |
| Photo-copying (Registration Stores) | 712—20 |
| Pinyari Canal, Masonry Sluices over kacha karia heads on — .. | 660 |
| Police | 1126, 1148—54, 1154 |
| Police buildings in Bombay | 430—31 |
| Police, Head — Office | 431 |
| Police buildings (quarters for sub-inspector, etc.) at Ahmednagar | 431—32 |
| Police lines, Ahmedabad | 433—35 |
| Police, Mounted Armed — lines at Hyderabad | 432—33 |
| Poona Cantonment Water Supply, Improvement of — .. | 620—23 |
| Poona, Quarters for nurses — | 435—36 |
| orts and Pilotage | 1126 |
| Provincial Civil Works—Establishment | 871—76 |
| Provincial Civil Works—Repairs | 867—70 |
| Public Health (Transferred) | 623, 628, 995, 1000—13, 1053—59 |
| Public Health laboratory for Sind | 995—1000 |
| Railway, Salsette-Trombay | 504 |
| Registration | 1155 |
| Salsette-Trombay Railway | 504 |
| Sarfraz Canal, Karia sluices on — | 660 |
| Scheduled Taxes | 1155 |
| Schools | 1091 |
| Scientific Departments | 1126 |
| Secret Service Money | 1146—48 |
| Sergeants, Pay of — | 1125—45 |
| Sewri and Worli Housing Works | 502 |
| Sind allowance to Engineers | 887—88 |
| Sluices, Construction of — over Zamindari Karias | 635—59 |
| Stamps | 1155 |
| Stationery Office, Building for Central Press — etc., .. | 437—57 |
| Stores, Registration — (Photo-copying) | 712—20 |
| Technical Adviser for Orthopædics | 1063 |
| Vernacular literature, Encouragement of, | 1087—90 |
| Warehouse at Sewri for country spirit | 420—22 |
| Water supply, Poona Cantonment —, Improvement of .. | 620—23 |
| Well boring | 837 |
| Worli and Sewri Housing Works | 502 |
| Worli Housing Works | 499—502 |
| General Discussion on the — | 111—156, 183—235, 238—300 |
| Presentation of the — | 65—81 |

C

Chairmen of the Council—

| | |
|---|---------|
| Nomination of — | 36 |
| Chaudhari, Mr. L. S.— | |
| Asks questions 475—77, 589—91, 776—78, 1019—20, 1215—16, 1236, 1304, 1322 | |
| Bills— | |
| Local Boards Act Amendment Bill— | |
| Motion for leave to introduce | 1278—80 |

C—contd.

| | PAGES. |
|--|----------------------|
| Chaudhari, Mr. L. S.— <i>contd.</i> | |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Agriculture | 970—84 |
| Famine Relief and Insurance | 826—20 |
| Judicial buildings at Jalgaon | 429 |
| Clayton, Mr. F.— | |
| Adjournment of business. Motion for — regarding Provincial contribution, Bombay's— | 527 |
| Motion— | |
| Provincial contribution, Representation regarding | 1070—71 |
| Committee, Finance, election of — | 62, 82 |
| Committee, Public Accounts, Election of — | 60—61, 109 |
| Cooper, Khan Bahadur D. B.— | |
| Asks questions | 40—41, 161, 307, 477 |
| Council, Prorogation of — | 1404 |
| Council, Legislative, Time for meeting of — | 956—57 |

D

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Dabholkar, Mr. V. A.— | |
| Appointed member of select committee on Rent Acts Amendment | |
| Bill | 1204 |
| Asks questions | 1322 |
| Bills— | |
| Rent Acts Amendment Bill | 1161—62, 1163, 1179—85 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Sergeants, pay of — | 1133—35 |
| Nomination of, as Chairman of Council | 36 |
| Motions to amend Standing Orders | 1362 |
| Dadachanji, Dr. K. E.— | |
| Asks questions | 41, 161—62, 501 |
| Bills— | |
| Stamp Act Amendment Bill | 345—46 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Famine Relief and Insurance | 835—37 |
| Grant-in-aid to dispensaries and other medical institutions | 1060 |
| Local Boards | 748, 749 |
| Orthopædic appliances to hospitals | 1059—1060 |
| Warehouse at Sewri for country spirit | 421 |
| Well boring | 837 |
| Workmen's Compensation Act., Provision under | 750 |
| Nomination of, as Chairman of Council | 36 |
| Dehlavi, The Honourable Mr. A. M. K.— | |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Agriculture | 977—78, 993—95 |
| Excise | 1155 |
| Forest | 1155 |
| Forest Capital Outlay (Forest Transferred) | 711 |
| Miscellaneous adjustments between Central and Provincial Governments | 748 |
| Photo-copying (Registration) stores | 712, 715—16, 718—20 |
| Photo-copying, Stores for — | 741—742 |
| Registration | 1155 |
| Veterinary (Civil), Services | 995 |
| Warehouse at Sewri for country spirit | 420—22 |
| General discussion on — | 213—17 |
| Supplementary estimates.. .. . | 1205, 1206, 1207 |

D—contd.

| | PAGES. |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Delves, Mr. R. H. A.— | |
| Appointed member of select committee on Rent Acts Amendment Bill .. | 1204 |
| Oath of Office | 25 |
| Deputy President— | |
| Announces election of Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoola as President of the Council | 25 |
| Announces His Excellency the Governor's approval to the election of Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoola as President of the Council | 28 |
| Desai, Rao Saheb D. P.— | |
| Adjournment Motion regarding— | |
| Provincial Contribution, Bombay's | 528—29 |
| Reforms Enquiry Committee Report | 948—49 |
| Asks questions 41—42, 89—90, 162—63, 307—08, 478, 591—93, 778—84, 1216—21, 1020—25, 1236—38, 1349, 1322—23, 1305, 1348—49. | |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Agriculture | 988—92 |
| Civil Works | 916 |
| Civil Works, Provincial (Works) | 868—69 |
| Dapuri Workshop Manager, Pay of — | 885 |
| Development Scheme, Bombay | 553—54 |
| Education | 1110—11 |
| Famine Relief and Insurance | 834—35 |
| Government Central Press, etc., Building for — | 452 |
| Industries Department | 966—67 |
| Lloyd Barrage | 661 |
| Local Boards | 749 |
| General discussion on — | 111—15 |
| Dev, Mr. S. S.— | |
| Asks questions 43—45, 90—91, 163, 308—09, 593—601, 784—85, 1025—27, 1221—22, 1238—39. | |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Agriculture | 978—79, 993, 995 |
| Grant-in-aid to dispensaries and other medical institutions | 1061 |
| Industries Department | 965—66 |
| Judicial buildings at Jalgaon | 426—28, 429—30 |
| Public Health | 1000—1001, 1056—57 |
| Stationery and Printing | 752—53 |
| General discussion on — | 132—36 |
| Standing Orders, Motions to amend — | 1362—63, 1374—75, 1377—78, 1379 |
| Supplementary Estimates | 1205 |
| Division on— | |
| Bills— | |
| Land Revenue Code Amendment Bill, Motion for leave to introduce | 1276 |
| Stamp Act Amendment Bill, motion for first reading | 389—90 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Assistant Development Officers | 534 |
| Country spirit warehouse at Sewri | 422 |
| Development Scheme, Bombay | 584—85 |
| Discretionary grants | 863—64 |
| Government Central Press, etc. Building for — | 456—57 |
| Indus Right Bank Division, Superintending Engineer | 911 |
| Lloyd Barrage and Canals, motion to reduce by Rs. 33,80,000 grant for — | 699 |
| Lloyd Barrage Establishment | 937 |
| Nurses, Quarters for — at Poona | 436 |
| Photo-copying, Stores for — | 742—43 |
| Poona, Quarters for nurses at — | 436 |

INDEX

ix

D—contd.

| | PAGES. |
|---|---------|
| Dev, Mr. S. S.— <i>contd.</i> | |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Sergeants, Pay of — | 1145 |
| Travelling and other allowances (Development Department) .. | 538 |
| Warehouse at Sewri for country spirit | 422 |
| Motion to amend standing orders | 1301—02 |

F

| | |
|--|---------|
| Fernandez, Dr. Cosmas— | |
| Bills— | |
| Rent Acts Amendment Bill | 1102—03 |
| Framji, Mr. K. S.— | |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Accountants (Public Works Department)— | |
| Increase in the cadre of — | 841—42 |
| Civil Works, Provincial: Establishment | 874—75 |
| Civil Works, Provincial: Repairs | 869 |
| Discretionary grants | 855—57 |
| Government Central Press, Stationery Office, etc., Building for— | 446 |
| Poona Cantonment Water Supply Improvement of — .. | 621—22 |
| Finance Committee, election of — | 62, 82 |

G

| | |
|---|---|
| Ghulam Hussain, the Honourable Khan Bahadur Shaikh— | |
| Bills— | |
| District Municipal Act Amendment Bill | 1267—71, 1272—73 |
| Stamp Act Amendment Bill | 351—55 |
| Town Planning Act Amendment Bill— | |
| Motion for leave to introduce | 1278 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Accountants (Public Works Department)—Increase in the cadre | |
| of — | 843 |
| Agriculture | 985—86 |
| Civil Works | 461—62, 463, 464, 465, 466, 837—40, 918 |
| Civil Works not charged to Revenue (Account head 60) .. | 422—26 |
| Civil Works, Provincial: Establishment | 872—74, 875—76 |
| Civil Works, Provincial: Repairs | 870 |
| Civil Works (Reserved) | 960 |
| Dapuri Workshop Manager, Pay of — | 887 |
| Discretionary grants | 863 |
| High Commissioner, Expenditure in England through (trans- | |
| ferred) | 712, 743 |
| Karias, Zamindari — Construction of sluices over | 653—54 |
| Lloyd Barrage Establishment | 937 |
| Local Boards | 748 |
| Mechanical Engineer: Temporary, Pay of — | 880—81 |
| Public Buildings in Artillery Maidan, Karachi | 457—58 |
| Public Health | 1009—1010 |
| Public Health, improvements on, Capital outlay on — .. | 585 |
| Discussion on — | 254—58 |
| Supplementary Estimates | 1207 |
| Governor, His Excellency the—Speech of — | 30—36 |

G—contd.

| | PAGES. |
|---|---|
| Grantham, Mr. V. A.— | |
| Adjournment, Motion regarding— | |
| Provincial Contribution, Bombay's | 527 |
| Provincial Contribution, representation regarding | 1071 |
| Appointed member of select committee on Rent Acts Amendment Bill .. | 1204 |
| Standing Orders, Motions to amend— | 1287—88 |
| Gunjal, Mr. N. R.— | |
| Asks questions | 45—46, 91, 478—79, 601—02, 785—87, 1222— 25, 1239—42, 1305—06, 1323—26, 1351 |
| Bills— | |
| Rent Acts Amendment Bill | 1186—87 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Photo-copying (Registration) Stores | 717—18 |
| Resolution regarding— | |
| Fishing in the Sabarmati near Kasandra | 1387—88 |

H

| | |
|---|--|
| Haji Abdulla Haroon— | |
| Asks questions | 146—69, 480—81, 787—88, 1050—52, 1225—27, 1306—08, 1326—29 |
| Harrison, Mr. C. S. C.— | |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Dapuri Workshop Manager, Pay of— | 886—87 |
| Irrigation Works, Construction of— | 703—04 |
| Karias, Zamindari—Construction of sluices over | 647—50 |
| Lloyd Barrage Allowance | 893—94 |
| Lloyd Barrage and Canals | 672—73, 687—94 |
| Lloyd Barrage Establishment | 928—31 |
| Oath of Office | 25, 1159 |
| Hayward, The Honourable Sir Maurice— | |
| Adjournment Motion regarding— | |
| Provincial Contribution, Bombay's | 494, 530 |
| Reforms Enquiry Committee Report | 937 |
| Bills— | |
| Court-fees Act Amendment Bill | 407—08 |
| District Police Act Amendment Bill | 1258 |
| Rent Acts Amendment Bill | 1164 |
| Stamp Act Amendment Bill | 357—60 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Administration of Justice | 1154 |
| Ahmedabad Police Lines | 435 |
| Ahmednagar, Quarters for Sub-Inspector, head constables and constables | 432 |
| Civil Works (66) not charged to Revenue | 424 |
| Dapuri Workshop Manager, Pay of— | 885—86 |
| Development Department Law charges | 542—43 |
| Discretionary grants | 856, 861—63 |
| Education | 1104, 1105, 1119—20 |
| Education, European | 1125 |
| Hyderabad, Improvement of Mounted Armed Police Lines at— .. | 433 |
| Jails and Convict Settlements | 1154 |
| Judicial buildings at Jalgaon | 430 |
| Justice, Administration of— | 1154 |
| Photo-copying (Registration) Stores | 720 |
| Photo-copying, Stores for— | 723—26 |
| Police | 1126, 1154 |

H—contd.

| | PAGES |
|--|--|
| Hayward, The Honourable Sir Maurice— <i>contd.</i> | |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— <i>contd.</i> | |
| Grant for— | |
| Police Buildings in Bombay | 430, 431 |
| Secret Service Money | 1147—48 |
| Sergeants, Pay of — | 1135-41, 1144—45 |
| General discussion on — | 283—286 |
| Council Business, arrangement of — | 110—11, 417 |
| Council, time of Meeting of — | 957, 1155 |
| Parekh, late Sir Gokuldas, Reference to the death of— | 61 |
| Resolution regarding — | |
| Fishing in the Sabarmati near Kasandra | 1384—85, 1389—90 |
| Salaries of Government peons in Bombay | 1397—99 |
| Tribute to the late Mr. Montagu | 64 |
| Standing Orders, Motion to amend— | 1283—86, 1290—1301, 1363—64, 1365, 1369—71, 1374, 1376—77, 1379, 1380—81, 1381 |
| Supplementary Estimates | 1205 |
| Hepper, Sir Lawless— | |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Ambernath Works | 503 |
| Assistant Development Officers | 533 |
| Development Department Law Charges | 539 |
| Development Scheme, Bombay | 571—75, 576 |
| Housing (Worli) Works | 500 |
| Kandivli Quarry Acquisition | 498—99 |
| Khar Works | 502—03 |
| Salsette-Trombay Railway | 504 |
| Travelling and other allowances (Development Department) | 535—36 |
| His Excellency the Governor— | |
| Speech of — | 30—36 |
| Hotson, Mr. J. E. B.— | |
| Oath of office | 25 |
| Hudson, Mr. L. S.— | |
| Nomination of, as Chairman of Council | 36 |

