

Public Section 6-2-31

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

TUESDAY, 27th JANUARY, 1931

Vol. I—No. 10

OFFICIAL REPORT



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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Tuesday, 27th January, 1931.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber of the Council House at Eleven of the Clock, Mr. President in the Chair.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

• NON-GRANT OF A HOLIDAY FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION TO EMPLOYEES OF THE SURVEY OF INDIA AT DEHRA DUN AND MUSSOORIE.

37. ***Kunwar Hajeé Ismail Ali Khan**: (a) Is it a fact that there was a general holiday in the United Provinces on 26th and 27th September 1930, for general elections?

(b) If the answer to part (a) is in the affirmative, will Government kindly inform the Assembly, why it was not observed by the Survey of India in Dehra Dun and Mussoorie on 26th September 1930, when the Muhammadan election took place, and why the Muhammadan employees of the Survey of India were deprived from recording their votes in the general election?

(c) If the answer to part (a) is in the negative, will Government be pleased to state why the instructions were not issued to the Survey of India to observe the holiday with the other United Provinces Government Departments?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: (a) The 26th and 27th September, 1930, were declared as public holidays by the Government of the United Provinces.

(b) and (c). The offices of the Survey of India are under the Central Government and do not necessarily observe the holidays sanctioned by the Governments of the provinces in which those offices are situated. The offices of the Geodetic Branch, Survey of India, Dehra Dun, were; however, closed and every facility was allowed for voting. The offices of the Survey of India at Mussoorie were closed on the 27th September. They are in close proximity to the Municipal Office, which was the polling centre, and as polling began from 7 a.m., every employee had ample opportunity of recording his vote on the way to office even on the 26th September.

ASSAULT AND ARREST OF MEMBERS OF A JATHA FROM THE GURUKUL KANGRI UNIVERSITY.

38. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh**: (a) Is it a fact that about the first week of August last, a Jatha from Gurukul Kangri University with about 150 volunteers, while proceeding to Roorkee was intercepted by the Military, and assaulted with lathis, under orders of a Subadar-Major, in course of which about 120 persons received injuries, and volunteers including some ladies were also arrested, but all were subsequently released?

(b) Under what law or authority did the Military act in this matter; and if they were in the wrong, what steps, if any, have been taken?

The Honourable Sir James Crerar: I have called for the facts from the Local Government and will give the Honourable Member the information in due course.

**CLOSING OF A DISPENSARY FOR THE TREATMENT OF CONGRESS VOLUNTEERS
AT CHARSADDA.**

39. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** Is it a fact that in Charsadda (N. W. Frontier Province) a dispensary was started by Dr. Khan Saheb, brother of Khan Saheb Abdul Guffar Khan, to render medical assistance to injured volunteers and other persons, but on or about the 5th August, 1930, the Assistant Commissioner with the Superintendent of Police, arrived at the dispensary and served a notice under Sec. 144, Criminal Procedure Code, to close the dispensary, with the result that the injured volunteers who were in it had to be transferred to the Civil Hospital, from where they were turned out the next day?

Will Government kindly lay on the table a copy of the order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, and also state why was all this done?

The Honourable Sir James Crerar: It is a fact that a building for the ostensible purpose of a temporary dispensary for picketers was opened at Charsadda by certain persons who sympathised with their activities. There is already a Local Fund dispensary close to Charsadda town, and as there was a likelihood that the new dispensary was intended to be used as a focus for further anti-Government demonstrations, and there was clearly no necessity for two dispensaries in the same locality, an order was issued under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, for the closure of the temporary dispensary. Such closure was however rendered unnecessary by the fact that the organisers agreed to send their friends to the ordinary hospital. When the alleged sufferers were examined by the Chief Medical Officer, it transpired that three persons only had sustained injuries sufficiently serious to justify their retention as in-patients. The remainder were therefore discharged.

A copy of the order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, is laid on the table. The circumstances under which it was considered necessary to issue the order are as explained.

Copy of order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code.

