

# COUNCIL OF STATE DEBATES

---

MONDAY, 21st SEPTEMBER, 1931

Vol. II—No. 4

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# COUNCIL OF STATE.

*Monday, 21st September, 1931.*

The Council met in the Council Chamber at Viceregal Lodge at Eleven of the Clock, the Honourable the President in the Chair.

## MEMBERS SWORN :

The Honourable Raja Sir Annamalai Chettiyar, Kt. (Madras : Non-Muhammadian).

The Honourable Mr. Alan Hubert Lloyd, C.I.E. (Government of India : Nominated Official).

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

### REBELLION IN BURMA.

105. THE HONOURABLE RAJA SIR ANNAMALAI CHETTIYAR: Will Government be pleased to state with regard to the present rebellion in Burma :

- (a) the causes therefor ;
- (b) the exact or approximate number of lives lost and injured in each of the communities, Indian, Burmese, Chinese and European, and the extent of the loss of property sustained respectively by each of these communities ;
- (c) whether the Government of Burma have considered the question of adequately compensating the sufferers for their losses, and if so, with what result ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. H. W. EMERSON: (a) I would invite the Honourable Member's attention to the report of the Government of Burma, dated the 8th May, 1931, a copy of which has been placed in the Library.

(b) Casualties among Government servants amount to 174 as follows :

Europeans	..	..	..	..	6
Indians	..	..	..	..	79
Burmans	..	..	..	..	83
Others	..	..	..	..	6

The number of other casualties, that is, among the rebels and others, is estimated at something over 2,000, but no exact figure is available at present. I regret that it is not possible to give any estimate of the loss of property.

(c) The cases of Government servants will be dealt with, where necessary, under service rules. The question of the payment of compensation by Government does not arise in regard to other members of the public.

## INDIAN INCOME-TAX (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL.

106. THE HONOURABLE RAJA SIR ANNAMALAI CHETTIYAR: Will Government be pleased to state:

- (i) whether they intend to proceed with the Income-tax (Second Amendment) Bill during this Session;
- (ii) the revenue estimated to be derived from this source?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. H. LLOYD: (i) Yes.

(ii) It is impossible to give a reliable estimate.

## OFFICE HOURS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INCOME-TAX, BENGAL.

107. THE HONOURABLE MR. S. C. GHOSH MAULIK: (a) Will Government be pleased to state the usual office hours observed in the office of the Commissioner of Income-tax, Bengal?

(b) What were the usual office hours of the ex-Commissioners, Mr. E. N. Blandy, the Honourable Mr. W. D. R. Prentice and Mr. H. Graham?

(c) Is it a fact that Mr. F. W. Strong, the present Commissioner, leaves office at 1-30 p.m. not to come back after lunch?

(d) Is the work of his office up to date or are many arrear files pending disposal?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. H. LLOYD: (a) 11 A.M. to 5 P.M.

(b) The facts are not on record.

(c) It is a fact that in the hot weather and rainy season, but not in the cold weather Mr. Strong usually takes his work home at lunch time.

(d) I understand that the work of his office is not in arrears.

## PROMOTION OF MR. N. N. CHAKRAVARTY TO THE POST OF ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF INCOME-TAX, BENGAL.

108. THE HONOURABLE MR. S. C. GHOSH MAULIK: (a) Will Government be pleased to state if Mr. N. N. Chakravarty, a former P. A. to the Commissioner, having experience of only about two years as an Assessing Income-tax Officer, was promoted to the post of Assistant Commissioner superseding the claims of certain other officers senior to him?

(b) Is it a fact that the present P. A., Mr. S. K. Ghosh, is going to be appointed an Assistant Commissioner?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. H. LLOYD: (a) Mr. N. N. Chakravarty was appointed to Government service on 30th November, 1912, and joined the Income-tax Department on 1st August, 1922, as an Income-tax Officer. He was Personal Assistant to the Commissioner from 24th October, 1924, till 24th March, 1929, and was selected for appointment as an officiating Assistant Commissioner on 3rd July, 1929. His substantive promotion to the post of Assistant Commissioner was approved, as the rules require, by the Governor-in-Council and the Public Services Commission.

(b) The question of promoting Mr. S. K. Ghosh to the rank of Assistant Commissioner has not arisen. The question is therefore hypothetical.

INSPECTION TOUR OF MR. F. W. STRONG, COMMISSIONER OF INCOME-TAX, BENGAL.

109. THE HONOURABLE MR. S. C. GHOSH MAULIK : (a) Will Government be pleased to state if Mr. Strong intimated to the Government of India that he would not go on recess this year ?

(b) Is it a fact that Mr. Strong went to Jalpaiguri for inspection ?

(c) How many days did the inspection take and was travelling allowance drawn from Jalpaiguri to Calcutta and *vice versa* ?

(d) Did the Commissioner go and stay at Kalimpong for about a month after the above inspection at Jalpaiguri ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. H. LLOYD : (a) Mr. Strong informed the Central Board of Revenue at the end of April that he did not intend to recess this year but wrote a few days later announcing a change of intention.

(b) Yes.

(c) The inspection at Jalpaiguri occupied one whole day. Travelling allowance from Calcutta to Jalpaiguri and back was drawn.

(d) Yes.

RECESS OF MR. F. W. STRONG, COMMISSIONER OF INCOME-TAX, BENGAL.

110. THE HONOURABLE MR. S. C. GHOSH MAULIK : If the answer to part (b) of the preceding question is in the affirmative :

(a) What arrangements did he make for conducting his work at headquarters during his absence ?

(b) How many files were sent to him for disposal and how many letters were sent to him for signature during this period ?

(c) Did he take his stenographer or any other officer to help him there in his work ?

(d) Was there any loss to Government in the shape of incidental correspondence, both telegraphic and otherwise, and travelling allowance bills, etc. ?

(e) Do Government intend to make an enquiry in this matter ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. H. LLOYD : (a) Important cases were sent to the Commissioner for disposal and routine work was carried on by his Personal Assistant.

(b) Some 30 cases or files were taken by him or sent to him. He was ill part of the time that he spent in recess.

(c) No.

(d) There was no loss to Government beyond the ordinary expenses on postage, etc., incidental to a recess in the hills.

(e) No.

INSPECTION OF CALCUTTA OFFICES BY MR. F. W. STRONG, COMMISSIONER OF INCOME-TAX, CALCUTTA.

111. THE HONOURABLE MR. S. C. GHOSH MAULIK : (a) Will Government be pleased to state if Mr. Strong has inspected mufassil offices more frequently than Calcutta offices of the Income-tax Department ?

(b) How many inspections have been made by Mr. Strong during his term of office as Commissioner of the Department ?

(c) Is it a fact that beyond a short visit of several minutes paid to each of the Calcutta Income-tax offices, to collect certain figures, Mr. Strong has not taken up the inspection of any Calcutta offices for the last two years ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. H. LLOYD : (a) The Government of India understand that the answer is in the affirmative.

(b) Practically every Income-tax office has been inspected each year.

(c) No.

PRINCIPLE OF DEVOLUTION RULE 15 IN ITS APPLICATION TO BENGAL.

112. THE HONOURABLE MR. S. C. GHOSH MAULIK : (a) Will Government be pleased to state on what principle the Devolution Rule regarding income-tax was framed in relation to Bengal ?

(b) What was the actual standard adopted between Bengal and the Government of India with respect to the above Devolution Rule ?

(c) How far has Bengal benefited by this arrangement ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. H. LLOYD : (a) The principle of Devolution Rule 15 is to give the Provinces some share in the growing revenue from taxation on incomes.

(b) The standard adopted for Bengal, as for other Provinces, is that laid down in the Devolution Rule itself.

(c) In the Budget of 1931-32 it was estimated that only five Provincial Governments would receive a share of income-tax revenue under this rule in the current year, and that no amount would be allocated to Bombay, Bengal, the Punjab and the Central Provinces. Actuals for the years up to 1929-30 are available in the Finance and Revenue Accounts.

PERCENTAGE OF INCOME-TAX AND SUPER-TAX DERIVED FROM BUSINESS IN JUTE IN BENGAL.

113. THE HONOURABLE MR. S. C. GHOSH MAULIK : Will Government be pleased to state what percentage of the income-tax and super-tax in Bengal is derived from business in jute ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. H. LLOYD : Separate figures of income-tax and super-tax are not compiled according to trades but the Honourable Member will find some information on the subject in Return No. VI for Bengal on pages 131 and 132 of the Central Board of Revenue's All-India Income-tax Report and Returns for the year 1929-30.

PROVISION OF MORE SECOND CLASS ACCOMMODATION ON RAILWAY TRAINS.

114. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA JAGDISH PRASAD : (a) Is it a fact that an increased number of passengers on railways now travel second class and that as a consequence second class carriages on railway trains are generally packed ?

(b) Is it the intention of Government to advise the administrations of State-owned Railways to provide more second class accommodation on trains with a view to relieve congestion ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE : (a) Statistics of second class passengers carried on Class I Railways during the five years ending 31st March, 1931 show a reduction in the number carried. Compared with 1926-27, the number carried during 1930-31 was about 20 per cent. less.

(b) In view of my reply to part (a) of the Honourable Member's question and of the fact that the number of second class seats provided on the 31st March, 1931 was only 0·8 per cent. less than on the 31st March, 1927, the provision of more second class carriages than are already available does not appear to be necessary.