J

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| Jadhav, the Honourable Mr. B. V.— | |
| Adjournment Motion regarding— | |
| Provincial Contribution, Bombay's | 517—19 |
| Bills — | |
| Stamp Act Amendment Bill | 371—76 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Civil Works | 465 |
| Education | 31, 1101—09, 1120—24, 1125 |
| Grant-in-aid to dispensaries and other medical institutions | 1060 |
| Grant Medical College, Assistant to Dean | 1062 |
| Industries Department | 960—61, 967—70, 976 |
| Inspecting Staff (Education) | 1090—91 |
| Medical | 1086—68, 1071—72, 1083—87 |
| Medical Services (Reserved) | 1087 |
| Medical Services (Transferred) | 1087 |
| Orthopædic appliances to hospitals | 1059—60 |
| Orthopædics, Technical Adviser for — | 1063 |
| Poona, Quarters for nurses at — | 436 |
| Public Health | 1010—13, 1057—58 |
| Public Health (Transferred) | 995 |
| Public Health Laboratory for Sind | 996—97, 999—1000 |
| Scientific Departments | 1126 |

| | PAGES |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Jadhav, The Honourable Mr. B. V.—contd. | |
| Budget—contd. | |
| Demands for grants—contd. | |
| Grant for— | |
| Secretary of State—Expenditure in England through .. | 748 |
| Vernacular Literature, Encouragement of .. | 1089—90 |
| General discussion on — .. | 229—234 |
| Standing Orders, Motions to amend .. | 1294—96 |
| Supplementary Estimates .. | 1207 |
| Jatoi, Khan Saheb Karimbaksh— | |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Karias, Zamindari—Construction of sluices over .. | 643 |
| General discussion on — .. | 280—81 |
| Jayakar, Mr. M. R.— | |
| Asks questions .. | 1352 |
| Adjournment Motion regarding— | |
| Provincial Contribution, Bombay's .. | 527—28 |
| Provincial Contribution, Representation regarding --- .. | 1070 |
| Reforms Enquiry Committee Report .. | 921, 937—42, 954—56 |
| Bills— | |
| Court-fees Act Amendment Bill .. | 406—07 |
| Rent Acts Amendment Bill .. | 1177, 1182 |
| Stamp Act Amendment Bill .. | 341—45 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Development Department Law Charges .. | 539, 541 |
| Discretionary grants .. | 855, 857 |
| Education .. | 31, 1104—05, 1094, 1097 |
| Industries Department .. | 971 |
| Irrigation Works, Construction of — .. | 631, 706—08 |
| Karia, Zamindari—Construction of sluices over .. | 642—43 |
| Lloyd Barrage and Canals .. | 694 |
| Public Health .. | 1004—06 |
| Secret Service Money .. | 1147 |
| General discussion on — .. | 268—72 |
| Council business, arrangement of — .. | 116, 111 |
| Council, Time for meeting of --- .. | 1155 |
| Parekh, late Sir Gokuldas, Reference to the death of — .. | 61 |
| Resolution regarding— | |
| Salaries of Government peons in Bombay City .. | 1392 |
| Tribute to the late Mr. Montagu .. | 64 |
| Standing Orders, Motions to amend — .. | 1288—90, 1368—69, 1378—79 |
| Supplementary Estimates .. | 1208 |
| Jehangir, the Honourable Mr. Cowasji— | |
| Appointed member of select committee on Rent Acts Amendment Bill .. | 1204 |
| Bills — | |
| Rent Acts Amendment Bill .. | 1159—67, 1200—03, 1204 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants — | |
| Grant for— | |
| Ambernath Works .. | 503 |
| Assistant Development Officers .. | 534 |
| Civil Works .. | 915 |
| Development Department Law Charges .. | 540—41 |
| Development Scheme, Bombay .. | 466—69, 494—98, 545, 578—84, 585 |
| Duty allowance to Engineers .. | 889 |
| Government Central Press, Stationery Office, etc., Building for — .. | 438—41, 454—56 |
| Housing (Worli) Works .. | 501—02 |
| Housing (Worli and Sewri) Works .. | 502 |

J—contd.

| | PAGES |
|---|--|
| Jehangir, The Honourable Mr. Cowasji— <i>contd.</i> | |
| Budget— <i>contd.</i> | |
| Demands for grants— <i>contd.</i> | |
| Grant for— | |
| Indus Left Bank Division : Superintending Engineer for — .. | 912 |
| Indus Right Bank Division : Superintending Engineer .. | 908—09, 910—11 |
| Indus River Gauging District : Chief Engineer in — .. | 905—07 |
| Irrigation (including working expenses) | 1155 |
| Irrigation Capital, Interest on | 1155 |
| Irrigation districts, Additional for Deccan | 850 |
| Irrigation Works : Construction of — | 629—35, 700, 708—11 |
| Kandivli Quarry Acquisition | 499 |
| Karias, Zamindari—Construction of sluices over | 656—59 |
| Lloyd Barrage allowance | 888—91, 895—97 |
| Lloyd Barrage and Canals | 695—98, 760, 671, 671-72 |
| Lloyd Barrage Establishment | 934—36 |
| Miscellaneous Departments | 960 |
| Personal Assistant to Land Manager, Development Department .. | 506 |
| Public Health | 1010 |
| Salsette-Trombay Railway | 505 |
| Sind allowance to Engineers | 887, 888 |
| Stationery and Printing | 750, 756—57 |
| Stationery and Printing : Stores for — | 740—47 |
| Travelling and other allowances (Development Department) .. | 537 |
| Workmen's Compensation Act, provision under — | 750 |
| Resolution regarding— | |
| Annual Reports, Forms and Returns | 1402—04 |
| Supplementary Estimates | 1206 |
| Jog, Mr. V. N.— | |
| Asks questions | 46—47, 92, 311—12, 602—03, 788—90, 1027, 1227-28 |
| Budget— | |
| General discussion on — | 186—90 |
| Joshi, Mr. P. G.— | |
| Asks questions | 92-93, 313, 481, 603—06, 790-91, 1028-29, 1228-29, 1308-09, 1320—30 |
| Bills— | |
| Stamp Act Amendment Bill | 335—38 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Civil Works, Provincial Establishment | 871—75 |
| Discretionary Grants | 853—55 |
| Government Central Press, Stationery office, etc., Building for — | 444 |
| Education | 1120, 1124, 1092 |
| Irrigation districts : Additional for Deccan | 850 |
| Lloyd Barrage allowance | 895 |
| Public health laboratory for Sind | 905, 909, 1000 |
| Stationery and Printing : Stores for — | 745, 745-40 |

K

| | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Kalbhorr, Mr. G. M.— | |
| Asks questions | 93 |
| Kambli, Mr. S. T.— | |
| Adjournment Motion regarding— | |
| Reforms Enquiry Committee Report | 946—47 |
| Asks questions | 606, 791—92, 1029, 1229, 1242, 1310 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Inspecting staff (Education) | 1090, 1091 |
| Municipal schools | 1091 |
| General discussion on — | 148—50 |

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Karki, Mr. M. D.— | |
| Asks questions | 47—49, 93—96, 170—73, 314—15, 481—87, 606—09, 792, 1229—30, 1242—43, 1310—11, 1330—31, 1330—34, 1352 |
| Budgets— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Agriculture | 984—85 |
| General discussion on — | 275—79 |
| Kothari, Mr. V. R.— | |
| Budget— | |
| General discussion on — | 136—40 |

L

| | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Lalji Naranji, Mr.— | |
| Adjournment Motion regarding— | |
| Provincial Contribution, Bombay's — | 494, 506—13, 53' |
| Reforms Enquiry Committee Report | 949— |
| Asks questions | 799, 1031, 1256— |
| Bills— | |
| Stamp Act Amendment Bill | 376—79 |
| Budget— | |
| General discussion on — | 115—21 |
| Council, Time for meeting of — | 1155 |
| Elected member of Public Accounts Committee | 109 |
| Motion— | |
| Provincial contribution : Representation regarding — | 1069—70 |
| Lalljee, Mr. Hoosainbhoj A.— | |
| Appointed member of select committee on Rent Acts Amendment Bill | 1204 |
| Asks questions | 315, 819—20, 1230—31, 1243—44 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for — | |
| Development Scheme, Bombay | 559—61 |
| Government Central Press, Stationery Office, etc., Building for — | 443—44 |
| Industries Department | 971—73 |
| Irrigation Works, Construction of — | 700—01 |
| Sergeants, Pay of — | 1132—33 |
| General discussion on — | 225—29 |
| Lawrence, The Honourable Mr. H. S.— | |
| Adjournment Motion regarding— | |
| Provincial Contribution, Bombay's | 520—26 |
| Bills— | |
| Stamp Act Amendment Bill | 331—34, 382—89 |
| Court-fees Act Amendment Bill | 1159 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grant— | |
| Grant for — | |
| Civil Works (Reserved) | 960 |
| General Administration (Transferred and Reserved) | 1154 |
| Government Central Press, Stationery Office, etc., Building for— | 452 |
| High Commissioner, Expenditure in England through | 744, 747 |
| Indus River Gauging District, Chief Engineer in — | 902—04 |
| Karias, Zamindari—Construction of sluices over | 654—55 |
| Lloyd Barrage allowance | 894 |
| Loans and Advances bearing interest | 420 |
| Miscellaneous | 750 |
| Secretary of State : Expenditure in England through, | 748 |
| Superannuation allowances and pensions | 757 |
| General discussion on — | 291—300 |
| Presentation of the — | 65—81 |
| Council business, arrangement of — | 110 |

I—contd.

| | PAGES |
|--|---------------------|
| Lawrence, The Honourable Mr. H. S.— <i>contd.</i> | |
| Motion— | |
| Provincial contribution : Representation regarding — | 1068, 1071 |
| Provincial contribution : Statement regarding — | 1052 |
| Supplementary Estimates | 1206—07, 1208, 1257 |
| Legislative Council — | |
| Time for meeting of — | 956—57 |

M

| | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Mackie, Mr. A. W. W.— | |
| Oath of office | 1101 |
| Mahomed Ayub Shah Mahomed Khuhro, Mr.— | |
| Appointed member of select committee on Rent Acts Amendment Bill | 1204 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Education | 1117—19 |
| Karia heads, masonry sluices over kacha — along Kahi Canal and branches | 660 |
| Karia heads, masonry sluices over kacha — along Masuwah | 660 |
| Karia heads, masonry sluices over kacha — on Indus Canals Left Bank | 660 |
| Karia head, masonry sluices over kacha — on Indus Canals Right Bank | 660 |
| Karia heads, masonry sluices over kacha — on Pinyari Canal | 660 |
| Karia heads, screw gates over ex-Gujra on Nasrat Canal | 660 |
| Karia sluices on Great Marak Canal | 660 |
| Karia sluices on Sarfraz Canal | 660 |
| Karia, Zamindari—Construction of sluices over | 635—36, 647, 655—56 |
| Lloyd Barrage and Canals | 669—671, 672 |
| General discussion on — | 243—46 |
| Mansuri, Khan Saheb A. M.— | |
| Adjournment Motion regarding— | |
| Provincial Contribution, Bombay's | 519—20 |
| Asks questions 49, 96—97, 173, 316—17, 609—10, 799—800, 1032—33, 1334—35 | |
| Bills— | |
| Rent Acts Amendment Bill | 1177 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Sergeants : Pay of — | 1130—31 |
| General discussion on — | 198—200 |
| Motion— | |
| Provincial Contribution : Representation regarding — | 1069 |
| Nomination of — as chairman of Council | 36 |
| Parekh, late Sir Gokuldas, reference to the death of — | 62 |
| Resolution regarding— | |
| Tribute to the late Mr. Montagu | 65 |
| Mavlankar, Mr. G. K.— | |
| Asks questions | 610, 800, 1244, 1312—13, 1335 |
| Legislative Council — | |
| Time for meeting of — | 956—57 |
| Mehta, The Honourable Mr. C. V.— | |
| Bills— | |
| Hereditary Offices Act Amendment Bill : Motion for leave to introduce | 1282 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Civil Works (60) not charged to Revenue | 424 |
| Famine Relief and Insurance | 757, 758—59 |

Mehta, The Honourable Mr. C. V.—*contd.*Budget—*contd.*Demands for grants—*contd.*Grant for—*contd.*

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Karachi Arsenal and Magazine : Acquisition of land for re-siting | 624, 625, 627, 628 |
| Karachi, New Arsenal : Construction of — at Drigh Road | .. 628 |
| Land Revenue | 1155 |
| Photo-copying : Stores for— | 734—36 |
| Ports and Pilotage | 1126 |
| Public Buildings on Artillery Maidan, Karachi | 458, 459—60 |
| Public Health (Reserved) | 623 |
| Scheduled Taxes | 1155 |
| Stamps | 1155 |
| General discussion on— | 272—74 |
| Standing Orders : Motions to amend | 1296—98 |
| Supplementary Estimates | 1204, 1206, 1207 |

Mehta, Dr. M. M.—

Asks questions .. 164, 173—74, 487—88, 800, 1245, 1336

Budget.—

Demands for grants—

Grant for—

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Orthopædic appliances to hospitals | 1059 |
| Orthopædics : Technical Adviser for— | 1063 |
| Public Health | 1053—55 |
| Public health laboratory for Sind | 997 |
| Montagu, tribute to the late Mr. — | 63—65 |

Montgomerie, Mr. A.—

Bills—

Court-fees Act Amendment Bill 413—15

Budget—

Demands for grants—

Grant for—

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Ahmednagar : Quarters for sub-inspector, head constables, etc., at— | 431 |
| Hyderabad, Improvement of Mounted armed Police lines at— | 432—33 |
| Mechanical Engineer : Temporary pay of— | 878 |
| Secret Service Money | 1146 |
| Sergeants : Pay of— | 1129—30 |
| General discussion on— | 240—41 |
| Resolution regarding— | |
| Fishing in the Sabarmati near Kasandra | 1386—87 |

Motion for—

Adjournment of business : regarding provincial contribution :
Bombay's— 506—530

Adjournment : Reforms Enquiry Committee Report 921, 937—56

Motion regarding—

Provincial Contribution : Representation regarding— 1068—71

Standing Orders : Amendment of— 1283—1302

Mountford, Mr. L. J.—

Budget—

Demands for grants—

Grant for—

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Famine relief and insurance | 829—34 |
| Government House, Karachi : Construction of stables, etc. | 852—53 |
| Lloyd Barrage and Canals | 678—80 |
| Lloyd Barrage Establishment.. | 924—28 |
| General discussion on— | 200—03 |
| Oath of office | 25 |

Mujumdar, Sardar G. N.—

Asks questions .. 98—99, 317, 488, 1245—46, 1314, 1336, 1353—54

Bills—

Land Revenue Code Amendment Bill : Motion for leave to introduce, 1276

M—contd.

| | PAGES |
|---|---------------|
| Mukadam, Mr. W. S.— | |
| Asks questions 50—53, 100, 317, 800—01, 1034—35, 1231—32, 1240, 1337, 1355—57 | |
| Budget— | |
| General discussion on — | 261—83 |
| Mukhi Jethanand Pritamdas— | |
| Asks questions | 53—54, 100—01 |

N.

| | |
|---|--|
| Nanal, Mr. B. R.— | |
| Asks questions | 102, 317—18 |
| Budget— | |
| General discussion on — | 151—55 |
| Narielvala, Mr. H. H. | |
| Asks questions | 1338 |
| Supplementary estimates | 1205 |
| Nariman, Mr. K. F.— | |
| Adjournment motion— | |
| Reforms Enquiry Committee Report | 951—53 |
| Appointed member of select committee on Rent Acts Amendment Bill .. | 1204 |
| Asks questions | 54, 318—20, 1035, 1232—33, 1315, 1357—58 |
| Bills— | |
| Court-fees Act Amendment Bill | 392, 400 |
| Stamp Act Amendment Bill | 303—09 |
| Rent Acts Amendment Bill | 1167—68, 1193—97 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Dapuri Workshop Manager: Pay of — | 882—84 |
| Development Scheme, Bombay | 543—50, 576—78 |
| Education, European | 1125, 1120 |
| Government Central Press, Stationery Office, etc., Building for— | 444—46 |
| Government House, Karachi, Construction of stables, etc. .. | 851—53 |
| Industries Department | 975—76, 981—64 |
| Irrigation Works: Construction of — | 705—06 |
| Karias, Zamindari—Construction of sluices over | 651—53 |
| Lloyd Barrage and Canals | 685—86 |
| Mechanical Engineer—Temporary Establishment | 881 |
| Mechanical Engineer: Temporary, Pay of — | 876—78, 878—80 |
| Police | 1148—50, 1150—52 |
| Police: Head — Office | 431 |
| Sergeants: Pay of — | 1126—29, 1141—44, 1145 |
| General discussion on — | 249—254 |
| Standing Orders: Motions to amend | 1286—87 |
| Navle, Mr. N. E.— | |
| Bills— | |
| Court-fees Act Amendment Bill | 397—98 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Famine Relief and Insurance | 789 |
| General discussion on — | 203—06 |
| Elected member of Public Accounts Committee | 109 |
| Nekaljay, Mr. R. S.— | |
| Asks questions | 54, 620—621, 801 |
| Bills— | |
| Rent Acts Amendment Bill | 1186 |
| Resolution regarding— | |
| Tribute to the late Mr. Montagu | 65 |

| | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|-----------------|
| Noor Mahomed, Mr.— | | | | | |
| Asks questions | .. | .. | .. | .. | 320—22, 1338—39 |
| Budget— | | | | | |
| Demands for grants— | | | | | |
| Grant for— | | | | | |
| Education | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1111—12 |
| Irrigation Works : Construction of — | .. | .. | .. | .. | 706 |
| Karias, Zamindari—Construction of sluices over | .. | .. | .. | .. | 643, 658 |