Whereas, information has been received that a timber yard or "Chapper" belonging to Mian Ashraf and Mian Akbar Shah of Prang close to Charsadda village is being used ostensibly as a dispensary for the purpose of treating persons for injuries received while picketting the liquor shop in the Charsadda Bazaar;

and whereas the continued existence of this dispensary will have the effect of encouraging other persons to disobey the Law by picketting the liquor shop, and is therefore likely to cause a disturbance of the public tranquility;

and whereas, ample medical facilities provided by Government already exist in Charsadda at which free treatment can be readily obtained by any person who may at any time or for any cause be injured;

and whereas, a state of unrest prevails in Charsadda Sub-Division at the present time, owing to the illegal activities of those persons who are prompting the picketting of the liquor shop in Charsadda;

Therefore, I, Captain G. L. Mallam, Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Charsadda, hereby direct that the said timber yard or "Chapper" belonging to Mian Ashraf and Mian Akbar Shah, shall not be used either by those persons or by any other members of the public as a dispensary or hospital for the said purpose, for a period of two months from the date of this order.

(Sd.) G. L. MALLAM, *Captain,*
Sub-Divisional Magistrate.

CHARSADDA,
The 5th August, 1930.

EVACUATION OF VILLAGES AROUND PESHAWAR.

40. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** Is it a fact that all villages within a radius of about 6 miles round Peshawar have been ordered to be evacuated by the villagers under martial law? If so, why; and has compensation been paid to the villagers; and if so, how much? Where have such villagers been settled?

Mr. J. G. Acheson: No such order has been issued, Sir. The latter part of the question, therefore, does not arise.

NUMBER OF PERSONS DEALT WITH UNDER THE PREVENTION OF INTIMIDATION ORDINANCE.

41. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** Will Government kindly state province by province the total number of persons dealt with under the Prevention of Intimidation Ordinance, 1930?

The Honourable Sir James Crerar: I have only approximate figures of the number convicted under the Ordinance.

I lay a statement on the table.

STATEMENT.

Province. 1	Approximate number of persons convicted under the Prevention of Intimidation Ordinance, 1930, V of 1930. 2	Date up to which figures have been collected. 3
Madras	Nil.	..
Bombay	2,750	18th November 1930.
Bengal	4,640	20th November 1930.
United Provinces	2,719	16th November 1930.
Punjab	1,191	17th November 1930.
Burma	Nil.	..
Bihar and Orissa	6,682	31st October 1930.
Central Provinces	296	1st November 1930.
Assam	800	17th November 1930.
North-West Frontier Province	135	31st October 1930.
Delhi	262	19th November 1930.
Coorg	Nil.	..
Total	19,475	

DATE OF ARREST AND DETENTION OF LALA SHANKER LAL AND MAULANA ABDULLA.

42. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** Will Government kindly state the date on which Lala Shanker Lal, President, Delhi Congress Committee, and Maulana Abdulla, Congress "Dictator", Delhi, were arrested in August, 1930, and on what date were they first produced before any Magistrate? And where were they kept between the date of their arrest and their first production before a Magistrate?

The Honourable S'r James Crerar: Maulvi Abdulla and Lala Shanker Lal were arrested on the 21st and 23rd August last respectively. The former was produced before a Magistrate on the 23rd August and the latter on the 24th August. They were meanwhile kept in the judicial lock-up.

ARREST OF GULAM MOHAMMAD AND ABDUL WARRIS.

43. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** Is it a fact that Gulam Mohamad Muhajir *alias* Aziz, who had proceeded to Kabul during the Hijrat movement, and his companion Abdul Warris, who returned from Russia, after about 10 years, and were engaged in business connected with the firm named Eastern Trading House and Mohamad Brothers, in Amritsar, were arrested and interned under orders of the Government of India in August last? If so, under what charge, and what is the evidence in support of the charge, if any? And why were they not prosecuted under the ordinary law?

The Honourable Sir James Crerar: Gulam Mahomed Aziz and Abdul Warris have been placed under restraint under Regulation III. Government were fully satisfied, on grounds which it would not be in the public interest to divulge, that they were involved in communist and revolutionary activities of a very dangerous character.

WITHHOLDING OF A PORTION OF THE GRANT MADE TO THE BENARES HINDU UNIVERSITY.

44. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** Is it a fact that out of the 15 lakhs of rupees which was sanctioned for grant to the Benares Hindu University, Rs. 5 lakhs were paid as the first instalment, but the second instalment of Rs. 5 lakhs which should have been paid in May last has not yet been paid; but a C. I. D. Officer was deputed to enquire into its affairs? Has the second instalment been yet paid to the University? Can a copy of the report of the C. I. D. or any other officer deputed be placed on the table; and will Government kindly make a statement on this subject?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: A non-recurring grant of Rs. 15 lakhs, payable in three instalments, *viz.*, Rs. 5 lakhs in 1929-30, and Rs. 6 lakhs in each of the years 1930-31 and 1931-32, was sanctioned in 1929, for the Benares Hindu University. The first instalment was paid in September, 1929. The payment of the second instalment was deferred pending the receipt of certain information which was called for regarding the financial and general administration of the University. Government have no information that a C. I. D. officer has been deputed to enquire into the affairs of the University, and consequently have no such reports to place on the table. Government have

been as anxious as the Honourable Member to see the University flourish and serve the best educational interests of the great community for which it was founded.

The information called for has been received and considered. The first instalment of the annual recurring grant to the University will be paid now, and the second instalment in March next. The second instalment of the non-recurring grant will be paid as soon as the University authorities have satisfied Government that the stipulation in regard to reduction of indebtedness, which was laid down when the grant was sanctioned, has been complied with.

Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad: Will the Honourable Member be pleased to mention the points on which he wants the Benares University to satisfy the Government?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: I have mentioned it—stipulation in regard to the reduction of indebtedness.

WIRELESS TELEPHONE SERVICE BETWEEN INDIA AND ENGLAND.

45. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** Has any wireless 'phone service been opened between India and England? If so, since when? Is it a private company, or State-owned? Has it cost any money to the Indian revenues; if so, how much?

Mr. J. A. Shillidy: The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. The other parts do not therefore arise.

WITHHOLDING OF TELEGRAMS INQUIRING ABOUT THE HEALTH OF PANDIT MOTILAL NEHRU.

46. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** Is it a fact that telegrams enquiring about the health of Pandit Motilal Nehru in September last, were intercepted, and not allowed to be delivered at Anand Bhawan, Allahabad? If so, how many of such telegrams were withheld, and why? Has money been refunded to those who sent the telegrams?

Mr. J. A. Shillidy: Yes, three such telegrams were stopped in the month of September, 1930, under proper authority. The charges recovered on the telegrams were not refunded to the senders.

LISTENING IN TO TELEPHONE MESSAGES TO AND FROM THE CONGRESS OFFICE.

47. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** Is it a fact that some officers or other persons have been, or were, deputed to the Delhi Telephone Exchange Office to listen to all talks that take place on the 'phone between the Congress office, the *Hindustan Times*, the *Arjun* and the *Tej* offices, and certain Congressmen? If so, under what law, and why?

The Honourable Sir James Crerar: For reasons which I think the Honourable Member will appreciate, I am unable to give any information as to the occasions on which the police may, for detective purposes, have listened in. I am not aware of any provision of law which renders such action illegal.

LIST OF DELEGATES TO THE ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE.

48. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh**: Will Government kindly place on the table a statement showing the names (and provinces) of those who actually attended the Round Table Conference in London; and also a list of those, who declined the invitation? What is the approximate expenditure incurred up to date on this Conference?

The Honourable Sir George Rainy: I place on the table a list of delegates for British India who attended the Round Table Conference, but I am unable to give the Honourable Member any information as regards the second part of his question. The expenditure incurred in India in connection with the Round Table Conference is approximately Rs. 1,96,796-6. but no information is at present available as to the expenditure incurred in England as the charges will be finally adjusted in the Home Accounts.

List of British India Delegates.

Names.	Addresses in India.
1, His Highness the Aga Khan, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., G.C.V.O.	Bombay.
2. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, K.C.I.E.	Madras.
3. Maulana Muhammad Ali*	Delhi.
4. Dr. Bhim Rao Ramji Ambedkar	Bombay.
5. U Aung Thin, K.S.M.	Mandalay.
6. U Ba Pe	Rangoon.
7. Srijiut Chandradhar Barooah	Jorhat.
8. Mr. J. N. Basu	Calcutta.
9. Sir Shah Nawaz Khan Ghulam Murtaza Khan Bhutto, C.I.E., O.B.E.	Larkana.
10. Sir Hubert Carr	Calcutta.
11. Mr. C. Y. Chintamani	Allahabad.
12. Captain Nawab Sir Muhammad Ahmad Said Khan of Chhitari, K.C.I.E., M.B.E.	Lucknow.
13. Maharajadhiraja Kameshwar Prasad Singh of Darbhanga	Darbhanga.
14. Captain Raja Sher Muhammad Khan of Domeli	Jhelum.
15. Mr. A. K. Fazl-ul-Haq	Calcutta.
16. Mr. M. M. Ohn Ghine.	Rangoon.
17. Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi	Calcutta.
18. Lt.-Col. H. A. J. Gidney, I.M.S. (retd.).	Calcutta.
19. Sir O. de Glanville, C.I.E., O.B.E.	Rangoon.
20. Khan Bahadur Hafiz Hidayat Husain.	Cawnpore.
21. Mr. Bhaskarrao Vithojirao Jadhav	Bombay.
22. Mr. M. R. Jayakar	Bombay.
23. Sir Cowasji Jehangir (Junior), K.C.I.E., O.B.E.	Bombay.
24. Mr. M. A. Jinnah	Bombay.
25. Mr. T. F. Gavin Jones.	Cawnpore.
26. Mr. N. M. Joshi, C.I.E.	Bombay.
27. Dr. Narendra Nath Law	Calcutta.
28. Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., C.B.E.	Poona.