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BILLS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY LAID ON THE TABLE.

SECRETARY OF THE COUNCIL : Sir, in pursuance of rule 25 of the Indian Legislative Rules, I lay on the table copies of the following Bills which were passed by the Legislative Assembly at its meeting held on the 16th September, 1931, namely :

A Bill further to amend the Indian Mines Act, 1923, for a certain purpose.

A Bill further to amend the Indian Succession Act, 1925, for a certain purpose.

A Bill to extend the powers of the Sheriff of Calcutta to hold persons in lawful custody.

A Bill to amend the Aligarh Muslim University Act, 1920, for certain purposes.

A Bill to amend the Land Customs Act, 1924, for a certain purpose.

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RESOLUTION *RE* AIR SERVICE BETWEEN KARACHI, DELHI AND CALCUTTA.

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR CHAUDRI MUHAMMAD DIN (East Punjab : Muhammadan) : Sir, I move :

"That this Council recommends to the Governor General in Council that steps may be taken for an early beginning of the operations of an Indian air service between Karachi, Delhi and Calcutta and for the subsequent development of auxiliary air routes with a view to extend its benefits to other cities and districts of India."

The terms of my resolution, I think, are self-explanatory. Some few months ago, after the greater part of the sum required for the inauguration of the Indian State Air Service had already been spent beyond recall, it was made

[Khan Bahadur Chaudri Muhammad Din.]

known that the fate of the service depended on the findings of the Retrenchment Committee and Government action thereon. I understand that practically all constructive work for the development of the service was there and then stopped, as indeed was only reasonable in the light of the warning which had been given. The least serious result of this will be that the starting of the service will be delayed, despite frequent and plain assurances that we were to have the benefit of it from January 1st next. There may perhaps be the wholly deplorable result that we shall have no State Air Service at all for a very long time to come.

Sir, I am as well aware as any other man, I hope, of the imperative need for economy, and for drastic economy, in every department of this country's life in the present world-wide economic crisis. I welcome whole-heartedly His Excellency the Viceroy's urgent and sympathetic appeal for co-operation by all classes and communities in the task of rescuing this country from its present financial embarrassments. But I cannot think that the interests of economy will be served by a definitely retrograde decision which must mean that India will fall further than ever behind other countries in its facilities for commercial communications and transport. In many respects aviation is still in its infancy, but it is a very promising child, a very determined child, a child which has already been most useful and profitable to those who have properly fostered and cherished it. It is growing apace, and nothing can stop its growth. We already have commercial aeroplanes of a speed, size and efficiency at which the imagination boggled few years ago when we laughed at the prophetic pictures of men who predicted commercial air routes linking up most of the countries of the world. If we say now that the need for economies compels us in India to stop the development here of those air routes, we shall be like the doubting Thomases who once said that steam engines would never be practicable and profitable; who said that ironclad warships could never be, because everyone knew that such ships could never float; who thought that aviators were rather mad.

It would be folly—may I say criminal folly—for this country to declare that in India, and perhaps, in India alone, this promising child ought to be thwarted now in its natural and inevitable growth. I call it *inevitable* growth because I cannot believe that the Government's parsimony in this respect will check that growth, even in India, for very long. The figures recently published of the financial turn-over of the Karachi-Delhi Air Service show that before long it would be paying its way, and comparatively soon would be actually making good profits. I have no doubt that the eyes of foreign aviation companies are on those figures, and on the opportunity which they represent. If we have no Indian State Air Service, then foreign aviation companies will step in where the Government has failed, just as they have done in Persia, and the bulk of the profits which they will no doubt earn in time, will go out of this country. India will be branded as a country which could not rise to a great occasion and play a part, in its own interests, in international communications.

It is idle to say that aviation can wait. At its present rate of development it can no more wait than the development of steamship routes could wait; and to call a halt to it amounts to calling a halt to the improvement of trade and

commerce and international relations. Is that a measure of economy? Is it good policy to save a few lakhs *now* at the cost of many lakhs to come either in direct emoluments to Government or in benefit to all taxpayers by the improvement of India's trade? Do you improve a country's financial and economic position by handicapping its competition, however little, with other countries in the field of commerce and international intercourse?

And if there is to be this stifling of the most-up-to-date outlet for India's trade and influence in the world, on whose advice is the stifling to be done?

The matter has been before the General Purposes Retrenchment Sub-Committee. I am not less mindful than any other Member of this Council of the great and patriotic services done by my friends on the Retrenchment Committees; but I wonder whether those members of the Retrenchment Committee who had to investigate the finances of the Indian State Air Service, were any more technically expert than I myself am in the finances of aviation. If the Government say, "No matter, we are going to cut down the Indian State Air Service anyhow", then there is nothing more to be said except that the decision is retrograde, uneconomic and deplorable. But if the Government say, "These gentlemen of the General Purposes Retrenchment Sub-Committee have found that such-and-such a saving can be made in the State Air Service", I would ask Government to consider those savings most carefully, to inquire whether they are endorsed by the Government's own technical experts, and, if they are not, to ask themselves whether they employ technical experts with a view to their plans being at the mercy of gentlemen who cannot and need not be expected to understand the technicalities of a tremendous and tremendously difficult subject.

I would stress again the international aspect of this question. By maritime law each country with a sea-board is obliged to maintain its harbours in good condition, its coastwise lights, and many other provisions for the assistance and security of its own and other countries' shipping. Each maritime country, too, likes to have some coastal shipping of its own, and its own railways, which are of benefit not only to itself but also to those other countries with which it trades. In addition to steamship and railway routes we now have aviation routes with great and unique advantages of their own; and whatever India may do, those air routes have come to stay in other countries and to make their mark on the trade and international relationships of the world. To say that it is not worth while to pursue with zeal the development of our air routes is a policy of despair and a contradiction of the plain facts of the history of trade communications. To abandon or to delay the development of our air routes would mean that and something more. It would be a flagrant breach of our moral obligation to our neighbours and to countries further afield; it would prejudice India's share in the comity of nations; it would handicap India's economic status by comparison with that of other nations. Our moral obligation to assist in international communications by air is as great as our legal obligation to aid international communications by sea. It is not proposed, I imagine, that for economy's sake we should close down all our light-houses, close some of our harbours, close our coastwise life-saving stations and wireless stations. I do not say that our air routes are at present as vitally important as those things are; but I *do* say that in all probability the day will



[Khan Bahadur Chaudri Muhammad Din.]

come, and come fairly soon, when they will be equally important. It is India's duty to the world that she should not lag behind any other nation in their development, and it is her duty to herself that she should develop them also in her own best interests, so that the gain derived from them shall not be exclusively a gain to others at the expense of her own trade and budget.

I therefore urge this Council to show unmistakably, by its acceptance of this Resolution, that it desires all possible encouragement for and no short-sighted obstacles to the development of India's national contribution to the great progress being made in international aerial communications, and the promotion thereby of international co-operation and understanding.

Sir, I move.

**THE HONOURABLE SIR JOSEPH BHORE** (Industries and Labour Member): Sir, I do not think I need take up for long the time of the House in speaking on this Resolution. In moving it, so far as the general intentions of the Mover are concerned, my Honourable friend is thrusting at an open door. The Resolution expresses quite fairly the general intentions of the Government of India in regard to civil aviation in this country. The Budget for the current year we had hoped would help to translate some of those intentions at any rate into actualities, for we had made provision for the development of an Indian State Air Service which had been under consideration for some time. We have, Sir, year by year patiently built up the foundation for the development of India's Air Services. We have spent nearly 70 lakhs of rupees in preparing the requisite ground and meteorological organization essential for these services, and we had hoped before the end of the year 1931-32 to have had the satisfaction of seeing an Indian State Air Service in operation over the main trans-Indian continental air route from Karachi to Calcutta. But, Sir, the best laid plans of mice and men are liable to disruption. We are now faced with a financial situation of the utmost gravity and I am afraid that this compelling factor may leave us no option but to abandon, temporarily at any rate, our original intentions in this matter. I do not know whether my Honourable friend is aware of the serious news which we received this morning, that Great Britain has gone off the gold standard. I fear, Sir, that we are in a position in which the most rigorous economy must be the first consideration. There is to my knowledge no civil air service now operating anywhere in the world which can carry on without some form of State subsidy, and this being so, I fear that I can hold out little present hope of our proceeding with a State Air Service. If therefore, I ask my Honourable friend not to proceed with his Resolution, it is not because of any lack of sympathy with the intention underlying it. Far from it. It is because in the present state of affairs it may be quite impossible for the Government of India for financial reasons to give effect to it. When our material resources improve and permit of it, I personally have not the faintest doubt that the Government of India will proceed with their original intentions and will give effect generally, to a programme such as has been sketched in outline in this Resolution. If I am in office at that time I can give my Honourable friend the assurance that I will do everything in my power to further the development in which he is so much interested. And when that time comes, I think it will be of material help to the

Government of India to feel that public opinion, as reflected in the speech of my Honourable friend to-day, is behind them in this matter. I hope, Sir, that with this explanation that I have given my Honourable friend will rest content and will not press his Resolution.

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR CHAUDRI MUHAMMAD DIN: Sir, in view of the assurance held out by the Honourable Member in charge, I do not wish to press the Resolution and would ask your permission to withdraw it.

The Resolution\* was, by leave of the Council, withdrawn.