O

| | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|---------------|
| Owen, Mr. A. C.— | | | | | |
| Adjournment of business, Motion for, regarding— | | | | | |
| Provincial Contribution, Bombay's | .. | .. | .. | .. | 529 |
| Resolution regarding Annual Reports, Forms and Returns | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1400—02, 1404 |

P

| | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|---|
| Pahalajani, Mr. B. G.— | | | | | |
| Adjournment of business, Motion for, regarding— | | | | | |
| Reforms Enquiry Committee Report | .. | .. | .. | .. | 953—54 |
| Bills— | | | | | |
| Court-fees Act Amendment Bill | .. | .. | .. | .. | 405—06 |
| Budget— | | | | | |
| Demands for grants— | | | | | |
| Grant for— | | | | | |
| Accountants (Public Works Department) : Increase in the cadre | | | | | |
| of — | .. | .. | .. | .. | 840—41, 842—43 |
| Civil Works | .. | .. | .. | .. | 460—61, 462—63, 916—17 |
| Civil Works (50) not charged to Revenue.. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 423 |
| Civil Works, Provincial : Establishment | .. | .. | .. | .. | 871—72 |
| Civil Works, Provincial : Repairs | .. | .. | .. | .. | 867—68, 869—70 |
| Discretionary grants | .. | .. | .. | .. | 857—59 |
| Forest Capital Outlay (Forest Transferred) | .. | .. | .. | .. | 711 |
| Government Central Press, Stationery Office, etc., Building for— | .. | .. | .. | .. | 446—49 |
| Grant-in-aid to dispensaries and other medical institutions | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1061 |
| Grant Medical College : Assistant to Dean | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1062 |
| Hyderabad, Improvement of Mounted Armed Police lines at— | .. | .. | .. | .. | 432 |
| Indus Left Bank Division : Superintending Engineer for— | .. | .. | .. | .. | 912 |
| Indus Right Bank Division : Superintending Engineer for— | .. | .. | .. | .. | 907—08, 909—10 |
| Indus River Gauging District : Chief Engineer in— | .. | .. | .. | .. | 897—99, 904—05 |
| Karias, Zamindari—Construction of sluices over— | .. | .. | .. | .. | 644—46, 659 |
| Lloyd Barrage and Canals | .. | .. | .. | .. | 681—85 |
| Lloyd Barrage Establishment | .. | .. | .. | .. | 921—24, 932—34 |
| Mechanical Engineer, Temporary Establishment | .. | .. | .. | .. | 882 |
| Medical | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1063—65, 1081—83 |
| Poona Cantonment Water Supply : Improvement of— | .. | .. | .. | .. | 621—623 |
| Public Health | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1006—09, 1009—10, 1059 |
| Public Health, Capital outlay on improvements on — | .. | .. | .. | .. | 585, 556 |
| Public Health laboratory for Sind | .. | .. | .. | .. | 997—99 |
| Sind allowance to Engineers | .. | .. | .. | .. | 888 |
| Stationery and Printing | .. | .. | .. | .. | 750—52, 755—56 |
| Vernacular literature : Encouragement of — | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1087—88, 1089 |
| Legislative Council— | | | | | |
| Time for meeting of —.. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 956—57 |
| Parekh, late Sir Gokuldas, reference to the death of — | .. | .. | .. | .. | 61—62 |
| Patel, Mr. D. N.— | | | | | |
| Asks questions | .. | .. | .. | .. | 175, 489—90, 1036, 1233, 1246—47, 1316, 1339-40, 1358 |
| Patel, Mr. G. I.— | | | | | |
| Adjournment Motion regarding— | | | | | |
| Provincial contributions, Bombay's — | .. | .. | .. | .. | 527 |
| Reforms Enquiry Committee Report | .. | .. | .. | .. | 950—51 |
| Asks questions | .. | .. | .. | .. | 330—31, 801—03, 1037, 1341 |

P—contd.

| | PAGES |
|---|---|
| Patel, Mr. G. I.— <i>contd.</i> | |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Development Scheme, Bombay | 554—55 |
| Government Central Press, Stationery Office : Building for — .. | 442—43 |
| Housing (Worli) Works | 500—01 |
| Industries Department | 973—75 |
| Irrigation Works : Construction of — | 702 |
| Mechanical Engineer : Temporary Establishment | 881—82 |
| Poona Cantonment Water Supply : Improvement of — | 623 |
| Sergeants : Pay of — | 1135 |
| General discussion on — | 223—25 |
| | |
| Pathan, Mr. A. F. I. K.— | |
| Elected member of Public Accounts Committee | 109 |
| | |
| Patil, Mr. D. R.— | |
| Adjournment, Motion for, regarding — | |
| Reforms Enquiry Committee Report | 947—48 |
| Asks questions | 174, 1234, 1358 |
| Bills— | |
| District Municipal Act Amendment Bill | 1273—74 |
| Hereditary Offices Act Amendment Bill, Motion for leave to introduce | 1281—82, 1283 |
| Rent Acts Amendment Bill | 1199—1200 |
| Stamp Act Amendment Bill | 370—71 |
| Village Police Act Amendment Bill, Motion for leave to introduce .. | 1283 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Ahmedabad Police lines | 433—34, 435 |
| Ahmednagar, Quarters for sub-inspector, head constables and constables at — | 431 |
| Hyderabad, Improvement of mounted armed police lines at — .. | 432 |
| Judicial buildings at Jalgaon | 429 |
| Karias, Zamindari—Construction of sluices over | 642 |
| Local Boards | 749 |
| Police Buildings in Bombay | 430—31 |
| Stationery and Printing | 753 |
| General discussion on — | 238—40 |
| Resolution regarding— | |
| Tribute to the late Mr. Montagu | 64—65 |
| | |
| Percival, Mr. P. E.— | |
| Appointed member of select committee on District Police Act Amend- ment Bill | 1258 |
| Bills— | |
| Court-fees Act Amendment Bill | 392, 393, 405, 406 |
| Rent Acts Amendment Bill | 1169 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Law Charges, Development Department | 539 |
| Oath of office | 25 |
| Standing Orders : Motions to amend | 1290—92, 1366—67, 1373—74, 1375—76, 1378 |
| | |
| Pir Rasulbaksh Shah— | |
| Asks questions | 322 |
| | |
| Powar, Mr. M. B.— | |
| Asks questions | 309—10, 322—23 |

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|------------------|
| Pradhan, Mr. G. B.— | | | | |
| Appointed member of select committee on Rent Acts Amendment Bill | | | | 1204 |
| Asks questions 55, 175—76, 490—91, 610, 803—04, 1234, 1247—48, 1316—17, 1341, 1359. | | | | |
| Bills— | | | | |
| Court-fees Act Amendment Bill | | | | 398—99 |
| Rent Acts Amendment Bill | | | | 1168—69, 1171—75 |
| Budget— | | | | |
| Demands for grants— | | | | |
| Grant for— | | | | |
| Ambernath Works | | | | 503—04 |
| Assistant Development Officers | | | | 533, 534 |
| Development Department Law Charges | | | | 538—39, 543 |
| Government Central Press, Stationery Office, etc., Building for— | | | | 437—38, 453—54 |
| Housing (Worli) Works | | | | 499—500, 501—02 |
| Irrigation districts, Additional— for Deccan | | | | 849—50 |
| Kandivli Quarry acquisition | | | | 498, 499 |
| Khar Works | | | | 502, 503 |
| Personal Assistant to Land Manager, Development Department.. | | | | 505, 506 |
| Salsette-Trombay Railway | | | | 504 |
| Travelling and other allowances (Development Department) .. | | | | 535, 537—38 |
| General discussion on — | | | | 193—98 |
| Pradhan, Mr. R. G.— | | | | |
| Asks questions 55, 102—03, 176—77, 323, 611—12, 804—08, 1038—41, 1234—35, 1248—49, 1318—19, 1342—43, 1359—60 | | | | |
| Adjournment Motion regarding— | | | | |
| Provincial Contribution Bombay's— | | | | 528 |
| Reforms Enquiry Committee Report | | | | 942—44 |
| Bill— | | | | |
| Rent Acts Amendment Bill | | | | 1187—88 |
| Stamp Act Amendment Bill | | | | 355—57 |
| Budget— | | | | |
| General discussion on — | | | | 121—27 |
| Motion— | | | | |
| Provincial contribution : Representation regarding | | | | 1068—69 |
| Parekh, late Sir Gokuldas, reference to the death of — | | | | 62 |
| Resolution regarding— | | | | |
| Salaries of Government peons in Bombay City | | | | 1392 |
| Tribute to the late Mr. Montagu | | | | 63—64 |
| Pratt, Mr. F. G.— | | | | |
| Bills— | | | | |
| Court-fees Act Amendment Bill | | | | 399—402 |
| Budget— | | | | |
| Demands for grants— | | | | |
| Grant for— | | | | |
| Discretionary grants | | | | 859—61 |
| Public Health | | | | 1001—04 |
| General discussion on — | | | | 150—51 |
| President— | | | | |
| Election of — | | | | 25 |
| President, the Honourable the— | | | | |
| Announces Governor-General's assent to Acts of the Local Legislature .. | | | | 36 |
| Parekh, late Sir Gokuldas, reference to the death of — | | | | 61 |
| Resolution regarding— | | | | |
| Tribute to the late Mr. Montagu | | | | 65 |
| Ruling of— | | | | |
| Bills— | | | | |
| First reading— | | | | |
| Amendment— | | | | 0 |
| An — to earmark proceeds of a tax to be levied under a taxation bill for particular activities of Government is out of order .. | | | | 345 |
| Preamble— | | | | |
| The word "further" may be used in the— instead of quoting the various amending acts | | | | 1163—64 |

P—contd.

| | PAGES |
|--|------------------|
| President, the Honourable the— <i>contd.</i> | |
| Ruling of— | |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Any particular attack levelled against an officer during the discussion of — should not be re-opened at every subsequent motion at which only the economic aspect of the question can be urged .. | 882 |
| During the course of the— members can severely criticise the department under discussion and all its officers generally, but they cannot pick out one individual officer and apply to him any criticism | 1073, 1079—81 |
| Motion for omission or reduction— | |
| No amendment can be moved to a — of a demand for grant .. | 542 |
| Procedure as to which Member or Minister should reply on behalf of Government on a — | 741 |
| Negative motion cannot be allowed | 961 |
| Non-votable appointments— | |
| The House has no right of removing any — but it can disallow the establishment if it likes | 876 |
| Vote of censure— | |
| On a — during the discussion on demands for grants members are perfectly entitled to address the House on the mal-administration of the department or any of its officers, but no personal attack on an individual officer is permitted .. | 1100 |
| Budget Debate— | |
| Time-limit regarding — | 234—35 |
| Debate— | |
| No honourable member should attribute motives to any individual member or group of members in the discharge of their duties in the House | 653 |
| Division— | |
| No honourable member will interfere with any other honourable member in the free exercise of his right of voting in a — .. | 700 |
| Governor, His Excellency the— | |
| A mere reference in the debate to the name of — is not out of order, but his action cannot be criticised | 115 |
| Questions— | |
| Members should address — in such a manner as to elicit information from only one Member of Government | 86 |
| Sen, Mr. K. C.— | |
| Appreciative reference to the services of, as Secretary, Legislative Council | 1271—72 |
| —thanks the Council for unanimously electing him as the President .. | 28—29 |
| Provincial Contribution, Bombay's | 506—30 |
| Provincial contribution, Bombay's : Representation regarding — | 1052, 1068, 1071 |
| Public Accounts Committee— | |
| Election of — | 60—61, 100 |

Q

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

| | |
|--|--------|
| Question regarding— | |
| Abkari clerks, expenditure on | 1309 |
| Abkari clerks to Collectors | 1308 |
| Abkari clerks to Huzur Deputy Collectors | 1308 |
| Abkari clerks to mamlatdars and mukhtiarkars | 1309 |
| Abkari Department, amalgamation of, with the Salt, Customs and Opium Departments | 1228 |
| Accident, Ahmedabad mill | 589 |
| Accidents in mills at Sholapur | 93 |
| Do. in Railway, between Dadar and Elphinstone Road stations .. | 813 |
| Do. to workmen employed on G. I. P. Ry. : extension works .. | 108—09 |
| Address to Education Minister, collection of money for .. | 45 |

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—contd.

Question regarding—contd.

| | |
|--|------------|
| Aden Port Trust, number of Indians, Europeans and Arabs .. | 324 |
| Administration Reports, Annual, sale of | 309 |
| Advances, house-building, to Indian officers | 1314 |
| Advertisements, Government, in newspapers | 176 |
| Advisory boards to assist and advise Ministers and Members .. | 306 |
| Advisory committees for hospitals in Bombay | 1250—51 |
| Afforestation of land suited for cocoanut plantation in Kanara district. | 608 |
| Agar Bazaar, police outpost at, Dadar | 181—82 |
| Agricultural classes | 1339 |
| Do. College, Poona | 41 |
| Do. College, Poona, Agricultural Economics at | 591 |
| Do. College, scholarship students | 1354 |
| Do. Department Farms | 1361 |
| Do. Department and leaflet, the <i>Kanara News</i> —and | 484—85 |
| Do. Divisional Boards and district local boards, proceedings of | 1361 |
| Do. machinery, repairs of, by the mechanical assistant to the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Gujarat | 489—90 |
| Do. Reform and retrenchment | 1353 |
| Do. school at Dhulia | 1025 |
| Do. school, Dhulia, admissions in the | 45 |
| Do. school, in the presidency | 797 |
| Agriculture and deficiency of live-stock | 797 |
| Agriculturists, indebtedness of — | 175 |
| Ahmedabad City, tolls on roads in- | 1046 |
| Do. City, town planning | 1016 |
| Do. country liquor shops at Madhavpura | 1335 |
| Do. Excise contract in 1922, auction sale of | 1312 |
| Do. Excise contract, prevention of combinations in | 1313 |
| Do. foreign liquor shop, closing of | 1033 |
| Do. Kankaria lake in | 814 |
| Do. liquor shops at, auction sale of | 1034, 1312 |
| Do. mill accident at | 589 |
| Do. motor traffic in | 1334 |
| Do. murders in | 800 |
| Do. railway yard, theft in | 1341 |
| Do. station, railway accidents and new platform at | 1361 |
| Alembic chemical works, duty paid by, on foreign liquor | 1021 |
| Alienated villages | 1246 |
| Alienated villages, survey settlement in — | 1245 |
| Allowance, bad climate, for talatis in West Khandesh | 784 |
| Do. compensatory, for subordinate officers in Bombay, Poona, Thana and Karachi | 774 |
| Do. compensatory, to non-ministerial officers in Poona | 305 |
| Do. compensatory, or provincial, to non-gazetted ministerial officers and servants | 774 |
| Do. to non-official members of divisional boards of agriculture and co-operation | 481 |
| Do. Sind, for primary teachers | 774 |
| Do. water, at Nandurbar and Parola | 599 |
| Amalner, raw cotton tax in | 476 |
| Amargol, toddy shop at | 161—62 |
| Ambernath, Trombay and Central Salsette Development Schemes .. | 1250 |
| Andamans, prisoners in the | 1231 |
| Andheri-Chembur Railway, expenditure on | 803 |
| Do. do. gauge of | 175 |
| Annewari of crops in Satara district | 477 |
| Anti-rabic treatment | 1325 |
| Appointments of Rs. 500 and over in the High Court, the Small Causes Court and the police courts in Bombay | 1041 |
| Apportionment of work between Executive Council Members and Ministers | 480 |
| Arms licenses in the Poona district | 1239—40 |

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—contd.