* Died—4th January, 1931.

List of British India Delegates—contd.

Names.	Addresses in India.
29. Sir Provash Chandra Mitter, Kt., C.I.E.	Calcutta.
30. Mr. H. P. Mody	Bombay.
31. Dr. B. S. Moonje	Nagpur.
32. Diwan Bahadur Ramaswami Mudaliyar Avargal .	Madras.
33. Nawab Sir Abdul Qaiyum Khan, K.C.I.E.	Peshawar.
34. Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath	Lahore.
35. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam	Tanjore.
36. Raja Sri Sri Sri Krishna Chandra [Gajapati Narayana Deo, Raja of Parlakimedi	Parlakimedi, Ganjam Dist.
37. Rao Bahadur Sir Annepu Parasuramdas Patro Garu, Kt.	Madras.
38. Mr. K. T. Paul, O.B.E.	Salem.
39. Sir Ghulam Hussain Hidayatullah, Kt.	Bombay.
40. Diwan Bahadur M. Rama Chandra Rao	Ellore, West Godavari District.
41. Mr. B. Shiva Rao	Madras.
42. Sir Saiyid Sultan Ahmed	Patna.
43. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, K.C.S.I.†.	Allahabad.
44. Sir Muhammad Shafi, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.	Lahore.
45. Sardar Sampuran Singh	Lyallpur.
46. Right Hon'ble Srinivasa Sastri, C.H.	Madras.
47. Sir Chimanlal Setalvad, K.C.I.E.	Bombay.
48. Rai Bahadur Kunwar Bisheshwar Dayal Seth	Biswan, District Sitapur.
49. Sir Pheroze C. Sethna, O.B.E.	Bombay.
50. Dr. Shafa'at Ahmad Khan	Allahabad.
51. Mrs. Shah Nawaz	Lahore.
52. M. R. Ry. Rao Bahadur Srinivasan Avargal	Poonamalle Cantonment, Chingleput District.
53. Mrs. Subbarayan	Madras.
54. Mr. Shripad Balwant Tambe	Nagpur.
55. Sardar Sahib Sardar Ujjal Singh	Mian Channu, District Multan.
56. Sir C. E. Wood	Madras.
57. Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan	Lahore.

CIRCULAR re APPLICATION OF THE SARDA MARRIAGE ACT.

49. *Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh: Have Government issued any circular to the Local Governments, regarding the application of the Sarda Marriage Act? If so, what is its purport, and can a copy be laid on the table?

The Honourable Sir James Crerar: The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. The purport of the communication was that the Act, on coming into operation, should be administered with due care and discretion. The communication was confidential and I regret that I am unable to lay it on the table.

VALUE OF PROPERTIES TAKEN POSSESSION OF UNDER THE UNLAWFUL ASSOCIATION ORDINANCE.

50. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh**: Will Government kindly place on the table a statement showing separately for different provinces, an approximate value of moveable and immovable properties taken possession of by Government, under the Unlawful Association Ordinance, 1930, and the way of the disposal of such properties?

The Honourable Sir James Crerar: The information is being collected and will be supplied to the Honourable Member in due course.

DETENTION AT THE ALLAHABAD POST OFFICE OF PACKETS OF THE *Bhavishya*.

51. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh**: Is it a fact that about 22,000 copies of the first issue of the *Bhavishya*, a Hindi weekly of Allahabad were detained in the Allahabad Post Office, on or about the 3rd October, 1930; but the packets were released on or about the 14th October, for despatch? If so, why, and under whose orders were they detained, and subsequently released? Do Government propose to inquire into this matter, and take steps to prevent a recurrence of such interference?