## RESOLUTION *RE* PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF OFFICERS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM (Bihar and Orissa : Muhammadan): Sir, I move:

"That this Council recommends to the Governor General in Council the appointment of a Viceroy's Commission to revise the scale of pay and allowances of the Government of India's officers."

The Government of England undertook a great responsibility when they assumed the mantle of Sovereignty of India after 1857. An impartial historian will not look at the speeches of the Members of Treasury Benches, but will scrutinise the actual administration and give his verdict accordingly.

The East India Company were out and out exploiters but it was expected that the Queen's Government would fare better and govern India for the people and in the interests of the people. But the people of India were ill-fated; their woes and worries, troubles and trials were not to end, and we are still saddled with expenses beyond our means.

It is a well known fact that the upper grade of officials of the Government of India are the highest paid officials practically throughout the world. The reason for this is not far to seek. The usual forms of Governments in the world are either a democracy or an autocracy. In India we have neither the one nor the other. In autocracy the whole power is vested in the King. We had a long experience of this form of Government. But it was reserved for the Queen's Government to introduce a form of Government in which all in all were the I. C. S. Naturally we had the spectacle of the steel structure enriching themselves with fat salaries at our cost. The previous Kings of India no doubt squandered much of our money, but we had this comfort and consolation that the money was spent in India so that the national wealth did not deteriorate. But our new masters were foreigners, and all their savings and a good bit of their expenses were transferred from India to England with the result that there is an immense decrease in our national wealth. Mr. Ramsay Macdonald in "The Government of India," page 148 says:

"It withdraws from a fertilising stream a very considerable amount of necessary water and means impoverishment."

\*"This Council recommends to the Governor General in Council that steps may be taken for an early beginning of the operations of an Indian air service between Karachi, Delhi and Calcutta and for the subsequent development of auxiliary air routes with a view to extend its benefits to other cities and districts of India."

[Mr. Abu Abdullah Syed Hussain Imam.]

Another aspect of this tragedy was that while in former times we had with the change in the reigning Sovereign a chance of different times, the present order has taken away the humane element and replaced it by an inexorable and an unchangeable system.

Now that Indians are restive to get powers, and think that they are capable of taking care of themselves and no guardian *ad litem* is required, it is requisite that the Government of India should set their house in order when handing over the charge. In passing I should like to give a short history of the rake's progress made by the Government of India in the Finance Department since the inauguration of the reforms.

In the first Budget introduced in 1921 Sir Malcolm Hailey, while thanking his colleagues for effecting stringent economies, nevertheless introduced new taxation estimated to yield 19 crores. In the second Budget of 1922 again the former Finance Minister imposed new taxation amounting to over 18 crores of rupees. In the third Budget of 1923 Sir Basil Blackett foreshadowed new taxation of 5 crores, in all 42 crores of rupees in three years. The climax is still fresh in our memory when, during the last Session at Delhi, Sir George Schuster inaugurated new taxation to the extent of 14 crores of rupees and airily informed us that all avenues of economy in expenses have already been tapped and nothing much could be done to reduce the expenditure. But, just as we try to appease a naughty child with toys, the Honourable the Finance Member gave to the Legislature the present Retrenchment Committees. It is interesting to note that the Retrenchment Committee materialised in quite a different form from what was outlined in the Budget speech of 28th February, 1931. Railways and Posts and Telegraphs were not included in the reference, but after deliberation they were also encompassed in the reference. I am glad to note that economies amounting to five crores of rupees have so far been recommended by these Retrenchment Committees without touching the question of salaries.

Coming to the merits of my Resolution, I am glad to say without fear of indiscretion that the Retrenchment Committees have not tackled the question of salaries excepted in passing. . . .

THE HONOURABLE MR. G. A. NATESAN: That is not correct, Sir.

THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM: Well, that is the report. They agree with me that it is a question which cannot be decided by individual Committees. It is too big a proposition to be subjected to differential treatment at the hands of different Committees. They are at one with me in thinking that a co-ordinate effort should be made to deal with this question.

I am sorry to find that neither we of the Legislature nor the members of different Retrenchment Committees were supplied with the report of the Simla Conference of Local Governments with the Government of India on the question of salaries of new entrants. It is well known that this Conference decided upon some sort of reduction in salaries. I wonder if the true reason behind the policy of secrecy is the inadequacy of the cuts suggested or the fact that it does not deal with the All-India Services.

My Resolution aims at a Commission which can recommend to the Viceroy the future rates of salaries for all the officials, those whose salaries are fixed by Statute, those who belong to the covenanted services and those whose pays are fixed by the Government.

Thinking that the Committee appointed by the Legislature is constitutionally not competent to deal with all these matters, I have recommended a Viceroy's Commission.

Indian opinion rightly resents any reduction in the scales of pay which affects only one class and leaves the other two scot free. This sort of discrimination in treatment will not be tolerated by the present-day India. It is not the question of pays of Indians *versus* the pays of Europeans. Nationalist India demands that the pay of our officials should not be out of all proportion to the *per capita* income of the generality of Indians. No where in the world is such a glaring difference between the emolument of officials and the yearly income of people of the country.

Each Cabinet Minister of England gets as salary the income of 50 average Englishmen, while in India, even if the highest estimate is believed, each member of the Cabinet of the Viceroy gets as salary the income of 800 average Indians. The salary of Ministers in Canada is Rs. 27,777 per annum; in South Africa it is Rs. 33,333 per annum, and in India Rs. 80,000 per annum. Can anyone justify this squandering of public monies?

In the other parts of the extensive British Empire the Governors General get Rs. 1,33,333 per annum in Canada, Australia and South Africa while India pays Rs. 2,50,000 per annum.

A rich country like America gives to its Speaker of the House of Representatives a salary of \$12,000 or Rs. 33,333, and Canada pays Rs. 16,666, while poor India is called upon to pay to the two Presidents of the Legislatures Rs. 51,000 and Rs. 48,000, respectively.

The Chief Judge of the Supreme Court of America gets but \$20,500 or Rs. 55,700; India is made to pay to its Chief Justices Rs. 72,000.

It would not be out of place to point out how the expenses in the last decade of other leading countries of the world compare with that of India.

England has reduced its expenditure from 1,195 million sterling in 1921 to 829 million sterling in 1930 or a 31·5 per cent. reduction.

The United States of America has brought down its disbursements during the same period from 5,517 million dollars to 4,012 million dollars or more than a 27 per cent. reduction, while the irresponsible Government of India with all its tall talk of intensive economy has brought down its expenses from 142·8 crores to Rs. 136 crores only, or a reduction of less than 5 per cent. This shows the categorical difference that exists between the work of a responsible and an irresponsible Government.

I shall give a few instances of typical differences between the English and Indian scales of pays of different services. An English Chief Structural Engineer gets £1,155 or Rs. 15,400 while an Indian Chief Engineer gets Rs. 38,394, an English Senior Architect gets £1,179 or Rs. 15,720. An Indian

[Mr. Abu Abdullah Syed Hussain Imam.]

Architect gets Rs. 23,618. The English Comptroller of Accounts of the Public Works Department gets £1,080 or Rs. 14,400, the mean salary of Indian Accountants General on the average scale is Rs. 31,500.

The pay of stenographers in England is about £141 or Rs. 1,780. The Indian Government pays Rs. 3,300.

These are some of the figures that I give as an illustration showing the differences in all grades of services ranging from the highest to the lowest. It is by no means an exhaustive analysis.

As I was a member of the Public Works Department and Accounts and Audit Retrenchment Committee so I had to look up the English estimates concerned. I have quoted just now a few of the figures that I had then collected.

I draw the attention of the Government to the fact that Nationalist India in desperation has passed the famous Karachi Resolution on salaries. It is no joke. If you do not reduce the salaries substantially the repercussion and reaction will naturally be strong. I note with regret that the Finance Secretary speaking in this House on the 28th February, 1931, did not favour the idea of reduction of salaries of the present Government officials.

Contrast this with the public spirit and sense of responsibility expressed by the British Government. His Majesty the King Emperor gave the lead by reducing his allowance by £50,000, a cut of more than 10 per cent. The National Government of Britain is busy reducing the scales of emoluments of present incumbents by varying degrees to effect a reduction totalling 70 million sterling. This they are doing to meet an estimated deficit of less than 9 per cent. of the total income of the British Government. Can our masters tell us what special steps they took to meet the estimated deficit of Rs. 136 million or more than 11 per cent. of our income in 1930-31.

It is not sufficient that the scales of salaries of new entrants only should be drastically reduced ; but the emoluments of the present incumbents too should be so changed as to bridge the difference between the new rates and old rates as far as possible.

I appeal to the Government to do something to reduce this staggering burden of high salaries on the people of India. I may say that I do not insist on the form recommended in the Resolution, but I do insist on the Government taking some tangible step to meet the wishes of united India. If they do not heed the warning now, the responsibility will be theirs. In conclusion, Sir, I should like again to quote a short passage from Mr. Ramsay Macdonald's book, "The Government of India." On pages 147-48 he says :

"Every branch of public service should have as its standard of pay an Indian and not a foreign level. Thus far we have wrought India much harm, and this is a reform which a self-Government would do well to make."

I commend the above remarks to the Government and expect that, as they come from the Premier of England, they will receive the consideration that is due to them.