Question regarding—contd.

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Artificial plantations in Kanara other than teak and casuarina | 48 |
| Assessment, altered, in East Khandesh | 603—04 |
| Do. increased, of <i>warkas</i> lands at Palghar | 1234 |
| Do. on Indus Right Bank Canals, average rate of | 1305 |
| Do. remission and suspension of, in Mundargi petha | 92 |
| Do. revised rates of | 1220—21 |
| Assistant deputy inspectors, Sind allowance to | 85 |
| Assistant Engineer, appointment of | 1219 |
| Assistant judges in the presidency | 1242 |
| Auction sale of grass | 1240 |
| Avane, subscriptions for school building at | 596 |
| Ayurvedic College, establishment of an | 1044 |
| Do. dispensaries and schools | 600 |
| Do. dispensaries in district local boards and municipalities | 52 |
| Do. dispensaries in village | 493, 494 |
| Do. dispensary at Vaduj | 812 |
| Back Bay Reclamation, bungalow on | 1214 |
| Backward class students, Hindu, scholarships for, in colleges and high schools | 818 |
| Do. teachers' union of E. Khandesh, conference of | 818 |
| Do. clerks in Development Department | 3021 |
| Do. Hindus, as clerks and teachers in Bombay municipi- pality | 817 |
| Do. primary schools for, in Gujarat districts | 778 |
| Badlapur Water Works | 490—91 |
| Bagalkote taluka, Gokak canal scheme in | 1344 |
| Bailiffs, increased pay to | 38—39 |
| Balances, provincial interest on | 804 |
| Bar Committee, Indian, recommendations of the | 807 |
| Bassein and Mahim talukas, bamboo, bundi, etc., disposal of | 1317 |
| B. B. & C. I. Railway, parcel charges | 1232—33 |
| Do. stations, book-stalls at | 307 |
| Behrampur country liquor shop, Ahmedabad | 1244 |
| Bench magistrates at Palghar | 804 |
| Betta rules in Kanara | 171 |
| Do. representation to the Collector of Kanara, regarding | 172—73 |
| Bhagur, municipality at | 612 |
| Do. sewage farm at, land for | 611—12 |
| Bhalod, new English school at | 1215—16 |
| Bhusawal Railway station entrance | 1358 |
| Bijapur district, Ghataprabha scheme for | 1343 |
| Board, divisional, of agriculture, proceedings of | 1222—23 |
| Do. of co-operation, proceedings of | 1222—23 |
| Do. of district local boards of — | 1222—23 |
| Bombay Civil Service, applicants for | 472 |
| Do. Cowasji Jehangir Hall at | 1315 |
| Do. Indo-British Institution site in | 1352 |
| Do. municipality, Hindu backward classes clerks and teachers in | 817 |
| Do. Port Trust | 816 |
| Do. Worli liquor shops, transfer to Mazgaon | 1344 |
| Book-stalls at B. B. & C. I. Railway stations | 307 |
| Book-writing in Kanarese, encouragement to | 486, 1243 |
| Boring machines and water finders for agriculturists | 1214 |
| Boring machines in Nasik Division | 476 |
| Boundary marks | 1346 |
| Do. in Poona district, construction and repairs of | 1240 |
| Do. Rules regarding | 1046 |
| Boundary stones in Kaira district | 1237 |
| Boundary strips in Gadag taluka, cultivation of | 1242 |
| Brahmin, appointment of a, as headmaster of practising school, attached to training school, Dharwar | 608 |
| Brahmins, appointment of, in Government service | 1017 |
| Bridge at Karad over Krishna river | 1044 |

| QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—contd. | PAGES |
|--|--------------|
| Question regarding—contd. | |
| Bridge on the Indus at Gidu in Sind | 321 |
| Do. over Kolumb creek | 102 |
| Bridges and causeways on the Dharamtar-Mahableshtar road | 1228 |
| Do. on the Dharamtar-Mahableshtar road in Kolaba district | 323 |
| Broach-Jambusar railway, flag stations on | 182—83 |
| Broach port, opening of, for large steamers and vessels | 1023 |
| Building grant for local board school at Dabhadi, taluka Malegaon | 177 |
| Do. grants for Urdu schools | 619 |
| Buildings, construction of, near Government House, Ganeshkhind | 39—40, 41—43 |
| Bungalows on Back Bay Reclamation | 1214 |
| Burning and burial grounds falling within Sukkur Barrage scheme | 493 |
| Cadastral surveyors | 180—81 |
| Camp courts of Mukhtiar-kars | 473 |
| Cart depôts, Government, at Kanara | 314 |
| Carts prepared in the Dangs, sale of | 1231 |
| Do. as takavi to Bhils in the Dangs forest | 1246 |
| Casuarina, grazing ground brought under | 607 |
| Do. plantations, sale price of | 1229—30 |
| Cattle breeding farm near Zankharia | 1025 |
| Do. deficiency of, and agriculture | 797 |
| Do. enhanced fees per head of | 1241 |
| Do. exportation of | 785 |
| Do. and forest trespass in Kanara | 1030 |
| Do. grazing of, area available for | 796 |
| Do. slaughter of | 85, 785 |
| Do. bovine, slaughter of — | 797 |
| Do. stray, impounding of | 1223 |
| Causeways and bridges on the Dharamtar-Mahableshtar Road | 1228 |
| Censoring of Khilafat Committee's report | 480 |
| Chandwad, application of public conveyances Act to, | 177 |
| Charitable trusts | 479 |
| Charodi and Willingdon Breeding Farms | 1349 |
| Chopda, Anglo-vernacular school at | 1215—16 |
| City Survey Department, Ahmedabad, sanads granted by | 49 |
| Civil courts, typing fund in | 181 |
| Do. court work of Raver taluka | 791 |
| Do. hospital scandal, Karachi | 1212 |
| Clerks, Abkari, expenditure on | 1309 |
| Do. do. to Collectors | 1308 |
| Do. do. to Huzur Deputy Collectors | 1308 |
| Do. do. to mamlatdars and mukhtiar-kars | 1309 |
| Clerical establishment of Thana district local board | 474 |
| Do. do. of Kalyan municipality | 475 |
| Do. population in the city of Bombay, unemployment of | 818 |
| Coal, South African, for Karachi Port Trust | 1028 |
| Do. do. purchase of | 1309 |
| Cocanut plantation in Kanara district, afforestation of land suited for | 608 |
| Collectors' head clerks | 1342 |
| College, Ayurvedic, establishment of an | 1044 |
| Colleges, training, for women | 160—61 |
| Commissionerships, divisional, abolition of | 820 |
| Committee appointed to enquire into the grievances of primary school teachers | 596 |
| Do. Exoisse, recommendations of | 1035 |
| Do. Indian Jail, recommendations of | 820 |
| Do. Indian Bar, recommendations of the | 807 |
| Do. for primary teachers, report of | 1255 |
| Do. Reforms, statement of Minister of local self-Government before — | O 807 |
| Do. on salaries of primary teachers, report of — | 1023 |
| Committees, Standing, to assist and advise Ministers and Members | 1050 |
| Communications, improvement of, in Khandesh and Kaira districts | 815 |
| Compensatory allowance to non-gazetted officers in Poona, Bombay, Salsette and Karachi | 1351 |

Q—contd.

| QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—contd. | PAGES |
|---|--------------------|
| Question regarding—contd. | |
| Compensatory allowance to subordinate officers in Bombay, Poona, Thana and Karachi | 774 |
| Do. do. to non-ministerial officers in Poona | 305 |
| Do. do. or provincial allowance to non-gazetted ministerial officers and servants | 774 |
| Conference of the East Khandesh backward class teachers' union | 818 |
| Do. Finance Members', at Delhi | 806 |
| Consulting Architect, qualifications of the subordinate staff of | 1022 |
| Do. do. to Government | 1210—18 |
| Do. do. do. and Principal of School of Art, co-ordination of work by | 592 |
| Do. do. do. appointment of Indians as apprentices under | 1022 |
| Contractors of the Sukkur Barrage Scheme | 317 |
| Contracts to European and Indian firms for materials | 30—37 |
| Contribution, provincial, representation re : | 1052 |
| Co-operative societies, organization of | 1037 |
| Do. do. Tagai loans through, interest on | 605 |
| Cotton tax in Amalner and Dharamgaon | 476 |
| Council, joint, meetings of | 1040 |
| Do. Secretaries, appointment of | 808 |
| Court, Civil, work in Raver taluka | 791 |
| Do. Fees Act, amendment of | 791 |
| Do. First Class Sub-Judge's, at Dharwar, suits in | 1030 |
| Courts in Bombay, appointments of Rs. 500 and over | 1041 |
| Do. jurisdiction of, persons of high rank, exempt from, in Poona | 786 |
| Cottage industries in the presidency | 1042 |
| Cotton crop and cultivators in Ahmedabad districts | 1255 |
| Country craft | 1322 |
| Cowasji Jehangir Hall at Bombay | 1315 |
| Craft, country | 1322 |
| Crime of murder in Ahmedabad | 800 |
| Criminal charges against Europeans and Anglo-Indians | 56 |
| Do. tribe settlers, moral and religious teaching to | 1361 |
| Crops, damage caused to, by the cold weather | 1247 |
| Crops in Khed taluka | 1241—42 |
| Customs line in Dholka taluka | 330—31 |
| Dakor, drinking water supply at | 1219 |
| Do. Gomti tank at | 1323 |
| Do. pilgrim cess at | 800 |
| Do. water supply at | 799, 1031, 1256—57 |
| Dandeli-Potoli Railway | 46—47 |
| Dangs forest, timber in | 50 |
| Do. sale of carts prepared in the | 1231 |
| Daskroi taluka local board elections | 620 |
| Do. do. (south), Government trees, auction sale of | 1335 |
| Deccan Sardars | 1314 |
| Deh : No. 102, Taluka Mirpurkhas, Outlet No. 3 | 1235 |
| Depressed classes children, primary schools and | 808, 1040 |
| Do. do. education of | 589, 1019 |
| Do. do. do. children of | 483 |
| Do. do. new school for | 620 |
| Do. do. separate schools for | 327 |
| Deputy educational inspectors, appointment of | 105—08 |
| Do. do. do. tour of, in Gujarat | 100 |
| Development Department, Natal coal for | 1230 |
| Do. do. number of clerks in, belonging to backward classes | 394 |
| Do. do. suburban plots | 55, 1341 |
| Do. Directorate, termination of the services of Mr. N. L. Mehta, executive engineer | 318 |
| Do. plots in Bombay | 103—04 |
| Do. schemes for Ambernath, Trombay and Central Salsette | 1250 |

Q—contd.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—contd.

Question regarding—contd.

| | PAGES |
|---|-----------|
| Dhandhuka taluka, transfer of certain villages in, to Limbdi Darbar .. | 321 |
| Do. do. water supply for domestic purposes in .. | 102 |
| Dharamtar-Mahableshwar Road, bridges and causeways on .. | 323, 1228 |
| Dharangaon Police patrol | 1323 |
| Do. raw cotton tax in | 83 |
| Dharwar, damage caused by floods in | 1023 |
| Dharwar district, damage by Tungabhadra floods | 377 |
| Do. damage to crops in, by excessive rain and locusts .. | 313 |
| Do. grazing area cultivated, uncultivated and free in .. | 1310 |
| Do. Karnatak Vidya Vardhaka Sangha | 608 |
| Dholera port, opening of, for large steamers and vessels .. | 1023 |
| Dholka taluka, custom line in | 330—31 |
| Dhulia, agricultural school at | 1025 |
| Diploma examination of Rajkumar College | 1255—56 |
| Director of Industries | 307 |
| Director of Information's staff, payment of salaries of .. | 54 |
| Dispensaries, ayurvedic, and schools | 600 |
| Do. ayurvedic, in district local boards and municipalities .. | 52 |
| Do. village ayurvedic | 493—94 |
| District officers' tour programmes | 1345 |
| Do. Police Act, sections 42, 43 and 44, orders under .. | 1345 |
| Divisional boards of agriculture and co-operation, allowance to non-official members of | 481 |
| Do. of agriculture, co-operation and district local boards, proceedings of | 1222—23 |
| Divisional commissionerships, abolition of | 820 |
| Do. traffic manager, G. I. P. Railway, removal of office of, from Sholapur to Poona | 1211—12 |
| Dohad and Jhalod talukas, murders in the | 1337 |
| Drawing and craft work, inspector of | 1216 |
| Do. examination, freehand | 780 |
| Drinking water supply in Ratnagiri district | 58 |
| East Khandesh, altered assessment in — | 603—04 |
| Do. enhanced rate of grazing fees in — | 1020 |
| Do. grazing fees in, grievances regarding | 776 |
| Do. hired school building in | 590 |
| Do. local fund cess in | 476 |
| Do. pay of patils in | 589 |
| Do. talatis in, transfer of — | 777 |
| Education of children of the depressed classes | 483 |
| Do. of depressed classes | 589, 1019 |
| Do. free and compulsory, progress of | 315 |
| Do. grants | 474 |
| Do. introduction of compulsory, by local boards | 605—06 |
| Do. Minister, collection of money for presenting an address to .. | 45, 785 |
| Educational Department, filling up of vacancies in | 328 |
| Do. do. Havik Brahmins in | 483 |
| Do. do. retirement owing to retrenchment in | 491 |
| Do. facilities in Kanara | 47—48 |
| Do. grants to local board schools in Kanara District | 591 |
| Do. officers and study leave | 53—54 |
| Do. progress among Mahomedans | 1231 |
| Do. Union, Sind Muslim | 165—66 |
| Election, district local board, in North Daskroi taluka | 620 |
| Encroachment suits in East Khandesh | 1236 |
| Engineering College, Poona, Instructor of Engineering in — .. | 1027 |
| Do. Service, subordinate, formation of | 804 |
| Do. in temporary charge of districts | 1348 |
| English teaching in vernacular standards | 786 |
| Entertainment Tax, income from | 1229 |
| Excise and Salt Departments, sub-inspectors of | 1213 |
| Excise Commissioner, personal assistant to, extension of service to .. | 815 |
| Do. Committee, recommendations of | 1035 |
| Do. contract at Ahmedabad in 1922, auction sale of | 1312 |