Mr. J. A. Shillidy: The Postmaster, Allahabad, acted under section 27 B (1) of the Indian Post Office Act, but as notice has been given on behalf of the Editor, Printer and Publisher of the *Bhavishya* of his intention to file a suit in the event of Government declining to pay a stated sum as damages, Government regret that they are unable to give any further information in regard to a matter which may very shortly come under adjudication by a court of law.

INCREASE OF THE PAY OF RAILWAY SUBORDINATES.

52. ***Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer**: (a) Will Government be pleased to state if they are aware of the discontent among the subordinate employees in the Indian railways regarding the insufficiency of their pay?

(b) Are Government prepared to consider the advisability of a general increase of the scale of pay of the railway subordinate employees?

The Honourable Sir George Rainy: (a) Government have been aware for some time past that there has been, on particular railways, discontent in regard to the rates of pay of the lowest paid establishments. During the last two years the question of improving the scales of pay of these classes of establishments has been systematically examined and revised rates have been introduced on certain railways. As regards the rest of the subordinate establishments, representations have been received from, or on behalf of, individual classes of subordinate employees, but Government are not aware of any general discontent among them regarding the insufficiency of their pay.

The reduction in the cost of living brought about by the serious fall in prices must in fact have benefited all classes of subordinate establishments.

(b) Government are not prepared to consider a general increase in the pay of the subordinate railway employees. It is proposed, however, to make an investigation into the suitability of the existing rates with a view to making such revision as may be desirable and feasible.

Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer: Will Government be pleased to consider the desirability of appointing a Commission of Inquiry to go into the grievances of the subordinate employees on the Indian Railways?

The Honourable Sir George Rainy: No, Sir; I do not think that any case for a Committee of Inquiry has been made out. The Railway Board during the last two years have been examining not only questions of pay but all the questions which have been represented by the Railwaymen's Federation, and a procedure has been established by which half-yearly meetings are held, when all these subjects are discussed between the deputation from the Federation and the Members of the Railway Board. I think that procedure is working well, and I do not think that we should make any more rapid progress by a Committee of Inquiry.

REPRESENTATIONS MADE BY STRIKERS ON THE GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.

53. ***Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer:** Will Government be pleased to state (a) whether any representations have been made to them on behalf of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway strikers, (b) the nature and terms of the said representations, and (c) the result of those representations?

Mr. A. A. L. Parsons: (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). A copy of Railway Board's letter No. 269-L., dated 24th December, 1930, which states the representations made by the All-India Railwaymen's Federation, and the action taken by the Railway Board, has been placed in the Library of the House, and I am sending a copy to the Honourable Member.

RAILWAY STATION FACILITIES AT BIJNOR.

54. ***Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer:** (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the following observations of His Excellency Sir George Lambert, the Governor of the United Provinces, at Bijnor as reported in the *Leader*, dated December, 13th (page 13):

“(Railway) Station facilities will come when the line begins to pay its way”?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether the United Provinces Government have made any representations to the Government of India regarding the lack of station facilities at Bijnor?

(c) Are Government aware that during the Ganges mela, thousands of pilgrims go to the Bijnor District every year?

(d) Are Government aware that in Gunj (District Bijnor) are the famous pilgrim centres such as “Vidur Kuti” mentioned in *Mahabharata*?

(e) Do Government propose to take steps to give sufficient publicity to the fact that District Bijnor contains such important pilgrim centres and sacred places like *Vidur Kuti*, *Tapo Van*, etc.?

(f) Have Government considered the question of improving railway station facilities in Bijnor as early as practicable?

Mr. A. A. L. Parsons: (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes.

(e) Steps will be taken by the East Indian Railway Administration to advertise such sacred places in the Bijnor District as are not purely of local interest.

(f) The question of providing additional facilities will be considered as funds become available.

NUMBER OF PERSONS CONVICTED FOR POLITICAL OFFENCES.

55. ***Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer:** (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to Reuter's telegram dated London, November 3rd, 1930, *apropos* the Secretary of State for India having "circulated figures showing that the number of persons convicted of offences not involving violence committed in connexion with political movements who were in jails in India totalled twenty-three thousand one hundred and thirty-six" and that the date of the returns varied from province to province, but it was generally about the end of August?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the total number of persons convicted of offences not involving violence up to the present date?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state the total number of Political prisoners "convicted of offences involving violence" till today?