THE HONOURABLE MR. MAHMOOD SUHRAWARDY (West Bengal : Muhammadan) : Sir, I rise to oppose this Resolution which has been moved by my Honourable friend Mr. Syed Hussain Imam as it appears to me to be premature and superfluous since the Reports of the various Retrenchment Committees have not yet been published and discussed on the floor of this House. With your permission, Sir, let me read an extract from His Excellency's recent speech of Monday, the 14th September, 1931 (*vide* Volume II, No. 1, page 5 of the Council of State Debates) :

" Their interim reports will receive the most urgent consideration of my Government, for the introduction of practical measures brooks no delay." \* \* \* \*

Then again, he said :

" The plans necessary to restore financial equilibrium will inevitably demand sacrifices from all classes from the highest downwards and I am confident not only that these sacrifices will be willingly made but that India will emerge successfully from the present troubles."

Now, Sir, in view of this assurance already given by His Excellency Lord Willingdon regarding the restoration of financial equilibrium in this country I consider this Resolution to be superfluous and mischievous, as it will involve an additional burden of heavy expenditure on the Government Exchequer. I therefore hope that my friend, the Mover, will see fit to withdraw this Resolution.

THE HONOURABLE MR. H. W. EMERSON (Home Secretary) : Sir, the object of the Honourable Mover of this Resolution is, I take it, to invite the attention of the Government of India to the necessity of exploring, in connection with measures of retrenchment, the question of the pay and allowance of the Services both in regard to existing and future incumbents. If I have interpreted his object aright, then I can assure the Honourable Member that this matter is one which has received, and is receiving, the closest attention of the Government of India and, so far as their own Services are concerned, of Local Governments. It is true that Government do not propose as at present advised to follow the method suggested by the Honourable Member, but I hope to be able to satisfy the House that there are good reasons why Government should not commit themselves to the procedure proposed. The first objection to a Commission of enquiry such as the Honourable Member suggests is the fact that considerable time must elapse, firstly, before its report would be in the hands of Government, and secondly, before the authorities concerned could take action in the way of examination of the report and of reaching decision in regard to it. Now, whatever may be the views held on the general question, I think that there is common agreement that whatever measures may be necessary and feasible should be taken with as little delay as possible. I do not think that the Honourable Member's proposal satisfies the essential condition, that there should be economy in the matter of time. Again, a similar consideration applies to economy in money. Surely there has never been a time when it was so necessary to economise in expenditure, and a Commission such as the Honourable Member proposes would, I suggest, lead to considerable expenditure of money in order to attain objects which can be achieved in other ways. Further, the work to be done by this Commission would in many respects cover much of the ground that has been explored by the

[Mr. H. W. Emerson.]

various Retrenchment Committees, whether they have been set up by the Government of India or by Local Governments. I have no definite knowledge of the recommendations they may put forward for the consideration of Government regarding the pay of the Services, but I think we can all assume that they will have something to say on the matter to which Government will give their careful consideration. And in this connection it has to be remembered that so far as the Central Retrenchment Committees are concerned, the Legislature is very fully represented on them. The Government of India for their part, as I have already said, are fully alive to the importance and urgency of the question. It has received their closest attention; it will continue to receive their close attention, both in regard to existing factors and to new factors which the present financial crisis may bring, and almost certainly will bring, into existence. I hope that in view of this assurance the Honourable Member will not press his Resolution.

THE HONOURABLE SARDAR BAHADUR SHIVDEV SINGH UBEROI (Punjab Sikh): Sir, my Honourable friend I am sure is moved by a very noble idea in bringing this Resolution for the consideration of the Council. Everybody who feels for this country and the Government too realises at this moment the urgent need of economising the expenses of administration. I wish it was not necessary for me to stand up and request my Honourable friend to withdraw this Resolution or at any rate not to press it, because at heart I recognise the urgent need of reducing the expenses of the administration. He has made comparisons which are not always welcome and may be odious, but such comparisons of course enlighten the audience to a very great extent and enable them to form definite conclusions. As the Honourable Member I think is on one of the Retrenchment Sub-Committees, he is quite aware that this matter is being thoroughly investigated and I think all the Sub-Committees have reached their conclusions. I can assure my Honourable friend that they have come to some definite conclusions which will effect very substantial economy in the administration of our country. I am not in a position to say how far this question of reduction of pay and allowances has been taken up by the various Sub-Committees. I can say only so much that they are very conscious that very substantial economy can be effected by this means, and in the discharge of the onerous duty which has been put on them they will not leave this point alone and will certainly make recommendations to this effect also. As regards the suggestion made in the Resolution that a Viceroy's Commission should be set up, as my Honourable friend Mr. Emerson has said, that will not effect immediate economy. If this Resolution is approved, the Commission will have to be set up, then they will take from four to six months to investigate and they will then write their report, and that report will have to be considered by the Government and then given effect to. The reports of the Retrenchment Committees are already in the hands of the Honourable the Finance Member, who has assured the members of the Committees the other day that Government is very anxious to take as immediate action on the recommendations as possible. Government is not sleeping over the facts of the present situation in the country and I can assure my Honourable friend that Government is seriously taking into consideration how to bring into operation the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committees. I cannot say that the Government will accept

all those recommendations, but I can say this that the Government will consider those recommendations and give immediate effect to those which are acceptable to Government, and that will effect economy in the administration of the country. In these circumstances I would just advise my friend not to press this Resolution.

THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM : Sir, before I speak in reply, I should like to be enlightened by my Honourable friend Mr. Emerson as to whether the Government proposes to place before the House during the Delhi Session any comprehensive report on the question of salaries and the retrenchments acceptable to Government ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. H. W. EMERSON : Sir, I am not in a position to make any statement on this point as to whether Government will be in a position to make a statement during this Session in regard to their proposals for the services.

THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM : Sir, I brought this Resolution to find out the opinion of the Government of India and of the House. I have been assured by the speeches of my Honourable friends that the House does not like the idea and the Government is also not willing to agree to it. Well, the Resolution has been described by an Honourable Member as premature, superfluous and mischievous, which shows the mentality of the traducer. If reducing expenses is superfluous and mischievous, then I do not know of any other remedy.

THE HONOURABLE MR. MAHMOOD SUHRAWARDY : It is mischievous additional expenditure. How many lakhs have been spent up to now by the Retrenchment Committees ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM : The amount of money spent on the Retrenchment Committees is well known to the Honourable Member and the Finance Department, and I can assure him that the economies we are effecting are a thousand times more than our expenses. I quite agree with Mr. Emerson that this method I had recommended is not suitable. Beside the point which Mr. Emerson urged, one of my friends told me that such a Commission would not be constitutionally able to tackle some of the questions. A Viceroy's Commission has no power to override salaries fixed by Statute. For this reason I was myself thinking of withdrawing the Resolution at this stage and bringing it in an amended form during the Delhi Session, as it was not happily worded. As it is, my idea in bringing this Resolution was that as the Retrenchment Committee is not competent to deal with it, we should have a higher authority.....

THE HONOURABLE MR. G. A. NATESAN : That is not correct, Sir.

THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM :

12 NOON. Well, I can speak for one Committee to which I belonged

that we have recorded something in those terms. Therefore, I beg leave of the House to withdraw this Resolution, as I myself think that this Commission will not serve my purpose.

The Resolution\* was, by leave of the Council, withdrawn.

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\* "This Council recommends to the Governor General in Council the appointment of a Viceroy's Commission to revise the scale of pay and allowances of the Government of India's officers."



## RESOLUTION *RE* LOCATION OF THE INDIAN SANDHURST.

THE HONOURABLE SARDAR SHRI JAGANNATH MAHARAJ PANDIT (Bombay : Non-Muhammadan) : Sir, I beg to move the following Resolution :

“ This Council recommends to the Governor General in Council that the Indian Sandhurst should be located at some suitable place in the Deccan, preferably at Satara.”

Sir, I hope this House will at once admit that the recommendation made in my Resolution is an eminently reasonable one. I think, Sir, I am only voicing the feelings and sentiments of the whole House, if I congratulate Government upon their decision to organise and open an Indian Sandhurst. In doing so, they are meeting a long-felt want and fulfilling a purpose highly cherished by those who are anxious to see that the duty of defending India falls on the shoulders of her sons. The carrying out of the project of the Indianisation of the ranks of military officers has been unnecessarily delayed for a long time. Even the scheme, which, as it is reported, that has been formed by the Sandhurst Committee, is not a very satisfactory one.