Q—*contd.*

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—*contd.*

| | PAGES. |
|---|-----------|
| Question regarding— <i>contd.</i> | |
| Excise contracts in Ahmedabad, prevention of combinations in .. | 1313 |
| Do. duty collected from mills and factories in presidency .. | 801 |
| Do. revenue from foreign liquor .. | 606 |
| Executive and judicial functions, separation of .. | 1051 |
| Exhibition, Wembley .. | 1020 |
| Exportation of cattle .. | 785 |
| Extradition of Shri Ram from Bombay to Indore .. | 1229 |
| Fallow rules, advantages to zamindars under .. | 1237—38 |
| Do. concessions to areas irrigated by Sukkur Barrage .. | 1238 |
| Famine, fodder, in Satara .. | 161 |
| Famine in Nargund petha .. | 92 |
| Feeder railway projects in Broach .. | 1048 |
| Fern, Mr., of the School of Art, bungalow occupied by .. | 593, 1022 |
| Ferries, river, in inam villages .. | 488 |
| Ferry tax on river Indrayani .. | 46 |
| Finance Members' conference at Delhi .. | 805 |
| Fine on late payment of revenue .. | 656 |
| Floods, damage caused by, in Dharwar and Kanara .. | 1029 |
| Flood relief in Kanara .. | 486 |
| Do. in Tungabhadra river .. | 311 |
| Fodder crop or grass area in the presidency .. | 796 |
| Do. famine in Satara .. | 161 |
| Do. research, policy and method of .. | 1353 |
| Do. reserve and forest pasture .. | 796 |
| Food preservation, science of, in Kanara .. | 603 |
| Foodstuffs, agricultural, production of, in Ratnagiri District .. | 493 |
| Do. in Ratnagiri district, importation of .. | 620 |
| Forced labour of compulsory cooking .. | 1355 |
| Do. from Watandar Mahars .. | 801 |
| Foreign liquor, duty charged on, rate of .. | 162- 63 |
| Do. excise revenue from .. | 606 |
| Do. in Surat, consumption of .. | 488 |
| Do. manufacture of .. | 162 |
| Forest Act, prosecutions under the .. | 1225 |
| Do. areas in the Panch Mahals .. | 1221 |
| Do. do. at Zankharia .. | 1238 |
| Do. land suitable for cultivation in Poona District .. | 1305 |
| Do. do. near Zankharia, application for cultivation of .. | 1238 |
| Do. pasture and fodder reserve .. | 796 |
| Do. villages in East Khandesh .. | 1215 |
| Forests, lac production in .. | 182 |
| Forfeiture cases in Kanara in 1922-23 .. | 607 |
| Fowler trains, sale of, by divisional forest officer, Surat .. | 53, 488 |
| Fragmentation of holdings of agricultural land, legislation re : .. | |
| prevention of .. | 1224 |
| Free and half-free studentships .. | 477 |
| Free studentships, statement of .. | 1252 |
| Freehand drawing examination, abolition of .. | 780 |
| Gairan area in Khed taluka .. | 1241 |
| Do. in Poona district .. | 1240 |
| Gangadhar Deshpande, visit of, to Karwar .. | 792 |
| Ganapati procession at Nandurhar, music in the .. | 600 |
| Do. do. in Sholapur, prohibition of .. | 610—20 |
| Gateway of India, designs of the .. | 781 |
| Gazette, supply of Government, to newspapers .. | 1052 |
| General Post Office, designs of Bombay .. | 781 |
| Ghar canal, area irrigated by .. | 1237 |
| Ghataprabha scheme for Bijapur district .. | 1343 |
| Ghep, Holland .. | 169 |
| Ghotki canal project .. | 322 |
| Gidu (Sind), bridge on the Indus at .. | 321 |
| Girls' schools in Sind, higher salaries to graduate and under-graduate women teachers in .. | 101 |
| Girna water scheme of Jalgaon municipality .. | 490 |
| Goa lottery tickets .. | 1328 |

Q—contd.

| QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—contd. | PAGES. |
|--|--------------|
| Question regarding—contd. | |
| Godhra city, disposal of plots in | 51—52 |
| Do. Police Band | 1355 |
| Do. police parade ground, renting of | 1355 |
| Gogha, development of | 1254—55 |
| Gogha municipality, non-payment of municipal school teachers by | 801 |
| Gokak canal scheme in Bagalkot taluka | 1344 |
| Government colleges, professors and principals of, in provincial and imperial grades | 92—93 |
| Government Gazettes, supply of, to newspapers | 1052 |
| Do. High Schools, abolition of | 805 |
| Do. High Schools in Sind | 101 |
| Do. House, Ganeshkhind, construction of buildings near | 39—40, 41—43 |
| Do. , joint meeting of both halves of | 1040 |
| Do. land brought under cultivation in West Khandesh | 593 |
| Do. officials in Thar and Parkar using zamindars' motor cars | 1050 |
| Government servants' monthly salary, orders re : payment of | 1231 |
| Government servants in Bombay, residential accommodation for | 820 |
| Do. do. , reduction of, owing to rejection of grants by Legislative Council | 50 815 |
| Do. do. , reduction of, owing to retrenchment | 805 |
| Do. do. subordinate, transfer of | 612 |
| Do. service, appointment of Brahmins and non-Brahmins in— | 1017 |
| Do. do. and khadi wearing | 47 |
| Do. timber depôts in Kanara | 93—94 |
| Governor's visit to Nawapur forest, in West Khandesh | 1338 |
| Graduate and under-graduate women teachers in Sind, higher salaries to | 101 |
| Graduates' pay in mofussil | 1321 |
| Grant, building, for Urdu schools | 619 |
| Do. of lands to Government servants and others after the war | 777 |
| Do. of pasture land to retired police inspector, Haveri circle | 602—03 |
| Grant-in-aid to schools in agency and Native State territory | 1221 |
| Grants, education | 474 |
| Do. do. to aided schools in Ahmedabad | 1034 |
| Do. at special rates to girls' schools | 100 |
| Do. to local boards | 1049 |
| Do. to village panchayats in the Poona and Kolaba districts | 601 |
| Do. , votable, rejected by Council, restoration of | 1315 |
| Grass area in presidency, fodder crop or | 796 |
| Do. auction sale of | 1240 |
| Gratuity and pension rules re : subordinate officers | 472 |
| Grazing area (cultivated, uncultivated and free) in Dharwar districts | 1310 |
| Do. cattle, in Kolaba and Thana districts, forest area for | 1318 |
| Do. fees, authority sanctioning | 1322 |
| Do. do. on cattle grazing in bettas (Kanara) | 487 |
| Do. do. in East Khandesh, enhanced rate of | 1020 |
| Do. do. do. do. grievances regarding | 776 |
| Do. do. in the presidency | 1311 |
| Do. do. in Sind | 166—68 |
| Do. for cattle in Mundgod | 1311 |
| Do. free | 1352 |
| Do. ground brought under casuarina plantation | 607 |
| Do. of cattle, area available for | 796 |
| Gujarat College principal's bungalow | 59—60, 620 |
| Do. districts, roads in | 815 |
| Do. primary teachers in | 478 |
| Do. retirements and appointments of third year trained teachers in | 592 |
| Do. talukdars | 1047 |
| Gun licenses to cultivators | 1020 |
| Gurcharan in Thana district | 1247—48 |
| Handbill styled " <i>Hindoo Prajapar Sarve Dishaethi Bhayankar Akraman</i> " | 177—78 |
| Handloom industry in Poona district | 1306 |

Q -contd.

| QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—contd. | PAGES. |
|--|------------|
| Question regarding—contd. | |
| Hangal, district conference at, disqualification of Mr. Motiram as hakkadar kulkarni for lending his open plot for | 788 |
| Hangal taluka, kulkarni watan in | 790 |
| Harsol, civil litigants from, inconvenience of Kapadvanj court for | 799 |
| Hasanali English school, Dholka | 8—59 |
| Havik Brahmins in the Educational Department | 483 |
| Havyak or Havik caste, persons belonging to, in public service | 1242 |
| Hayward, the Honourable Sir Maurice, evidence of, before the Reforms Enquiry Committee | 1023 |
| Hayward, the Honourable Sir Maurice, statement before the Reforms Committee | 1038 |
| Headmasters, Mussalman, for high schools, employment of — | 317 |
| High Court, appointments of Rs. 500 and over in the — | 1041 |
| “ <i>Hindoo Prajapar Sarve Dishaethi Bhayankar Akraman</i> ”, handbill styled as — | 177—78 |
| Historical Museum, Satara | 1215 |
| Holdings of agricultural land, legislation re : consolidation of | 1224 |
| Holidays, Mahomedan | 1326 |
| Holland ghee | 169 |
| Honavar, Mr., Sub-judge | 792 |
| Honorary magistrates, appointment of | 1035, 1324 |
| Horniman, Mr. B. G., reply of, to the Honourable Sir Maurice Hayward | 1036 |
| Horses, breeding of | 160 |
| Hospitals in Bombay, advisory committees for | 1250—51 |
| Hospital, civil, fees for operations in the | 102 |
| Hot water springs at Vageshwar | 1232 |
| House-building advances to Indian officers | 1314 |
| Housing accommodation for Government servants in Bombay | 820 |
| Howard Bros., sale of wood by | 1311 |
| Do. Bros.' Timber agency | 96 |
| Hunger strike in Yeravda jail | 1028 |
| Hyderabad (Sind), new liquor shop in | 321 |
| Indian Civil Service officers in Bombay presidency, excess number of | 1330 |
| Improvement Trust, Bombay, architects and engineers in | 1341 |
| Improvement Trust plots | 40—41 |
| Inam and khalsa villages, chavdis in | 1351 |
| Do. lands for watering troughs | 1238—39 |
| Do. villages | 317 |
| Do. do. accounts in | 1323 |
| Do. do. in Poona district, records of | 1306 |
| Do. do. , river ferries in | 488 |
| Do. do. survey of, in Belgaum district | 99 |
| Do. do. survey settlement in | 602 |
| Do. do. , unsurveyed, record of rights in | 479 |
| Inamdars and Jahagirdars with powers of subordinate judges | 1353 |
| Do. and Sardars, list of | 488 |
| Inams, personal confiscation of, on account of non-co-operation | 612 |
| Income tax collected from mills and factories in Bombay presidency | 801 |
| Do. do. revenue allocation of, between central and provincial Governments | 820 |
| Do. do. statistics of, realised from mills and factories of the presidency | 802 |
| Indebtedness of agriculturists | 175 |
| Indian Territorial force in Bombay presidency, strength of | 323 |
| Do. do. do. district branch committees of | 102 |
| Do. do. do. raising quota of, for Nasik district | 176—77 |
| Indrayani river, ferry tax on the | 46 |
| Inhus, bridge on the, at Gidu in Sind | 321 |
| Do. Right Bank Canals, assessment on, average rate of | 1305 |
| Industries, cottage, in the presidency | 1042 |
| Industries, Director of — | 307 |
| Industry, dry plantain | 1332 |
| Ingli, closing of primary school at, on account of plague | 1044 |

Q—*contd.*

| QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS— <i>contd.</i> | PAGES. |
|--|-----------|
| Question regarding— <i>contd.</i> | |
| Inspecting branch of teachers, vacancies in | 325 |
| Inspector of Drawing and Craft Work | 1216 |
| Do. do. do. clerical establishment of | 780 |
| Do. do. do. duties of | 780 |
| Do. do. do. inspection of schools by | 592 |
| Do. do. do. nature of craft work inspected by | 592 |
| | |
| Irrigation by Khari canal | 1246—47 |
| Do. in Dharwar district | 789 |
| Do. in Nandurbar taluka | 309 |
| Do. in Sind | 1220 |
| Do. works, protective, productive and minor, expenditure on | 1228—29 |
| Jadid shet-sanadis of the inam village of Mankapur | 1245 |
| Jail Committee, Indian, recommendations of the | 820 |
| Do. Yeravda, hunger strike in | 1028 |
| Jails, whipping in | 819 |
| Do. yarn used to weave cloth in | 1222 |
| Jalgaon municipality, Girna water scheme | 590 |
| Jama payable by talukdars | 1048 |
| Jamrao canal, northern, executive engineer of, insult offered by | 1319 |
| Jashi, dam or tank at | 327 |
| Jhalod and Dohad talukas, murders in | 1337 |
| Do. Mahal, schools and liquor shops in | 1337 |
| J.J. School of Art, Bombay, principal of | 1216 |
| Do. do. clerical establishment of | 780 |
| Do. do. demonstration factory for screw jars | 784 |
| Do. do. Pottery Department attached to — | 785 |
| Do. do. staff of | 778 |
| Joint meetings of Ministers and Members of Executive Council | 1040 |
| Judicial and executive functions, separation of — | 1051 |
| Juhu sea wall | 1249—50 |
| Kaira district, cattle pounds in | 1316 |
| Do. do. district advisory committee for liquor in | 1358 |
| Do. do. educational grants to local board schools in | 591 |
| Do. do. irrigation by tank water in | 1340 |
| Do. do. Matar taluka, failure of crops in— | 1340 |
| Do. do. pasture land in | 1316 |
| Do. do. tobacco, report on | 1358 |
| Do. do. water supply in the | 1316 |
| Do. do. village panchayats in | 1037 |
| Kaira local board schools, savings on account of vacant posts of teachers in | 591—92 |
| Kalyan municipality, clerical establishment of | 475, 1019 |
| Kanara, artificial teak plantation in | 170—71 |
| Do. Betta rules in | 171 |
| Do. chauthai fine, officers inflicting | 1332 |
| Do. damage by monkeys to garden crops in— | 314—15 |
| Do. damage caused by wild pigs to crops in— | 485 |
| Do. district, afforestation of land suited for cocoanut plantation | 608 |
| Do. educational facilities in | 47—48 |
| Do. flood relief fund in | 486 |
| Do. forfeiture cases in, in 1922-23 | 607 |
| Do. Government tanks irrigating private holdings in | 1330 |
| Do. <i>kumri</i> cultivation in | 483 |
| Do. land revenue defaulters in | 798 |
| Do. nett cropped area in | 481 |
| Do. <i>News</i> and Agricultural Department leaflet | 484—85 |
| Do. realization of land revenue in | 794 |
| Do. science of food preservation in | 606 |
| Do. untouchability among untouchables in | 171 |
| Kanarese books sanctioned by Government as library and prize books | 486 |
| Do. encouragement to book-writing in — | 486, 1243 |
| Do. language | 1042 |
| Karad, bridge at, over Krishna river | 1044 |

Q—contd.

| QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—contd. | PAGES. |
|---|-------------------|
| Question regarding—contd. | |
| Kankaria lake, Ahmedabad | 814 |
| Kapadvanj court, inconvenience of, for civil litigants from Hansol .. | 799 |
| Kapasia, removal of liquor shop opened at— | 800 |
| Karachi, acquisition of land of Mahomedan community in | 1306 |
| Do. Civil Hospital scandal | 1212 |
| Do. gharriwalas in | 1327 |
| Do. Muslim Wakf properties in | 1329 |
| Do. Port Trust, appointments in, on salary of Rs. 500 and over.. | 1051 |
| Do. do. purchases made in England for | 1051 |
| Do. do. South African coal for | 1028 |
| Karnatak, newspapers in — | 808 |
| Karnatak Vidya Vardhak Sangha, Dharwar | 808 |
| Karwar, damage caused by floods in | 1029 |
| Do. playing of music in public roads in | 792 |
| Kazi, Mr. J. A., sale of trees to — | 1357 |
| Kerimattihalli, Karajgi taluka, grant of pasture land in, to retired police inspector, Haveri circle | 602—03 |
| Khadi, discouragement to the use of — | 314 |
| Khadi wearing and Government service | 47 |
| Khalsa and Inam villages, chavdis in — | 1351 |
| Khandesh districts, improvement of communications in | 815 |
| Do. East, grazing fee in — | 1304 |
| Do. East, local fund cess (increased) in | 1322 |
| Do. East, realization from grazing fees in — | 1304 |
| Khar land in Kolaba district | 1019 |
| Khari canal, irrigation by | 1246—47 |
| Khed village panchayat election | 601 |
| Khatedars of Rajuri, fines levied from | 1213 |
| Khilafat Committee's post, censoring of | 480 |
| Khoti village, grievances of tenants in — | 817 |
| Kolaba and Thana districts, rules regarding teak trees on Malki lands in the — | 1359 |
| Kolaba Collector's proclamation regarding processions | 1359 |
| Do. district, bridges on Dharamtar-Mahableshwar Road | 323 |
| Do. do. khar land in | 1319 |
| Do. do. tides in the northern part of — | 591 |
| Do. do. village panchayats in | 474 |
| Do. do. water supply in | 45, 51 |
| Kolumb creek, bridge over | 102 |
| Kulkarni Watan in Hangal Taluka | 790 |
| Kumri cultivation, area of land under, in Kanara | 484 |
| Do. do. in Kanara | 483 |
| Kumta taluka kacheri | 96 |
| Kurla Municipality, Meeting to consider conduct of the Secretary .. | 325—26 |
| Lac production in Forests | 182 |
| Lala Soma, Mr., Patil of Chikase, and his leases | 1221—22 |
| Land of Mahomedan community in Karachi, acquisition of | 1308 |
| Land, occupied assessed — in Sind | 480 |
| Land revenue defaulters in Kanara in 1922-23 | 798 |
| Do. do. in Rajuri, Confinement of — | 310 |
| Do. do. Fine on late payment of, | 616 |
| Do. do. Realization of — in Kanara | 794 |
| Do. do. Income and Assessment | 1342 |
| Do. do. Refusal to pay — in Rajuri | 306 |
| Land tax in Pen Taluka, enhancement of, | 1030 |
| Lands, grant of — to Government servants and others after the war | 777 |
| Lands, Inam, for watering troughs | 1238—39 |
| Larkana District, Rise of crime in,— | 1348 |
| Do. do. Murders, Dacoities, etc., in. | 1348 |
| Law School appointments | 809 |
| L. C. P. and S. Examination | 38, 45, 50—51, 59 |
| Lee Commission proposals, Report on — | 176 |
| Do. do. recommendations of the — | 1249 |

Q—contd.

| QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—contd. | PAGES. |
|--|---------------|
| Question regarding—contd. | |
| Libraries, registered village — | 103 |
| Library books, Kanarese books sanctioned by Government as — | 486 |
| Licenses for arms in the Poona district | 1239—40 |
| License fees, proportionate increase in — | 1244 |
| License, Gun — to cultivators | 1020 |
| Do. Turf Club | 618 |
| Limbdi Darbar, Transfer of certain villages in Dhandhuka taluka to, | 1047 |
| Liquor, foreign, duty charged on, rate of — | 162—63 |
| Liquor, foreign, manufacture of — | 162 |
| Liquor ration, increase in — after auction sales | 610 |
| Liquor shop, closing of foreign — at Ahmedabad | 1033 |
| Do. do. country, at Ahmedabad | 1244 |
| Do. do. in Hyderabad (Sind).. .. . | 321 |
| Do. do. opened at Kapasia, removal of | 800 |
| Liquor shops | 168—69 |
| Do. do. Auction sale of — at Ahmedabad | 1034, 1312 |
| Do. do. Remission of vend fee on account of | 1038 |
| Lloyd Barrage, reservation of land for foreign Corporations | 1019 |
| Do. do. Revenue forecast of | 1024 |
| Do. do. Scheme, Statement of temples, mosques, burning and burial grounds falling within — | 493 |
| Local board primary schools in the districts of the Northern Division | 307 |
| Do. schools in Kaira district, educational grants to | 591 |
| Do. do. in Kaira, savings owing to vacant posts of teachers in — | 591—92 |
| Local boards, Government grants to, | 1049 |
| Do. do. Supply of medicines to, | 492 |
| Do. do. taluka and district, in Surat district | 178 |
| Do. do. vesting of wells in — | 1256 |
| Local bodies, introduction of compulsory education by, | 605—06 |
| Local fund cess in East Khandesh | 476 |
| Do. do. on water rate | 104—05 |
| Local option | 1034 |
| Do. do. Bill | 1035 |
| Locusts, Damage done by, to crops in Dharwar district | 313 |
| Lokasatta newspaper and note on Nasik Road station | 806 |
| Low caste boys in schools in Poona district | 310 |
| Loyalty propagandist, lectures by — | 44 |
| Madi, Sale price of — in Ratnagiri district | 814 |
| Madressah, Local fund —, Thar Parkar | 810—12 |
| Magistrates, bench — at Palghar | 804 |
| Magistrate's Court at Matli, Restoration of | 473 |
| Magistrates (Honorary), Acceptance of presents by — | 1358 |
| Do. do. Appointments of — | 1035, 1324 |
| Mahableshwar, transfer of Government servants working at — | 56 |
| Mahim Agar (Thana District), liquor shops at — | 1317 |
| Mahomedan community, grant of Government land for — in Ratnagiri district | 616 |
| Mahomedan Holidays | 1328 |
| Mahomedans, educational progress among — | 1231 |
| Malav Talao, Dholka | 609 |
| Malav tank, water for — | 55—56, 491—92 |
| Malki price of salt, Government authority to control | 1352 |
| Malnad Improvement Scheme | 705 |
| Manajvalli, Sirsi taluka, Government tank used for cultivation at — | 1331 |
| Manganese Deposits in the Presidency | 1333 |
| Do. Mining Leases | 1334 |
| Manmad, municipality for — | 55, 1248 |
| Matli, Restoration of resident magistrate's court at — | 473 |
| Mechanical Assistant to the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Gujarat | 489—90 |
| Do. do. Work done by — | 1036 |
| Medical examination of pilgrims to Mecca | 787 |
| Medical relief in villages through School masters | 1325 |

Q—contd.

| QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—contd. | PAGES |
|---|--------------|
| Question regarding—contd. | |
| Medicine, Indigenous systems of, | 478 |
| Medicines, supply of—to local boards | 492 |
| Mehlol Estate, Land from— | 1347 |
| Do. talukdari estate | 52—53 |
| Mehta, Mr. N. L., Executive Engineer in the Development Directorate, termination of the services of— | 318—20 |
| Middle class unemployment | 1234—35 |
| Milch cattle stables, removal of, to Trombay | 98 |
| Milk production in the province | 797 |
| Mill accidents in Sholapur | 93 |
| Minister, Education—, Collection for address to, | 785 |
| Do. of local self-government, Statement by, before Reforms Committee | 807—08 |
| Ministers as advisers | 1219 |
| Do. meetings of — | 1248 |
| Do. Taking of oath by | 612 |
| Mirpur Bathoro taluka, pasture land in | 1300 |
| Mirpurkhas municipality, application of Bombay Primary Education Act to — | 1226 |
| Mithrao Wah, repairs and improvement on the left bank branch of — | 475 |
| Monkeys, damage done by, to garden crops in Kanara | 314 |
| Monuments, protected — in Sind | 1051 |
| Moolchand, Dr. —, allegations of illegal gratification against | 304 |
| Moolchand, sub-assistant Surgeon, allegations against | 165 |
| Mosques, etc., falling within Sukkur Barrage Scheme | 493 |
| Motiram, Mr., Hakkadar Kulkarni of Hangal | 788 |
| Mubarakwah and Suhrabwah Canals | 303 |
| Mukhtiarkars and resident magistrates in Sind | 96—97 |
| Do. camp courts of — | 473 |
| Mundargi petha, Dharwar district, removal of prickly pear in — | 1027 |
| Do. do. remission and suspension of assessment in — | 92 |
| Mundgod, grazing for cattle in — | 1311 |
| Municipality at Bhagur | 612 |
| Do. for Manmad | 55, 1248 |
| Murders in Ahmedabad | 800 |
| Museum, Prince of Wales — | 782 |
| Museum, Satara — and art collections of Rao Bahadur Parasnis | 783 |
| Music, playing of — on public roads in Karwar | 792 |
| Muslim Educational Union, Sind | 165 |
| Mussalman headmasters for high schools | 317 |
| Mussalman Wakf Act, application of, to Bombay Presidency | 1225 |
| Nana Mitha, talati of Sunaoli, dismissal of— | 1042 |
| Nandurbar and Parola, water allowance at — | 599 |
| Do. Music in the Ganpati procession at — | 600 |
| Do. taluka, Irrigation in | 309 |
| Nargund petha, famine in — | 92 |
| Nasik District, Alandi River, Dam across the — | 1360 |
| Do. do. Indian Territorial Force for, raising quota of — | 176 |
| Nasik Division, Boring machines in — | 476 |
| Nasik Police Training School, Hindu Backward Class candidates in — | 1321 |
| Nasik Road Station | 806 |
| Natal coal for Development Department | 1230 |
| Do. do. Sukkur Barrage | 1243—44 |
| Nazarana | 98—99 |
| Nett cropped area in Kanara | 481—83 |
| New English School at Bualod | 776 |
| Newspapers in Karnatak | 608 |
| Do. supply of Government Gazettes to — | 1052 |
| Nihadi, police outpost at — | 107—08, 1316 |
| Nimbkar, Mr., Chairman of Rajapur notified area, Allegations against | 1045 |
| Non-agricultural assessment, Rates of, — | 1349 |
| Non-Brahman teachers | 492 |
| Non-co-operating schools | 1254 |
| Non-co-operation, Confiscation of inams on account of | 612 |

Q—contd.

| QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—contd. | PAGES. |
|---|---------|
| Question regarding—contd. | |
| Non-votable heads, expenditure on — | 1248—49 |
| Oath, taking of, by Ministers | 612 |
| One-year one-standard rule | 173—74 |
| Operations, fees for, in civil hospitals | 102 |
| “Outlet No. 1023” | 1235 |
| Palghar, Bench Magistrates at, | 804 |
| Panch Mahals District, Funds raised by the District Superintendent of | |
| Police, | 1356 |
| Panch Mahals Planatation work in — | 1337 |
| Do. do. do. | 1356 |
| Do. Police Force in the — | 1357 |
| Panchayats, village, encouragement to — | 1232 |
| Do. do. in the Northern Division, number of — | 1232 |
| Do. do. monetary help to — | 1232 |
| Paranjpye-Sathe Scheme | 618—19 |
| Parasnis, Rao Bahadur, Satara Museum and Art Collection of — | 783 |
| Parcel charges by B. B. and C. I. Railway | 1232—33 |
| Pardi taluka, Tree tax on toddy trees in — | 487 |
| Parola, water allowance at— | 599 |
| Pasture land in Mirpur Bathoro taluka | 1306 |
| Patil, Lala Soma of Chikase and his leases | 1221—22 |
| Patils, emoluments of — | 1234 |
| Do. pay of, in East Khandesh | 589 |
| Pay of graduates in mofussil | 1321 |
| Do. lower subordinate establishment of Government | 786 |
| Peint taluka forests, European timber guard for — | 1359 |
| Do. do. Liquor shop contracts in | 1317 |
| Pension and Gratuity rules re subordinate officers | 472 |
| Personal Assistant to Commissioner of Excise, Extension of services | |
| to — | 815 |
| Photo-copying, expenditure on — | 178—80 |
| Pilgrim centres, water works at — | 783 |
| Do. cess at Dakor | 800 |
| Pilgrims to Mecca, Medical examination of — | 787 |
| Pimpalgaon Basawant, crops, Failure of — | 1318 |
| Pimps and procurers | 36 |
| Plague, closing of primary school at Ingli on account of, — | 1044 |
| Plantain (Dry) Industry | 1332 |
| Plots, disposal of, in Godhra City | 51—52 |
| Police Act (District) Orders under sections 42, 43, 44, of — | 1345 |
| Police Courts, Appointments of Rs. 500 and over in — | 1041 |
| Police force at Santa Cruz | 808 |
| Police Lines, Sherkotda | 173 |
| Police outpost at Agar bazaar, Dadar | 181—8 |
| Do. do. at Nihadi | 107—0 |
| Police Services, Provincial | 596 |
| Do. do. do. Promotion in, — | 595 |
| Police, Strictures against the — | 597 |
| Do. Training School, Nasik, admissions to — | 1251—52 |
| Do. do. do. do. Applications for admission to — | 1235—36 |
| Do. do. do. do. Hindu Backward class candidates at— | 1321 |
| Do. do. do. do. Principal, Duties, allowances, etc., of, | 790 |
| Political prisoners | 164 |
| Poona City Town Planning | 1016 |
| Poona, Civil Court Buildings at | 1321 |
| Poona District, forest land suitable for cultivation in the— | 1305 |
| Do. do. Handloom industry in — | 1306 |
| Do. do. Inam villages, Cash Allowances from, payable to | |
| Hakdars and Amaldars | 1351 |
| Do. do. Irrigation Survey work in — | 1324 |
| Do. do. Rain guages in — | 1351 |
| Do. do. Records of Inam Villages in the— | 1306 |
| Do. do. Watandar Patils, Remuneration of, | 1325 |
| Poona, Lloyd Bridge, Lighting and cleaning of at — | 1336 |

Q—*contd.*

| QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS— <i>contd.</i> | PAGES. |
|---|------------|
| Question regarding— <i>contd.</i> | |
| Poona, Pathan Dacoits in — | 1336 |
| Do. Persons of high rank in — exempt from jurisdiction of courts .. | 786 |
| Do. Engineering College, attendance time at — | 37 |
| Portfolios, Distribution of — among Members and Ministers | 480 |
| Port Trust, Bombay | 816 |
| Do. do. Karachi, appointments in — on salary of Rs. 500 and over .. | 1051 |
| Do. do. do. — Purchases made in England for — | 1051 |
| Port Trust officers, Bombay, Quarters for — | 87—89 |
| Ports of Dholera, Broach and Surat, Opening of — for large steamers and vessels | 1023 |
| Post Office, Poona City, pick-pocket at — | 1223 |
| Postal allowance to School Masters | 174 |
| Pottery department attached to J. J. School of Arts | 785 |
| Premchand Roychand Training College, Conversion of — into a school .. | 779 |
| Do. do. do. Land acquisition for, | 609 |
| President, Elected — of Thana district local board | 474, 816 |
| Press and Registration of Books Act | 1227—28 |
| Prevention of Prostitution Act, Bombay, Application of | 165 |
| Prickly pear, removal of, in Mundargi petha | 1027 |
| Primary Education Act, application of, to Mirpurkhas municipality .. | 1226 |
| Do. schools, and depressed classes children | 808, 1040 |
| Do. do. for backward classes in Gujarat district | 778 |
| Do. do. in Sind | 1050 |
| Do. do. in villages with a population of 500 and over in West Khandesh | 590 |
| Do. do. full, in Kanara | 48 |
| Do. do. Local board — in the districts of the Northern Division .. | 307 |
| Do. teachers, additional grants for salaries of — | 1219 |
| Do. do. grievances of — | 1045 |
| Do. do. in the districts of Gujarat | 478 |
| Do. do. Pay of | 1025 |
| Do. do. Report by the committee appointed to enquire into the grievances of — | 596 |
| Do. do. Report of the committee on salaries of — | 1023 |
| Do. do. Report of the committee for — | 1255 |
| Do. do. Salary of — | 778 |
| Do. do. Sind allowance for — | 774 |
| Do. do. trained, agreement taken from— | 1229 |
| Do. do. do. pay of — | 313 |
| Do. do. training institutions for — | 89—90 |
| Prince of Wales Museum | 782 |
| Principal of Police training school at Nasik, Duties, allowances, etc., of— | 790 |
| Principal of School of Arts and the Consulting Architect to Government, Co-ordination of work by — | 592 |
| Principal's bungalow, Gujarat College | 59—60, 620 |
| Prisoners in the Andamans | 1231 |
| Practising school attached to training school, Dharwar, appointment of a Brahmin as Head Master of — | 606 |
| Prize books, Kanarese, sanctioned by Government | 486 |
| Prize scheme, for running a, prosecution of proprietors of <i>Samachar</i> .. | 164 |
| Provincial balance, Interest on — | 804 |
| Provincial Civil Service, Bombay, Applicants for — | 472 |
| Provincial or compensatory allowance to non-gazetted ministerial officers and servants | 774 |
| Provincial police service | 595, 599 |
| Professors and principals of Government colleges in provincial and Imperial grades | 92—93 |
| Prosecutions under the Forest Act | 1225—26 |
| Prostitution Act, Prevention of, application of — | 165 |
| Protected monuments | 97—98 |
| Public and private schools in Kanara | 94—95 |
| Public conveyances Act, application of, to Chandwad | 177 |
| Public speeches, report of — | 166 |

Q—contd

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—contd.