But it is urgently necessary to deal with one aspect of the question of an Indian Sandhurst and that is its location. It is not a secret that the military authorities are inclined to favour Dehra Dun as such location, but in doing so Government would be entirely ignoring the claims and the convenience of a very large portion of the country and its population. For one thing Dehra Dun is quite far away and is already over-crowded with other institutions. Then again, Northern India has already two military schools, which serve their purpose admirably and meet the convenience of the population of that part of the country. It is therefore not unreasonable to claim that a third institution, which is yet to be brought into being, should be located in the Southern Mahratta Country, which is practically at the centre of the Indian continent, south of the river Nerbada. And is almost equidistant from Punjab and Madras. My enquiries show that all the Government may want, by way of a suitable climate, extensive grounds, plain open country, plentiful water-supply and the proximity of military stations for the success of the Indian Sandhurst is available in a full measure at one or two centres in the Bombay Presidency. Then again, the Southern Mahratta country is a region which possesses a suitable martial atmosphere, so that the recruiting for the ranks of Indian military officers can be adequately made. The military services ought not to be a monopoly of any particular community in India. The theory of martial races can easily be exploded, because history shows that opportunity makes the man, and the doings of one generation easily become the cherished tradition and an example for imitation by succeeding generations. A new centre of gravity for the location of an important college of military training is likely to attract not only those communities for whom martial traditions have already been built up, but, even those for whom they are yet to be so. The eventual distribution of the Indian armies and consequently the location of military stations may depend upon considerations of strict military strategy, but that has nothing to do with the location of a military college where cadets or candidates may be trained for officering Army units. In conclusion, Sir, I hope, that Government will give proper consideration to the reasons I set forth in my Resolution for locating the Indian Sandhurst in the Bombay Presidency. The last words

of my Resolution of course clearly express what would be my personal preference if I had the disposal of the location. I have no vested interests of any sort in Satara nor have I in view the possible vested interests that may possibly be served better if the Indian Sandhurst be located at Satara. It is a preference based entirely on what I consider to be the comparative merits of Satara. The claims of Satara may be summarised thus: Here an investment of several lakhs is now lying idle, in spite of the fact that the Satara military buildings once gave accommodation for training sections of 27 officers and 40 British non-commissioned officers and about 120 Indian non-commissioned officers and officers. The climate of Satara is unequalled, with no extremes of heat and cold, a very moderate rainfall, and fine hill breezes, making it unbeatable for an institution of this character. Moreover, it is within two hours motor-run of the hill station of Mahableshwar should a change to the hills be necessary in special cases. Satara is the ancient Mahratta capital, the very centre of the Deccan, the cradle of the warriors of Maharashtra, and already the haven of Indian military pensioners who cannot resist settling down in such a loyal and inspiring atmosphere, with the mighty old fort as a background. From the point of view of training, Satara is eminently well fitted. Not only has it a magnificent parade ground but as the arena in which whole campaigns of Indian Emperors have been decided, it provides an unequalled variety of territory for tactical training and military manoeuvring. This is the reason why the musketry "Small Arms" School was located here. Situated on the main trunk road from Bombay to Madras, within three hours motor-run from Poona on one side and Belgaum on the other, Satara is easily accessible by officers of the Southern Command as well as of the educational sections at Poona and Belgaum. Satara is in the very centre of a group of important Southern Mahratta States including Kolhapur, Sangli, Bhore, Aundh, Phaltan, Miraj and Ichalkaranji. With these words, Sir, I leave the Resolution in the hands of the House.

Sir, I move.

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA JAGDISH PRASAD (United Provinces Northern : Non-Muhammadan) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That in the Resolution just moved by my Honourable friend for the words "at some suitable place in the Deccan, preferably at Satara" the words "at Dehra Dun" be substituted."

My Honourable friend, the Honourable Sardar Shri Jagannath Maharaj Pandit, has just given his reasons before the House why he thinks that the Indian Sandhurst should be located at Satara. The Indian Military College Committee of 1931 in their report, which was placed in our hands a couple of days ago, say that they considered a number of possible sites for the Indian Military College, and eventually reduced the choice to three places, namely, Satara, Mhow and Dehra Dun. Now, Sir, I wish to relate before the House the reasons why I consider that it would be in the best interests of the country to locate the Indian Sandhurst at Dehra Dun in preference to Satara. The Indian Military College Committee have in their report mentioned certain points which in their opinion should determine as far as possible the final choice of the site, and these points are as follows: The first point is that the ideal site for the College would be in a place occupying

[Rai Bahadur Lala Jagdish Prasad.]

a central or, at any rate, easily accessible position. Secondly, that the place should have a temperate climate all the year round. Thirdly, that there should be adequate room for expansion and for training purposes. Fourthly, that there should be a military garrison in the neighbourhood. Fifthly, that the college should not be situated in a large town, nor, on the other hand, too far in the country. And, sixthly, that it should if possible possess some vacant buildings which could be utilised temporarily to start the College while the main and permanent buildings were being erected. Now let us see how far these requirements are satisfied by Dehra Dun so that Honourable Members may be able to judge the relative merits of Satara and Dehra Dun before recording their vote on this Resolution. As regards the first point, Sir, it would, I hope, be readily conceded even by my Honourable friend that as compared to Satara, Dehra Dun is a far more central place. Dehra Dun is also easily accessible being situated on the East Indian Railway, and being itself a railway station. I doubt very much if Satara is so easily accessible. Now, so far as the second point is concerned, namely, that of climate, Dehra Dun has a moderate climate all the year round and is in fact a sort of sanatorium, so much so that it has the honour of His Excellency the Viceroy's visit so often in a year. Mussoorie, a hill station, is situated at a distance of about 8 miles from there and is easily accessible by motor. Thirdly, by reason of its being situated in Northern India, Dehra Dun lies in close proximity to such areas as the Punjab, the western parts of the United Provinces, the North-West Frontier Province and Baluchistan, where such martial classes reside as the Sikhs, the Rajputs and the Gurkhas from whom recruitment to the Indian Army is made. Fourthly, so far as the desirability of there being a military garrison in the neighbourhood is concerned, Dehra Dun has got the advantage of military troops in its neighbourhood, at places such as at Landhour, Chakrata, Roorkee, Meerut and Dehra Dun itself. And this advantage is definitely denied in the case of Satara by the Committee in their report, for they say that at Satara there are no troops in the neighbourhood. Fifthly, Sir, Dehra Dun is neither a very large town nor a very small town, nor is it too far in the country, being, as I just said, a railway station itself. And in this respect too it satisfies the Committee's requirements. Sixthly, a large and suitable site can be obtained for the College without any difficulty at Dehra Dun as the Committee themselves have observed in their report.

These are the points that Dehra Dun satisfies so far as the requirements of the Committee are concerned. Now, there is one more important point which I wish to emphasise in favour of Dehra Dun, and it is this. There are a number of important all-India institutions already situated at Dehra Dun, the foremost among which is the Prince of Wales' Royal Military College; and the House will, I hope, recognise how profitable it would be for the new Indian Sandhurst to be located in the same place where the Royal Military College already exists. Besides this, there are the Imperial Forest Research Institute, the Forest College, the All-India Railway Staff College, the Trigonometrical Survey of India offices and the X-Ray Institute, which are other all-India institutions of importance that are situated at Dehra Dun. And, lastly, Sir, I would invite the attention of the House to the fact that although

the Committee has left the final selection of the site to the Government of India, the majority of the Committee have favoured Dehra Dun for the location of the College. These are the reasons, Sir, why I feel that it would be more in the public interest if the Indian Sandhurst were located at Dehra Dun in preference to Satara, and I hope that the House will agree to my amendment.

**THE HONOURABLE RAJA LAXMANRAO BHONSLE** (Central Provinces: General): Sir, I rise to support the Resolution now before the House. Since this Resolution was placed on the agenda, the report of the Military College Committee, popularly known as the Indian Sandhurst Committee, has been made available to the public. Naturally, those like myself who felt favourably inclined towards the Resolution now before the House, keenly searched the report for some material in its support. The result is not as satisfactory as was expected by some of us. But it was quite satisfactory so far, that Satara was not ruled out as a possible centre where the new Indian Sandhurst might be located. Apart from the sentimental considerations, which naturally and irresistibly incline us all Mahrattas, to prefer the original home and cradle of the Mahratta power as the place for the location of the new Indian Sandhurst, reasons of general convenience as well of the whole Indian Peninsula and general accessibility point equally to the desirability of locating the new Military College there. The Indian Military College Committee's report published the other day says that :

“ The ideal site for our purpose would be in a place occupying a central or, at any rate, easily accessible position, with a temperate climate all the year round, with adequate room for expansion and for training purposes, and with a military garrison in the neighbourhood.”

These considerations for the location, thus laid down, are admitted to be partially or nearly fulfilled in the case of the three places named, namely, Satara, Mhow and Dehra Dun. I do not know whether the mention of Satara first in the list is meant to indicate any preference for that locality. If that be so, nothing could be more welcome from our point of view. My friend, the Honourable Mover of this Resolution, has already mentioned the special advantages which Satara offers for the establishment of the new Indian Sandhurst there. I will only add, or rather emphasise, one further reason which ought to carry weight in any decision that may finally have to be taken. I may recall here that in the speech I made during the course of the general discussion of the Budget in March last, I laid stress on the great injustice that was being done to whole classes of people by abandoning those very areas for purposes of recruitment to the Army which furnished fine fighting material in the pre-Mutiny period. This abandonment was based on political reasons, which have no longer the same force or validity as they might perhaps have had before India's attainment of full Dominion Status in the near future was made the main objective. I can quite understand that the force of vested interests will incline representative Members from the north to vote in favour of Dehra Dun. But those in whose hands the final decision rests in this matter should bear in mind that it is the interest of India as a whole that is now to be served by this new institution. The establishment of the Indian Sandhurst at Satara would go some way to redress the great wrong that has been done in the past by the largely artificial distinction that is being drawn between

[Raja Laxmanrao Bhonsle.]

the so-called martial and non-martial races. Modern warfare is more a matter of science and nerve than that of mere muscle. In both the former respects, the southern part of the Peninsula will in no way be found inferior to the north. If the object of the new institution is the creation of a real national Army in the near future, that object can be more speedily achieved by locating the new College at a place where it can be made more accessible to all parts of India than by making it perch on a hill top, removed from the range of vision of the entire Peninsula below the Vindhia Ranges.

I second the Resolution which has been moved.

THE HONOURABLE MR. SATYENDRA CHANDRA GHOSH MAULIK (West Bengal : Non-Muhammadan) : Sir, it seems that more often than not we are faced with the difficulty of one province fighting with another. First of all my Honourable friend Mr. Basu raised the war cry "*Bengal versus Bombay*" in a press interview. Next, in discussing the Wheat Duty Bill in this House the other day he caused some liveliness over Bengal *versus* the Punjab. Now for the third time we are faced with another controversy, the United Provinces *versus* Bombay, or shall I say, Hindustan *versus* the Deccan. It might seem strange that a Member from Bengal should intervene in a debate of this nature, as for all practical military purposes the east ends at Naini Tal, where the Headquarters of the Eastern Command is situated, and provinces like Bihar, Bengal, Assam and Burma have no place on the military map. It would thus seem, Sir, that Bengal has not much place in a discussion on this question. But, Sir, my answer to this poser is quite simple. If Bengal is for military purposes to be outside the fringe of Indian military activity, let it at least be as near to the border as possible. This is not the place nor the occasion when I should try to seek redress for long-standing grievances of this nature, but I should and could certainly urge that Dehra Dun is most conveniently situated. Apart from its location, while Satara claims its historical antecedents, Dehra Dun is certainly the place where thrive and flourish the training ground of most modern activities. Dehra Dun has no forts, it has no ruins or mausoleums but it has an impressive pile of buildings which house the Forest Research Institute. Close by is the Railway Training College where the training afforded is most comprehensive and elaborate. As a town it is picturesque. Its neat lanes and natty villas make it a picture of a countryside. Its climate is salubrious and life in Dehra Dun is conducive alike to health and work. It is already the centre of much educational activity and progress. The spirit of study and research is hovering there, and all circumstances considered I think Bengal should vote in this instance for the United Provinces rather than Bombay.

THE HONOURABLE DIWAN BAHADUR G. NARAYANASWAMI CHETTI (Madras : Non-Muhammadan) : Sir, I have great pleasure in supporting the Resolution of my Honourable friend Sardar Shri Jagannath Maharaj Pandit. The only thing I hope is that Government will not delay, either on account of financial stringency or for other reasons, and will do their best to open the College as early as possible. But I have very great objection to its location at Dehra Dun. Dehra Dun is far away from the Madras Presidency. I would prefer any other place, even Bangalore would be more convenient for the majo-

city of the provinces. From that point of view I hope that Government will select a central place so that all the provinces can benefit.

With these few words, Sir, I beg to support the Resolution.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Sir, the Resolution moved by my Honourable friend Sardar Shri Jagannath Maharaj Pandit as well as the amendment moved to it both place me in rather an awkward position. I should like, if I could have to have discussed some of the sentences which fell from my Honourable friend, but as a matter of fact I am quite unable to discuss the matter in this House at all for the moment, and if the House will permit me I will 'ell them in a few sentences why that is so. As Honourable Members who have seen the Report of the Sandhurst Committee over which I presided and which has been quoted to-day are aware, we considered a large number of places as possible sites for the new Sandhurst—Satara, Bangalore, Poona, Deolali, Mhow, Pachmarhi, Shillong, Saugor, Dehra Dun and Abbottabad. I was personally acquainted with some of these places and I have visited the others. But I undertook as President of that Committee to visit certain places which had been strongly pressed on us by certain members of the Committee. During the monsoon tour I made in the south and in the centre of India I undertook to visit Satara, Poona and Mhow, and in addition I also undertook to visit Neemuch, which had been mentioned as a possible site for the new College owing to the fact that there were a considerable number of very good military buildings in existence there in a very good state of repair. I did visit all those places and on my return to Simla we held a meeting of our Military Council with our Chief Engineer and other technical people. I was able to submit to the Military Council what I had seen and after the discussion which took place we decided to constitute a small expert Committee of Engineers and other officers to visit three possible sites for the new College and to report to us on these sites and to give us as close estimates as they could of the cost of the establishment of a Sandhurst at any one of the three. They have only just furnished their report to us, and we have not yet considered it. Next week I hope we shall consider it at Army Headquarters and make our recommendations to Government on it, and I hope therefore that this House and especially the Honourable Mover of the Resolution will see that it is impossible for me to enter into any discussion on the matter in the House when the investigations are in the state in which they are now. We have not yet examined the estimates of either of these three sites closely nor have we submitted them to the Government for their approval. It is therefore impossible for me to answer either on behalf of the military or of Government at this stage.

I would like very much to have answered the individual speeches that have been made on this subject because, although much of what each speaker said was true, there were several of their remarks which were not in accordance with the facts. I would like to point out to the House that it is not a question just now of whether we want to have the Military College in the south of India or in the centre or in the north, but a bitter question of getting the money and we are therefore compelled in some cases to abandon consideration of sites which would otherwise present many desirable features

[His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.]

and we are compelled for financial reasons to examine those places in which we shall not only have a considerable number of buildings which we can either adapt or which are possible to use as they stand but also places where we shall not have much land purchase to consider.

I would therefore ask the Honourable Member, if he sees fit to do so, not to press the matter at the moment, and, if he sees fit to do so, to withdraw the motion.

THE HONOURABLE SARDAR SHRI JAGANNATH MAHARAJ PANDIT : Sir, in view of the explanation given by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, I do not wish to press the Resolution.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : The position with regard to the Resolution is that the Honourable Member who has moved it is prepared to withdraw it but in the meantime an amendment has also been moved. I do not know whether the Honourable Member is prepared to ask leave of the Council to withdraw it.

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA JAGDISH PRASAD : Yes, Sir, I also wish to withdraw my amendment.

The amendment\* and Resolution† were, by leave of the Council, withdrawn.

#### RESOLUTION *RE* FLAG FOR BRITISH INDIA.

THE HONOURABLE MR. K. V. RANGASWAMY AIYANGAR (Madras : Non-Muhammadan) : Sir, I beg to move :

“ That this Council recommends to the Governor General in Council to appoint a committee of the Central Legislature and other representatives of the country to suggest the design of a flag for British India with a view to the introduction of a Bill giving statutory recognition to it. ”

Sir, some time ago, a friend of mine and a publicist, Mr. K. Vyasa Row, pointed out in *The Hindu* of Madras that it would be a service on the part of those who believe in a policy of co-operation with Great Britain to press for an enactment by the Assembly for the constitution of a flag for India. Even before that we wanted that an enactment should be made to constitute a flag for India. From the very ancient days India was having its own flags and the Mahabarata war was showing how each state and clan had its flag. The idea of a flag is not new to India. Its ancient civilisation and culture and its importance in the place of the world and especially as the brightest of the British possessions may go to show that my Resolution to give her a separate flag is neither ambitious nor preposterous. It is legitimate, now that the status of a Dominion is to be conferred on her, that the question of a flag acceptable to the Government and to the different subjects should engage the attention of the Government. It may be said, Sir, that there already exists a flag for India in so far as in the British flag a Star of India is added in the centre. But it is

\* “ That for the words ‘ at some suitable place in the Deccan, preferably at Satara ’ in the Resolution, the words ‘ at Dehra Dun ’ be substituted. ”

† “ This Council recommends to the Governor General in Council that the Indian Sandhurst should be located at some suitable place in the Deccan, preferably at Satara. ”

not noticeable, Sir, and nobody seems to be aware of it. The British flag represents the Crosses of St. Andrew and St. George and while these may form a portion of the Indian flag I am proposing, it should not, if it is to appeal to the whole of the Indian nation, entirely absorb the whole space of the flag. The *Times of India*, while discussing the results of the committee appointed by the Congress on the question of the flag, says that numerous suggestions have been made to the committee of the Congress appointed to settle this flag question. Some want the flag to be of one colour, some want it to be multi-coloured; some want it to be oblong, others want it to be swallow-tailed; some want the charkha on it, some want only a wheel, some an elephant, some a lotus, some a flame of fire, some the Himalayas and some, again, "Mother India" with a trident. In fact there is no end to the suggestions made in all seriousness by men whose nationalism is undoubted. But the Indian National Congress through its executive has adopted a flag with a charkha and the colour of the cloth of a recluse retired from worldly avocations, that is a Sanyasi, instead of the red portion of the old tri-colour flag we founded in 1917. Sir, so far as may be recollected, the national flag in its tri-colour form that was replaced, representing the Hindus, Muslims and minorities, i.e., the aggregate population of India, and combining the ideas of liberty, equality and fraternity, as the original tri-colour of France was designed to do, was inaugurated by Mrs. Besant during the zenith of the Home Rule agitation. During her internment at Ooty and Coimbatore, she triumphantly put up a flag for India and went round it in the Hindu fashion and saluted it in the British way followed by her distinguished fellow interneers. After her well-merited elevation to the Congress Presidentship, the flag automatically took the place of the Congress flag. And since then, it has symbolised whatever the Congress has stood for. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, who was then with me on the same platform, may bear me out as to the originality of the design which was as much due to him as to me or to our well-beloved Mrs. Besant.