PAGES,

Question regarding—contd.

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Pumping machinery, Repairs of— by the Mechanical assistant to Deputy Director of Agriculture, Gujarat | 489—90 |
| Quarters for Bombay Port Trust officers | 87—89 |
| Quinine, Distribution of — | 320 |
| Railway accidents between Dadar and Elphinstone road stations | 813 |
| Railway accidents to workmen employed on G. I. P. Railway extension works | 108—09 |
| Railway, Andheri-Chembur, Expenditure on — | 803 |
| Railway, Broach-Jambusar, flat station on — | 182—83 |
| Railway, construction of a, from Talegaon to Manchar | 1224—25 |
| Railway, Dandeli-Potoli | 46—47 |
| Railway, Feeder — projects in Broach | 1048 |
| Railway, Gauge of Andheri-Chembur | 175 |
| Railway passengers, conveniences of — | 1314 |
| Railway passengers, Grievances of — | 817 |
| Rain, Damage to crops by excessive—in Dharwar district | 313 |
| Rajapur notified area, allegations against Mr. Nimbkar, Chairman of — | 1045 |
| Rajkumar College, Diploma examination of — | 1255—56 |
| Rajuri, Land revenue defaulters in — confinement of — | 310 |
| Rajuri, Refusal to pay land revenue in — | 306 |
| Rajuri village, fines levied from khatedars of — | 1213 |
| Ranebennur, Municipal teachers in — | 606 |
| Ration, Liquor — Increase in — after auction sales | 610 |
| Ratnagiri district, Grant of Government land for Mahomedan community in | 616 |
| Ratnagiri district — Khoti villages, payment of rent in — | 1346 |
| Ratnagiri district, Importation of food-stuffs in — | 620 |
| Ratnagiri district, production of agricultural foodstuffs in — | 493 |
| Ratnagiri district, Sale price of Madi in — | 814 |
| Ratnagiri district, silting up of Nallas and rivulets in — | 182 |
| Ratnagiri district, Water-rate levy in — | 1346 |
| Ratnagiri district, water supply in — | 45 |
| Raver taluka, Civil Court Work at — | 791 |
| Record of rights in Bijapur district | 1245 |
| Record of rights in unsurveyed inam villages | 479 |
| Reforms, Bombay Government's memorandum of views on — | 99 |
| Reforms Committee, Sir Chimanlal Setalvad's statement before the — | 1038 |
| Reforms Committee, Statement before — by Minister of Local Self-Government | 807 |
| Reforms Enquiry Committee, Evidence of the Honourable Sir Maurice Hayward before — | 1023 |
| Registration office, Satara, Dismissal of clerks from — | 327 |
| Relief measures in Poona district owing to insufficiency of rains | 91 |
| Relief measures in Sind | 169 |
| Relinquished holdings and revenue waste | 170 |
| Remission of vend fee on account of liquor shops | 1038 |
| Reports, annual administration — sale of — | 309 |
| Representation re Provincial contribution | 1052 |
| Resident magistrates and mukhtiar-kars in Sind | 96—97 |
| Resolutions in Council | 1328 |
| Resolutions passed by the Council at the July 1924 session | 1239 |
| Retrenchment Committee, Recommendations of the — | 1307 |
| Retrenchment in Educational Department, Retirement owing to — | 491 |
| Retrenchment, Reduction of Government servants owing to — | 805 |
| Retrenchment (Reduction) of Government servants owing to rejection of grants by Legislative Council | 815 |
| Returning officer of North Daskroi taluka, behaviour of — | 620, 1253 |
| Revenues, allocation of, for reserved and transferred subjects | 1248 |
| Revenue officers, policy of not keeping of, in one place for more than five years | 1254 |
| Revenue waste, relinquished holdings and— | 170 |
| Roads, Expenditure on | 1024 |
| Roads in Gujarat districts | 815, 1256 |

Q—contd.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—contd.

| | PAGES. |
|---|------------|
| Question regarding—contd. | |
| Roads, maintenance of — in Northern and Southern divisions .. | 1048 |
| Rosha grass in West Khandesh, sale of | 309 |
| Sahada Gomai canal in West Khandesh | 594 |
| Salaries of Government servants, orders re payment of — .. | 1231 |
| Salsette, wild pigs in | 610 |
| Salt, Denatured | 1031 |
| Salt, Denatured, in Kanara, sale of, for agricultural purposes .. | 1031 |
| Salt and Excise Departments, sub-inspectors of — .. | 1213 |
| Salt, issue of, to " Foreign Malabar " and other States | 1230 |
| Salt, Malki Price of, Government authority to control — .. | 1352 |
| Salt, market price of — | 1310 |
| Salt Revenue Superintendent in Goa Frontier and Kanara .. | 1332 |
| Samachar, prosecution of proprietors of, for running a prize scheme .. | 164 |
| Sanads granted by the City Survey Department, Ahmedabad .. | 49 |
| Sanitary Committee in Satara district | 50 |
| Santa Cruz, Police force at, | 808 |
| Santa Cruz Water Supply | 1360 |
| Sardars, Deccan— | 1314 |
| Sardars and Inamdars | 1353 |
| Sardars and Inamdars, List of, | 488 |
| Sardars, Inamdars and Jahagirdars with magisterial powers .. | 1326 |
| Sarkhej Durgah, Pilgrims to, Toll on, | 1033, 1335 |
| Satara district, Annewari of crops in, | 477 |
| Satara district, Jowari crops in | 1349 |
| Satara, Fodder Famine in | 161 |
| Satara, Historical Museum at | 1215 |
| Satara Registration office, Dismissal of clerks from, | 327 |
| Sathe-Paranjpye scheme | 618—619 |
| Sawkars in Sind, Rate of interest charged by — | 1050 |
| Sayyar, Mr. Sayyad Hussain, lectures on loyalty by — | 44 |
| Scholarships in college and high schools for Hindu backward class students | 818 |
| Scholarships, Special, Proportion of — awarded to Mahomedans and non-Mahomedan backward classes — | 326 |
| Scholarships, statement of — | 1252—63 |
| Scholarships, technical | 163 |
| Science Institute appointments | 809 |
| Science teaching in secondary schools | 502 |
| School of Art, Bombay, execution of work in public buildings through the agency of — | 1218 |
| School of Art, Bombay, Principal of — | 1216 |
| School of Art, Bungalow occupied by Mr. Fern of, | 1022 |
| School of Art, Execution of work through the agency of the, | 593 |
| School of Art, J. J., Demonstration factory for screw jars at, | 784 |
| School of Art, J. J., Mr. Fern of the — Bungalow occupied by | 592 |
| School of Art, J. J., Pottery department attached to | 785 |
| School of Art, Principal of, and Consulting Architect to Government, co-ordination of work by | 592 |
| School of Art, Scholarships to pottery class students in the Bombay — | 782 |
| School of Art, Sir J. J., Clerical establishment of — | 780 |
| School of Art, Sir J. J., Bombay, Staff of — | 778, 1322 |
| School (Local board), building grant for, at Dabhadi, taluka Malegaon | 177 |
| School building at Pasta | 90—91 |
| School buildings, Hired — in East Khandesh | 590 |
| School buildings, primary, contributions for, in Satara district .. | 57 |
| School buildings, subscriptions for — by people of Avane | 590 |
| School masters, postal allowance to | 174 |
| School masters, vernacular, in Sind | 168 |
| School, New English — at Bhalod | 776 |
| Schools, aided, Educational grants to — in Ahmedabad | 1034 |
| Schools, Agricultural — in the presidency | 598 |
| Schools — Anglo-vernacular School at Chopda | 1215—16 |
| Schools, Ayurvedic, — and dispensaries | 600 |
| Schools, full primary, in Kanara | 48 |

Q—contd.

| QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—contd. | PAGES. |
|--|-----------|
| Question regarding—contd. | |
| Schools, girls', grants at special rates to | 100 |
| Schools, Government High —, Abolition of | 805 |
| Schools, Government high, in Sind | 101 |
| Schools, Grant-in-aid to, in Agency and Native State territories | 1221 |
| Schools, High—Mussalman headmasters for | 317 |
| Schools in Poona district, low caste boys in — | 310 |
| Schools, Inspection of — by Inspector of Drawing and Craft Work | 592, 1323 |
| Schools, Kaira local board—Savings owing to vacant posts of teachers in — | 591 |
| Schools, local board, Educational grants to — in Kaira district | 591 |
| Schools, New English School at Bhalod | 1215—16 |
| Schools, New — for depressed classes | 620—621 |
| Schools, non-co-operating | 1254 |
| Schools, Primary — and depressed classes children | 808, 1040 |
| Schools, Primary, conducted by village panchayats | 85—87 |
| Schools, Primary — for backward classes in Gujarat districts | 778 |
| Schools, Primary — in Sind | 1050 |
| Schools, Primary — teachers in English classes attached to — | 1018 |
| Schools, Primary — in villages with a population of 500 and over in West Khandesh | 598 |
| Schools—Public and private, in Kanara | 94—95 |
| Schools, Secondary —Science teaching in | 592 |
| Schools, Separate — for depressed classes | 329 |
| Schools—Seth Hasanali English School, Dholka | 58—59 |
| Schools—Shri Bharati English School at Karki in Kanara | 48—49 |
| Schools, Urdu—Government contribution to | 329 |
| Schools, Urdu—Hindu teachers in | 316 |
| Schools, Urdu vernacular, in Northern Division | 1256 |
| Secondary schools, science teaching in | 592 |
| Secondary training college, deputation of junior teachers to — | 43—44 |
| Secretaries, Council—appointment of | 808 |
| Setalvad, Sir Chimalal—statement by, before Reforms Committee | 1038 |
| Settlement Survey—in inam villages | 602 |
| Sewage farm at Bhagur, Land for | 611—12 |
| Shah-Bunder | 1308 |
| Sherkotda Police Lines | 173 |
| Shindore, Mr. H. N.—appointment of, as honorary magistrate | 1343 |
| Shivaji, Birthplace of, | 589 |
| Sholapur City, House-breaking and theft in | 1320 |
| Sholapur, Prohibition of Ganpati procession in, | 619—620 |
| Shri Bharati English School at Karki in Kanara | 48—49 |
| Shri Bharati School Building, Karki, site of — | 1243 |
| Shri Ram, extradition of, from Bombay to Indore | 1229 |
| Silting up of nallas and rivulets in Ratnagiri district | 182 |
| Sind allowance: to acting assistant deputy educational inspectors | 85 |
| Sind, grazing fees in | 166—68 |
| Sind irrigation | 1220 |
| Sind, money-lenders in | 1327 |
| Sind Muslim Educational Union | 165—66 |
| Sind non-officials, classification of | 1339 |
| Sind, occupied assessed lands in | 480 |
| Sind, ordinary revenue and expenditure of | 805 |
| Sind, Primary schools in, | 1050 |
| Sind, protected monuments in, | 1051 |
| Sind, Rate of interest in | 1050 |
| Sind, Relief measures in | 169 |
| Sind, Teachers in | 1338 |
| Sind, vernacular school masters in | 168 |
| Skins of dead animals, disputes between villagers and Mahars in Poona district regarding ownership of— | 1241 |
| Slaughter of bovine cattle | 797 |
| Slaughter of cattle | 85, 785 |
| Small Causes Court, appointments in, of Rs. 500 and over | 1041 |
| South African Coal, purchase of | 1309 |

Q—contd.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—contd.

Question regarding—contd.

| | PAGES. |
|---|------------|
| Special scholarships, proportion of — to Mahomedans and non-Mahomedan backward classes | 326 |
| Spirit, Despatch of — from Nasik distillery | 317 |
| Standing Committees to assist and advise Ministers and Members | 1050 |
| Statistics about certain examinations | 38, 51, 59 |
| Stephens, Lt. Col., I.M.S., allegations against— | 1212—13 |
| Stephens, Lt. Col., I.M.S., non-examination of deponents against— | 1212 |
| Stray cattle, impounding of— | 1223 |
| Stray cattle nuisance to crops in <i>bagail</i> lands in Poona district | 1224 |
| Studentships, free and half-free | 477 |
| Study leave and educational officers | 53—54 |
| Sub-assistant Surgeon Moolchand, allegations against | 165 |
| Sub-Judge, Mr. Honavar | 792 |
| Sub-Judge, Tando Mahmadkhan, Court of | 303 |
| Sub-Judges empowered to try criminal cases | 1225 |
| Sub-Judge's court, First class — at Dharwar, Suits in | 1030 |
| Sub-registrars in the last grade | 58 |
| Suhrabwah and Mubarakwah Canals | 303 |
| Suits, Civil, Serving of summons on | 1305 |
| Sukkur Barrage appointments | 1307 |
| Sukkur Barrage, Coal for | 1319 |
| Sukkur Barrage, expenditure on — | 1237 |
| Sukkur Barrage, 'Fallow Rules' concessions to areas irrigated by — | 1238 |
| Sukkur Barrage Land Acquisition | 1328 |
| Sukkur Barrage, Reservation of land for foreign corporations | 1019 |
| Sukkur Barrage, Revenue forecast of, | 1024 |
| Sukkur Barrage scheme, contractors of, | 317 |
| Sukkur Barrage scheme, officers of the | 100 |
| Sukkur Barrage scheme, statement of temples, mosques, burning and burial grounds falling within — | 493 |
| Sukkur Barrage scheme, works under the — | 1226—27 |
| Summons in Civil suits, serving of | 1305 |
| Superannuated employees in Excise Department | 815 |
| Surat, consumption of foreign liquor in, | 488 |
| Surat district, Excise licensees (new) in place of old | 1326 |
| Surat district, taluka and district local boards in | 178 |
| Surat district, Toddy-tree owners' average expenses per toddy tree | 1336 |
| Surat port, opening of, for large steamers and vessels | 1023 |
| Surat, tax on toddy trees in | 487 |
| Surat, toddy and liquor shop nuisance at | 1032 |
| Surat, toddy, tax on — | 1336 |
| Survey settlement in alienated villages | 1245 |
| Tagai loans, interest on — through co-operative societies | 605 |
| Tagai to Bhils in the Dangs Forest | 1246 |
| Talati of Sunavli, Nana M.tha, dismissal of, | 1042 |
| Talatis in West Khandesh, Bad climate allowance for | 784 |
| Talatis, transfer of — in East Khandesh | 777 |
| Talegaon-Manchar Light Railway | 1224—25 |
| Talegaon municipality, talati as elected member of — | 304—305 |
| Talod-Modassa Road, Toll on, | 815, 1045 |
| Talukdari estate, Mehlool | 52—53 |
| Talukdari villages, Bandh Karkuns of | 1347 |
| Talukdars, Gujarat— | 1047 |
| Talukdars, Jama payable by | 1048 |
| Talukdars, Restoration of — to former position | 330 |
| Talukdars as sovereign princes | 1320 |
| Tando Mahamadkhan, Court of Sub-Judge at | 303 |
| Tanks repaired by the district local board, Kaira | 1233 |
| Tax on toddy trees in Pardi taluka | 486 |
| Tax on toddy trees in Surat | 487 |
| Taxation, provincial, of Turf Club income | 1253 |
| Teachers in English classes attached to primary schools | 1018 |
| Teachers, inspecting branch of —, vacancies in, | 325 |
| Teachers, non-Brahmin — | 492 |