Now that this flag has undergone a change I beg to suggest that this will be an opportune moment for the Government to inaugurate a flag along with the inauguration of a new era as a result of the Round Table Conference. An Act should be passed by the Legislative Assembly for constituting a national flag for India as was recently passed in South Africa for defining and inaugurating the South African flag, and that Act should receive the assent of the Viceroy. It should be made perfectly legitimate to exhibit it in any State in equal or subordinate alliance with the British Crown, conformably to the general custom. The absence of a flag for British India is a grave blot on the prestige of British India and betrays a lack of statesmanship on the part of the British rulers. The flag salutation by the volunteers of the Congress has brought a lot of complications and the Native States are at their wits' end as to how to deal with the situation. A flag is not like the National Anthem, and while the National Anthem should be the same, the flag of different Dominions and subordinate countries may be distinctive. Of late there has been so much talk of a national flag for India, and from an attitude of indifference, there has been in some places some sort of repression adopted towards the bearers of the flag. To avoid this, it is better that Government should adopt a flag for India. It is ludicrous that while feudatory States have their own flags and every foreign country, however small or insignificant has the dignity



[Mr. K. V. Rangaswamy Aiyangar.]

of a symbol of its existence, British India which enjoys the privilege of an independent footing in the League of Nations should be consigned to obloquy and have to go without a flag. The Union Jack is so well-known all over the globe that an Indian claiming it as his own is soon put to the blush by being told that it is the British flag and he is but an Indian. This kind of experience Indians have had in Japan any number of times, and nobody can understand why when Australia, Canada and Africa and Mysore and Travancore and other parts of the British Empire have their flags, British India alone should be erased out of the category of countries that have their flags.

I have no objection to legalise the present flag adopted by the Congress though it has thrown our old flag dating from 1917 into the background. We have enough and more of the qualities of virtue, truth and sacrifice that are claimed for in the flag at present adopted in the country. I do not propose to suggest to attach any significance as to the qualities of what a nation ought to possess to be incorporated or symbolised in the flag.

The leaders of the respective parties in the Assembly and some Members of the Council of State, such as Syed Hussain Imam and Sir Phiroze Sethna, may be formed into a Committee along with Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya and the President of the European Association to give us a design so that an Act may be passed to give legal effect to it.

Sir, I have in moving this Resolution gone against the wishes of my Congress friends in requesting the Government to form a Committee to design some flag other than that of the Congress, and I hope Government will appreciate my endeavours to reconcile the two sections, the Government and the Congress.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. H. W. EMERSON** (Home Secretary): Sir, I am sure that the principle underlying the Resolution of the Honourable Member will have the full sympathy of the House, as it has the full sympathy of Government, is a natural, and if I may say so, a healthy aspiration that India should desire, as the Dominions have, a distinctive flag under the British flag. The doubts which Government feel regarding the proposal of the Honourable Member relate not to the principle, but to the question whether the time is ripe to give effect to his suggestion. At the moment, the future constitution of the country is in the making at the Round Table Conference. We do not know what form that constitution will take. We hope it will be a federal constitution, and if that is so, surely all the members of the Federation, the Local Governments and the States, will desire to have a voice in the design of the flag. And in this connection, I may perhaps suggest that a flag for British India alone would hardly satisfy the States who would desire a flag for Federal India as a whole. That is one reason for not proceeding with the proposal. It is not possible to consult the units of the new constitutional India, because we do not at present know what those units will be. Again, Government feel some diffidence in proceeding with the proposal of the Honourable Member at a time when they will be shortly replaced by a responsible Government. If Government took action at the present moment, it might easily give rise to a certain amount of suspicion and criticism. The natural observation might well be made, "Why, when a change is about to take place, are the present Government in such a hurry to design and to legislate for a national flag? Surely, is

this not a matter that should be properly left to the new Government when it comes into being ? ” That, I think, is rather an important consideration. Then, again, if the Government were to appoint a committee of this sort, it ought to be in response to wide public opinion. There is undoubtedly, at the present time, a good deal of public sympathy in favour of it. But Government are not certain that it has yet developed to that extent which would justify them at the present time in giving effect to the Resolution.

There is a further consideration that I should like to mention. The efforts of political organisations to obtain acceptance of a flag which will secure general approval have not always been entirely happy, and the question of what design a national flag should take is one that experience has shown is liable to give rise to a certain amount of communal and sectional feeling. At the present moment when, for various reasons, there is a considerable amount of communal tension in the country, it appears undesirable to introduce a new subject which may very easily be a matter for considerable controversy. And, lastly, there is a reason which in ordinary times would not carry particular weight but which in the present hard times must be given great importance. In existing financial circumstances it is incumbent on Government that they should restrict their expenditure to what is absolutely essential, and I do not think the Honourable Member would claim that his proposal really comes within that category. For these reasons, then, while Government are entirely sympathetic towards the principle of the Resolution, they are not able to proceed with it at the present time and I would ask the Honourable Member therefore not to press his Resolution.

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA JAGDISH PRASAD (United Provinces Northern : Non-Muhammadan): Sir, with due deference to my Honourable friend Mr. Rangaswamy Aiyangar whom I hold in great esteem, I am afraid I regard this Resolution at the present moment as inopportune. India, Sir, is a dependency under British rule and the British have got their own flag called the Union Jack. On the other hand, the premier political organization in India, namely, the Congress, which at the present time admittedly has the largest following in the country, has designed its own flag, popularly known as the national flag. If under the circumstances a committee of the nature suggested by my Honourable friend is appointed, and assuming that it suggests a third kind of national flag for British India, I ask my Honourable friend if the findings of that committee would be acceptable to the Government on the one hand and to Congressmen on the other. And I believe that at present these are the two main bodies which should count in this respect. The position of Government has already been explained to us by the Honourable Mr. Emerson, and, as regards the Congress, my fear, based on experience of that body, is that situated as we are no other flag is likely to be acceptable to the Congress except their own national flag. Under the circumstances I ask my Honourable friend of what use will the appointment of such a committee be, whose findings will hardly be acceptable to anybody except perhaps a few. We know, Sir, that the future constitution of India is in the melting pot, and if, as a result of the deliberations of the Round Table Conference in London, India is able to achieve Dominion Status, as we hope she will, it will be time then for her as a self-governing Dominion to design a national flag suitable to the changed conditions in the country, like the other self-governing Dominions which—and

[Rai Bahadur Lala Jagdish Prasad.]

here I speak subject to correction—have got their own respective national flags. But until that time, I consider that the Resolution of my esteemed friend is premature and I think he will be well advised not to press it.

THE HONOURABLE MR. K. V. RANGASWAMY AIYANGAR: Sir, I have nothing to add to what I said before.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: The question is:

“That the following Resolution be adopted, namely:

‘This Council recommends to the Governor General in Council to appoint a committee of the Central Legislature and other representatives of the country to suggest the design of a flag for British India with a view to the introduction of a Bill giving statutory recognition to it.’”

The motion was negatived.

### RESOLUTION *RE* IMPROVEMENT OF THE PRESENT LOT OF TRADERS AND CULTIVATORS IN BURMA.

THE HONOURABLE DIWAN BAHADUR G. NARAYANASWAMI CHETTI (Madras: Non-Muhammadan): Sir, I move the following Resolution which stands in my name:

“That this Council recommends to the Governor General in Council to afford necessary credit facilities to Indian traders and cultivators in Burma with a view to improving their present lot.”

I should like to urge on the Government the absolute necessity of directing the Imperial Bank and other banks under their patronage to help Indian merchants at this time. Indian merchants have advanced a part of their money to the agriculturists but they are not in a position to get repayment of their loans at this juncture unless the Government comes to their aid by directing the Local Government to help the agriculturists by liberal loans and also Indian merchants with banking facilities. I fear the position of the Indian traders and cultivators will otherwise become awful. I am glad in this connection that my esteemed friend Sir Annamalai Chettiyar, the leader of the Nattukottai Chetti community, is present here, and I am sure he will enable us to picture the sufferings of the Indian merchants and traders. I hope he will be able to convince the House on this question. Therefore, Sir, I hope it will not be very difficult for the Government to accept my Resolution and to communicate their instructions to the Burma Government and, as far as possible, to extend financial help to the Indian traders at this juncture.

Sir, I move.

THE HONOURABLE RAJA SIR ANNAMALAI CHETTIYAR (Madra: Non-Muhammadan): Sir, as one coming from a district in South India, many of whose inhabitants have migrated to Burma and have established business firms all over the country, and as one having a large stake in Burma, I feel it incumbent upon me to say a few words on the proposition before the House.

I am sure Honourable Members are well aware of the terrible sufferings and hardships the Indians had to undergo in Burma and I do not propose to take the time of the House by enumerating them.

Indians have given freely of their best in men and money for the development of Burma. India has supplied labour and capital. Large areas of land which were formerly forests have been brought under cultivation by the enterprise and energy of Indian labourers and bankers.

As far as I know, Burmans and Indians had always been living in perfect amity. The relationship between these two peoples was all that could be desired and yet the Burmans inflicted the heaviest sufferings on the Indians.

I do not know who is responsible for planting this unfortunate anti-Indian feeling among the Burmans.

Sir, the communities who have been affected most by this rebellion are the Indian agriculturists, traders and capitalists.

The Indian cultivators have suffered much owing to the intimidation, looting, plunder and murder resulting in terrible loss of life and property. The normal agricultural operations have been considerably hampered owing chiefly to the scarcity of money.