Q—contd.

| QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—contd. | PAGES. |
|--|-------------|
| Question regarding—contd. | |
| Teachers' pay, anomalies in | 1026—27 |
| Teachers, primary, additional grants for salaries of | 1219 |
| Teachers, primary — grievances of | 1045 |
| Teachers, primary —, in the districts of Gujarat | 478 |
| Teachers, primary —, pay of | 1025 |
| Teachers, primary —, report of the committee appointed to enquire into the grievances of — | 596 |
| Teachers, primary —, report of the committee on salaries of | 1023 |
| Teachers, primary —, salary of | 778 |
| Teachers, primary —, Sind allowance for | 774 |
| Teachers, Ranebennur municipal | 606 |
| Teachers, supersession of, by deputation of juniors to secondary training college | 43—44 |
| Teachers, third year trained — in Gujarat, retirements and appointments of | 592 |
| Teachers, trained primary, pay of | 313 |
| Teak plantation, artificial, in Kanara | 170—71 |
| Technical scholarships | 163 |
| Temples, etc., falling within Sukkur Barrage Scheme | 493 |
| Tenants in khoti villages, grievances of tenants in | 817 |
| Territorial force, Indian — in Bombay presidency, strength of | 323 |
| Territorial Force, Indian, district branch committees of the | 102 |
| Territorial force in the Presidency, Units of | 1320 |
| Text book by Totaram Ganu Zope | 475—476 |
| Thana district, area uncultivated in, on account of teak trees | 1337 |
| Thana district local board, clerical establishment of | 474 |
| Thana district local board, elected president of | 474, 816 |
| Thana and Kolaba Districts, Teak trees on Malki lands in the, Rules regarding | 1359 |
| Thana, office Deputy Superintendent of Police | 1317 |
| Thar Parkar, local Madressah in — | 810 |
| Thar Parkar officials, allegations against | 1050 |
| Thefts in Prantij city and taluka | 1254 |
| Tides in Kolaba district | 41 |
| Tides in the northern part of Kolaba district | 591 |
| Tiger, prize for killing a | 305 |
| Timber depots, Government, in Kanara | 93—94 |
| Timber in Dangs Forest | 50 |
| Timber, transport of — | 792 |
| Toddy, average selling rate per gallon of — | 1245 |
| Toddy shop, new, at Amargol | 161—62 |
| Toddy shops, number of — closed | 800 |
| Toddy in Surat, Tax on | 1336 |
| Toddy tree, average yield per — | 1245 |
| Toddy trees in Surat, tax on | 487 |
| Toddy trees, tree tax on — in Pardi taluka | 487 |
| Toll on Talod-Modassa Road | 815 |
| Tolls on roads in Ahmedabad city | 1046 |
| Totaram Ganu Zope, text book by | 475—476 |
| Town planning | 1016, 1236 |
| Training College certificate | 159 |
| Training College, Conversion of Premchand Roychand — into a school | 779 |
| Training Colleges for women | 107, 160—61 |
| Training Colleges, vernacular, changes in — | 1251 |
| Training institutions for primary school teachers | 89—90 |
| Training school, Dharwar, appointment of a Brahmin as headmaster of practising school | 606 |
| Trains, Fowler —, sale of, by D.F.O., Surat | 53, 488 |
| Transfer of Government servants working at Mahableshwar | 56 |
| Transfer of subordinate servants of Government | 612 |
| Transferred Departments, administration of — | 1249 |
| Transport of timber | 792 |
| Travellers' bungalows, kitchens for — | 597, 1222 |

Q—contd.

| QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—contd. | PAGES. |
|---|--------------|
| Question regarding—contd. | |
| Trees, roadside, lopping of, on Hubli-Sirsi main road | 95—96 |
| Truck Act in Britain | 819 |
| Trusts, Charitable — | 479 |
| Tungabhadra river flood | 311 |
| Turf Club income, provincial taxation of — | 1253 |
| Turf Club License | 618 |
| Typing Fund in Civil Courts | 181 |
| Ulhas river, Ferry contracts on, use of the fees for — | 1341 |
| Ulhas river, Ferry and dam on the — in Thana district | 1017 |
| Umbergaon station (B.B. & C.I. Railway), Platform at | 1357 |
| Unemployment among the middle classes | 1234—35 |
| Unemployment in the Presidency | 775 |
| Unemployment of clerical population in the city of Bombay | 818 |
| Untouchables, untouchability among, in Kanara | 171 |
| Untouchables, use of courts, temples, etc., by — | 54 |
| Urdu schools, building grant for | 619 |
| Urdu schools, Government contribution to | 329 |
| Urdu schools, Hindu teachers in | 316 |
| Urdu vernacular schools in Northern Division | 1256 |
| Vacancies in the Educational Department, filling up of — | 328 |
| Vaduj, Ayurvedic dispensary at | 812 |
| Vageshwar, hot water springs at | 1232 |
| Vakeshwar, Dam at | 326—327 |
| Vend fee on account of liquor shops, remission of | 1038 |
| Vernacular of Bombay Karnatak and Southern Maratha States | 1042 |
| Vernacular standards, English teaching in | 786 |
| Vernacular training colleges, Government, changes in — | 1251 |
| Veterinary dispensaries in West Khandesh | 597 |
| Village libraries, registered — | 103 |
| Village panchayat, Khed — elections to — | 601 |
| Village Panchayats Act, Working of the | 805 |
| Village panchayats, encouragement to — | 1232 |
| Village panchayats, Grants to — in Poona and Kolaba districts | 601 |
| Village panchayats in Kaira district | 1037 |
| Village panchayats in Kolaba district | 474 |
| Village panchayats in the Northern Division, number of — | 1232 |
| Village panchayats in the Presidency, number of | 1035 |
| Village panchayats, monetary help to — | 1232 |
| Village panchayats, primary schools conducted by | 85—87 |
| Villages, forest, in East Khandesh | 1215 |
| Vishrambag Buildings, Poona | 776 |
| Visual Instruction | 1236—37 |
| Wakf Act, application of, to Bombay Presidency | 1225 |
| Warkas lands at Palghar, increased assessment of | 1235 |
| Watan Act, issue of notice under — to Mr. Motiram, hakkadar kulkarni of Hangal | 788 |
| Watan, kulkarni — in Hangal taluka | 790 |
| Watan matters, legal representation in | 55, 610 |
| Watandar mahars, forced domestic work by | 801 |
| Water allowance at Nandurbar and Parola | 599 |
| Water Facilities Bill | 1343 |
| Water finders and boring machines for agriculturists | 1214 |
| Water for Malav tank | 491—492 |
| Water rate, local fund cess on — | 104—05 |
| Water scheme, Girna — of Jalgaon municipality | 590 |
| Water supply at Dakor | 799, 1256—57 |
| Water supply, drinking, at Dakor | 1219 |
| Water supply for domestic purposes in Dhandhuka taluka | 1023 |
| Water supply in Kolaba district | 51 |
| Water supply in Kolaba and Ratnagiri districts | 45 |
| Water supply in Ratnagiri district | 58 |
| Water works, Badlapur | 490 |
| Watering trough for cattle at Dahivad | 1239 |
| Watering troughs, inam lands for— | 1238—39 |

Q—contd.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—contd.

| | Pa |
|--|------|
| Question regarding—contd. | |
| Wells in the Kaira district | |
| Wells, vesting of, in local boards | |
| Wembley Exhibition | |
| West Khandesh, Government land brought under cultivation in .. | |
| West Khandesh, Navapur Forest, Governor's visit to | |
| West Khandesh, primary schools in, in villages with a population of 500 and over | |
| West Khandesh, sale of Rosha grass in | |
| West Khandesh, Shahada Gomai canal in | |
| West Khandesh, Talatis in —, Bad climate allowance for, | |
| West Khandesh, Veterinary dispensaries in | |
| Whipping in jails | |
| Wild pigs, Damage caused by — to crops in Kanara | |
| Wild pigs in Salsette | |
| Willingdon and Chharodi Cattle Breeding Farms | 1 |
| Women, training colleges for | 160- |
| Work, apportionment of — between Members and Ministers — | |
| Workmen's Compensation Act, Rules under the — in Marathi | |
| Yarn used to weave cloth in jails | 1 |
| Yeravda jail, hunger strike in | 1 |
| Yerla canal works | 56- |
| Zamindars, motor cars of — used by Government officials | |
| Zankaria, cattle breeding farm near | 1 |

R

| | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Rahimtoola, The Honourable Sir Ibrahim — | |
| Elected President of Council | |
| Oath of office | |
| Rahimtoola, Mr. Hossenally M.— | |
| Appointed member of select committee on Rent Acts Amendment Bill, | 1 |
| Asks questions | 177—78, 324—25, 1041—42, 1250- |
| Elected member of Public Accounts Committee | |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Irrigation Works: Construction of— | |
| ergeants: Pay of— | 1 |
| General discussion on — | 190- |
| Reforms Enquiry Committee Report: Motion for adjournment | 937- |
| Reports— | |
| Report of Select Committee on motions to amend Standing Orders— | |
| Presentation of — | 1 |
| Resolutions regarding— | |
| Annual Reports, Forms and Returns | 1400- |
| Fishing in the Sabarmati near Kasandra | 1383- |
| Montagu, tribute to the late Mr. | 63- |
| Salaries of Government peons in Bombay City | 1391-1 |

S

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Saheba, Mr. H. D.— | |
| Asks questions | |
| Bills— | |
| Rent Acts Amendment Bill | 55—56, 104—07, 325, 491—92, 1033- |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for rants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Agriculture | 985- |
| Dapuri Workshop Manager: Pay of— | |
| Famine Relief and Insurance | 769- |
| General discussion on — | 145—48, |

S—contd.

| | PAGES |
|--|---|
| leba, Mr. H. D.— <i>contd.</i> | |
| Resolution regarding— | |
| Fishing in the Sabarmati near Kasandra | 1385—86 |
| Salaries of Government peons in Bombay City | 1393 |
| desai, Mr. S. A.— | |
| Asks questions | 1042, 1343—44 |
| tarshi, Mr. C. M.— | |
| Bills— | |
| Court-fees Act Amendment Bill | 393—96 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Civil Works | 912—14 |
| Famine Relief and Insurance | 821—25 |
| Medical | 1079, 1081 |
| General discussion on — | 258—61, 261—64 |
| red Ghulam Nabi Shah Maujali Shah— | |
| Asks questions | 310—12, 1235, 1319 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Karias, Zamindari—, Construction of sluices over— | 650—51 |
| ri, Mr. K. C.— | |
| Appreciative reference to the services of, as Secretary, Legislative Council | 1271—72 |
| ankarrao Jayaramrao Zunzarrao, Mr.— | |
| Asks questions | 107—08, 325—26, 492, 1235—36, 1251—53, 1318, 1344 |
| inde, Mr. R. D.— | |
| Appointed member of select committee on Rent Acts Amendment Bill | 1204 |
| Asks questions | 178 |
| Bills— | |
| Land Revenue Code Amendment Bill, Motion for leave to introduce | 1275—76, 1277 |
| Rent Acts Amendment Bill | 1190—91 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Lloyd Barrage and Canals | 680—81 |
| Medical | 1078 |
| General discussion on — | 183—86 |
| vdasani, Mr. H. B.— | |
| Asks questions | 1042—44 |
| Bills— | |
| Court-fees Act Amendment Bill | 396—97 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Education, 31 | 1112—13 |
| General discussion on — | 286—90 |
| Elected member of Public Accounts Committee | 109 |
| man, Mr. R. G.— | |
| Asks questions | 56—57, 178—81, 326—28, 492—93, 612—16, 812—13, 1044 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Government Central Press, Stationery Office, etc., Building for— | 441 |
| Medical | 1074—76 |
| Photo-copying (Registration) Stores | 712—14, 716, 739—41 |
| Secret Service Money | 1146, 1147 |
| General discussion on | 246—49 |
| plementary Agenda | 1617—19 |

S—contd.

Supplementary Estimates—

| | |
|---|------|
| Boundaries, disputed, demarcation of, between the British Government and Baroda territories | 124 |
| Boyce D. Cowasji & Co., distillery contractors: Compensation to— | 124 |
| Bunds and canals in Sind: Repairs to, on account of floods | |
| Education grant: Increase of — | |
| Forest probationers: Training of — | |
| Girl Guides Association: Grant to — | |
| Registrar, High Court, Appellate Side: Pay of— | |
| Secretary of State: Expenditure in England through— | 1208 |
| Superannuation allowances and pensions | |
| Treasuries, contingent expenditure on — | |
| Village police in Ratnagiri district | |

Surve, Mr. A. N.—

| | |
|--|------------|
| Adjournment Motion regarding— | |
| Provincial Contribution, Bombay's — | 51 |
| Reforms Enquiry Committee Report | 94 |
| Appointed member of select committee on Rent Acts Amendment Bill | |
| Asks questions .. 108—09, 181—82, 329, 493, 616—20, 813, 1045, 1253 | |
| Bills— | |
| District Police Act Amendment Bill | 125 |
| Rent Acts Amendment Bill | 119 |
| Stamp Act Amendment Bill | 338—40, 36 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Development Scheme, Bombay | 54 |
| Education, 31 | 111 |
| Government Central Press: Stationery Office, etc., Building for— | 45 |
| Medical | 106 |
| Photo-copying: Stores for — | 73 |
| Police, 26 | 115 |
| Warehouse at Sewri for country spirit | |
| General discussion on — | 21 |
| Motion— | |
| Provincial contribution: Representation regarding— | |
| Parekh, Late Sir Gokuldas: reference to the death of, | |
| Resolution regarding— | |
| Annual Reports, Forms and Returns | |
| Standing orders: Motions to amend, 1284, 1298—99, 1364—65, 1371—72, 1374, 1378 | |

Surve, Mr. V. A.—

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Asks questions | 58, 182, 493, 620 |
| Bills— | |
| Rent Acts Amendment Bill | |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Photo-copying (Registration) Stores | |
| General discussion on — | 11 |

Swaminarayan, Mr. J. C.—

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Asks questions .. 58—59, 620, 815, 1045—47, 1247, 1253—55, 1319, 1346—47 | |
| Bills— | |
| Cattle Trespass Act Amendment Bill, Motion for leave to introduce | 12 |
| Rent Acts Amendment Bill | 11 |
| Budget— | |
| Demands for grants— | |
| Grant for— | |
| Civil Works | 465—66, 92, 9 |
| Development Scheme, Bombay | |
| Education | 11 |
| Famine Relief and Insurance | |
| Government Central Press, Stationery Office | |