Sir, it is said that the Government of Burma have sanctioned about 50 lakhs of rupees for making advances to the agriculturists. I do not know whether any portion of this amount was given to the Indian agriculturists. Considering the conditions prevailing in Burma, the amount is very small. Liberal advances must be made to both Burmans and Indians. I do not forget the financial difficulties of the Government. But I consider that even as it is, the Government might be able to find out remedial measures for tiding over temporary difficulties.

The Chetties and other Indian bankers who were the financiers to the agriculturists and traders hitherto are not in a position to continue their business as before owing to the situation created by the rebellion. The Indian capitalists are thoroughly discouraged by the failure of the borrowers to meet their obligations. More than this, there seems to be an organised attempt on the part of Burmans not to pay their Indian creditors with the ultimate object of forcing them down to their own terms.

As a result of this they, the Indian merchants and bankers, are themselves hard pressed for money. They have to meet their financial obligations. The credit facilities they enjoyed have been suddenly stopped by their bankers. Not only that. Their bankers press them hard for payment of their dues. The situation therefore is one fraught with a good deal of uncertainty for the Indians.

The Banking Enquiry Committee report for the province of Burma shows that the investment of one community of Chetties alone in Burma amounts to 80 crores of rupees. The best part of this investment is in the agricultural operations of Lower Burma, the centre of the rebellion.

Owing either to the inability of the borrowers to pay or to the mischievous activities of Burmans in attempting to evade payments, the lands in tens of thousands of acres are coming into the hands of the Indian bankers and they find it very difficult to let the lands on lease owing to the intimidation on the part of the Burmans in many ways.

[Raja Sir Annamalai Chettiyar.]

Sir, there are many impediments to cultivation. Abnormally low prices, the disturbed state of the country, the extreme economic depression in trade and the lack of money for cultivation expenses have all ended to make cultivation very difficult.

Honourable Members will thus see that the conditions of the agriculturists, traders and capitalists is deplorable.

If the Government are really intent upon the restoration of normal conditions they should not only furnish adequate facilities for the proper financing of trade and agriculture by means of direct contributions from the Government, but what is more they should also take the other financial agencies into their confidence through whom alone the agriculturists and traders could be effectively reached.

A great deal depends upon the re-establishment of good feelings between the Burmans and Indians and, unless the Government take every step towards this end, nothing tangible can be achieved. The anti-Indian legislative measures which have worked great havoc and which have been in more than one sense responsible for the outbreaks, should also be repealed.

Of the contribution of Indian capital and labour to the growth and prosperity of Burma it is needless for me to refer. More than one Governor of Burma has borne the most eloquent testimony to it, and I can only say if Burma is to-day what it is, no small part of it is due to Indian labour and capital.

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. H. LLOYD (Government of India : Nominated Official) : Sir, it is a matter of regret to me that on the first occasion on which I have the honour of addressing this Council I should have to oppose a Resolution which has been brought forward on the other side, and particularly so as the Resolution has been supported by an account of very real difficulties and hardships. But I am afraid, none the less, it is my duty to oppose the Resolution.

The Resolution as worded refers specifically to Indian traders and cultivators in Burma, and the Honourable Member who spoke last devoted some time to an account of the unfortunate results of the feeling of hostility that exists between certain Burmans and Indian traders in the country. When he did this, I cannot help feeling that he was attempting to lead us on to ground where I should be very loath to follow him. I think it will be agreed that the matter must be discussed from the strictly financial point of view without going into the possibility of remedies for the unfortunate state of tension which exists at present in some parts of Burma. Having said this, Sir, I think my point will be understood if I take exception first to the fact that this Resolution singles out a particular class of traders and cultivators in Burma for the assistance that the Government is asked to give. It seems to me that it would be impossible, if the Government of India were to adopt a policy of extending credit facilities to traders and cultivators, that they should distinguish between traders and cultivators of one category or another in the same province and I think it is equally clear, Sir, that it is impossible to stop at that province. The economic difficulties of the times are felt as greatly in other parts of India as in

Burma. Burma is part of India still and if assistance is given to traders and cultivators in Burma it will have to be extended to traders and cultivators in all other parts of India in similar forms. That would impose upon the Government an entirely new kind of burden which I really think my Honourable friend will not ask them to shoulder at a time of such acute financial stringency as the present. While fully realising the very great difficulties under which large sections of the trading and cultivating population are now labouring, we must not forget the almost overwhelming difficulties with which the Government of India's own finances are struggling.

Special mention has been made of the case of the Chetties in Burma and I think I am justified in saying that the speech of the Honourable the Mover was really a proposal for securing financial assistance to the Chetty community engaged in financing agriculture in Burma. Now, the Government of India are fully aware of the importance of the services which that community have rendered in Burma. And if I might strike a personal note, I myself have served for some years in rural areas in Burma and am fully alive also to the fact that the Chetty community has won for itself a very important position in the economic structure of the province. But the special reference is to the financing of agriculture and, whether the financing is to be done through the Chetty community or directly, it does amount to the question of granting advances to the cultivators. Now, Sir, that means that the subject is one for the Local Government. Direct advances to cultivators are entirely a matter for the Local Government and there can be no doubt about it. Assistance can be given to Co-operative Credit Societies, cultivators can receive the advantage of credit under the Land Improvement Loans Act and the Agricultural Loans Act. As a matter of fact, as my Honourable friend, Raja Sir Annamalai Chettiyar, has observed, large advances have been given by the Local Government and I think it is fair to say that the Government of India are doing what they can to give the necessary support to the Local Government in this matter. After all, the ability of the Local Government to make loans to agriculturists under these Acts depends upon the willingness of the Government of India to advance the necessary money to the Local Government and the Government of India have met readily any requests for assistance up to the present and are prepared to go further, if necessary ; but the initiative must come from the Local Government and the working of the thing must be entirely in their hands, and it is as much on this constitutional point as on any other that I am afraid I must oppose this Resolution.

The Honourable Raja Sir Annamalai Chettiyar asked whether out of the agricultural loans which have been given—something like Rs. 50 lakhs have been distributed—anything has gone to the Indian agriculturist in Burma. I am afraid, Sir, that here again, the matter is one entirely within the competence of the Local Government and not one in which the Government of India can undertake to interfere.

Reference has been made to banking facilities, and I should like to add in conclusion, Sir, that the Government of India have, as a matter of fact, discussed this subject with the Managing Governor of the Imperial Bank, Sir Osborne Smith, and have ascertained that the Bank is doing all that it reasonably can to deal with the situation at present. Moreover, Mr. Macdonald, the

[Mr. A. H. Lloyd.]

junior Managing Governor, is about to proceed or has proceeded, to Rangoon to investigate the situation further and to smoothe out all difficulties as far as possible. By giving this statement, of course, I should not be misunderstood as implying in any sense that the Government of India have brought pressure to bear upon the Bank, which is a private institution, or that they will be in a position to do so in the future.

For these reasons, Sir, I trust that the Honourable Member might be willing to withdraw his Resolution.

**THE HONOURABLE DIWAN BAHADUR G. NARAYANASWAMI CHETTI :** Sir, I am glad that the Government of India realise the difficulties of the Indian traders, and from the assurance given by the Honourable Member—he has said that Government have been in communication with the Imperial Bank about giving credit facilities, though he said he should not be misunderstood in making this statement—I am glad to learn from the statement made that Government realise the difficulties. I am sure that the discussion on this subject will be communicated to the Local Government, and in this view I beg leave of the House to withdraw the Resolution.

The Resolution\* was, by leave of the Council, withdrawn.

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#### NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTIONS TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIES AND LABOUR AND TO THE IMPERIAL COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH.

**THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT :** The following Honourable Members have been nominated for election to the Standing Committee in the Department of Industries and Labour :

The Honourable Mr. M. Suhrawardy.

The Honourable Mr. J. C. Banerjee.

The Honourable Mr. Ghosh Maulik.

The following Honourable Members have been nominated for election to the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research and its Governing Body :

The Honourable Sardar Shri Jagannath Maharaj Pandit.

The Honourable Mr. M. Suhrawardy.

The Honourable Mr. Syed Abdul Hafeez.

The Honourable Diwan Bahadur G. Narayanaswami Chetti.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur Chaudri Muhammad Din.

The Honourable Mr. B. K. Basu.

The Honourable Sardar Charanjit Singh.

The Honourable Mr. Abu Abdullah Syed Hussain Imam.

In both cases an election is necessitated, and the elections will take place at the next meeting of the Council for the disposal of official business.

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\*“This Council recommends to the Governor General in Council to afford necessary credit facilities to Indian traders and cultivators in Burma with a view to improving their present lot.”

## STATEMENT OF BUSINESS.

**THE HONOURABLE SIR JOSEPH BHOORE** (Leader of the House) : We have no business, Sir, to place before the House to-morrow, Wednesday, as Honourable Members are aware, is a non-official day. On Thursday, or on whatever other day you may be pleased to fix for the next official meeting, motions will be made for the consideration and passing of the five Bills which have been laid on the table to-day. The Honourable Mr. Emerson will move for the election of Members to the Publicity Committee and the Honourable Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar will move his Resolution on the subject of the allowances of Honourable Members.

**THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT** : The Council will now adjourn till Wednesday, the 23rd of September, at 11 o'clock. I may add that thereafter the Council will meet on the following day, Thursday, the 24th.

The Council then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, the 23rd September, 1931.



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**Copies of the Debates of the Legislative Assembly and of the Council of State are obtainable on sale from the Manager, Central Publication Branch, 3, Government Place, West, Calcutta.**

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