(d) Will Government be further pleased to state the total number of prisoners released after their having tendered apologies or given undertakings not to take part in political movements?

The Honourable Sir James Crerar: (a) Yes.

(b) and (d). Two statements are laid on the table. The first of these relates to figures of persons convicted of offences in connection with the civil disobedience movement whether involving violence or not.

(c) I am not sure to what class of prisoners the Honourable Member is referring. If he desires figures of persons convicted of offences in furtherance of the terrorist movement, I will send him the information as soon as it has been collected.

Statement showing the number of persons sentenced to imprisonment from 6th April 1930 to 31st December 1930 (as reported by Local Governments) for offences connected with the Civil Disobedience Movement.

Madras	3,998
Bombay	9,732
Bengal	11,463
United Provinces	7,606
Punjab	3,561
Burma	
Bihar and Orissa	10,899
Central Provinces	3,861
Assam	1,089
North-West Frontier Province	761
Coorg	6
Delhi	1,073
	<hr/>
	54,049

Statement showing number of persons (convicted or under trial) released on giving apology up to the end of December, 1930.

Madras	1,304
Bombay [.	409
Bengal	3,033*
United Provinces	2,299
Punjab	961
Burma . . . . .	..
Bihar and Orissa	1,612
Central Provinces	828
Assam [.	138
North-West Frontier Province	438
Coorg . . . . .	..
Delhi	181
	11,263

* The figures are up to 21st December 1930.

DECLINE OF BRITISH TRADE WITH INDIA.

56. ***Mr. O. S. Ranga Iyer:** (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the statement of the Secretary of State in the House of Commons on November 3rd, 1930, that the figures of British trade with India showed that the exports to India in July, August and September, 1930, for commodities representing 70 per cent. of the total trade amounted to £2,720,000, £2,027,000 and £1,491,000 respectively, compared with £4,611,000, £4,714,000 and £3,728,000 in the corresponding months of 1929?

(b) Will Government be pleased to give the comparative figures for the subsequent period, namely, for October, November and December?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have explored the causes of this decline?

(d) If the answer to part (c) is "Yes", what is the result of the exploration?

(e) If the answer to part (c) is in the negative, will Government be pleased to state whether they intend to appoint a committee of enquiry? If not, why not?

The Honourable Sir George Rainy: (a) Yes.

(b) Figures strictly comparable with those given by the Secretary of State cannot be supplied, but a statement is laid on the table showing comparative figures of the total trade between India and the United Kingdom during July to November of this and last year. Figures for December, 1930, are not yet available.

(c) Yes.

(d) The decline in India's trade with the United Kingdom, as with other foreign markets, is attributable generally to the existing world trade-depression, the heavy and universal slump in prices of commodities and the disturbed political conditions in India.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement showing the trade between India and the United Kingdom.

Months.	Imports into India.		Exports from India.	
	1930.	1929.	1930.	1929.
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
July	Rs. 5,22,07 or £3,916	Rs. 8,03,72 or £6,028	Rs. 6,08,16 or £4,561	Rs. 5,35,82 or £4,019
August	Rs. 5,30,70 or £3,980	Rs. 8,46,63 or £6,350	Rs. 5,08,77 or £3,816	Rs. 7,58,00 or £5,685
September	Rs. 3,93,63 or £2,952	Rs. 8,22,28 or £6,167	Rs. 5,05,88 or £3,795	Rs. 6,43,06 or £4,823
October	Rs. 4,37,77 or £3,283	Rs. 8,09,97 or £6,075	Rs. 4,98,78 or £3,741	Rs. 7,80,22 or £5,852
November	Rs. 4,05,82 or £3,044	Rs. 8,82,30 or £6,617	Rs. 4,50,02 or £3,375	Rs. 7,61,46 or £5,711

THE INDIAN PROBLEM IN KENYA.

57. ***Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer:** (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the statement of the Secretary of State for India (November 3rd, 1930), in the House of Commons that he was communicating with the Government of India with regard to the presentation of its views, to the Joint Committee of Parliament, relating to the Indian problem in Kenya?

(b) Have Government communicated their views to the Secretary of State? If "yes", will Government be pleased to communicate them to this House?

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

(b) Yes. As regards the second part, I trust the Honourable Member will excuse me if I cannot comply with his wishes.

Mr. B. Das: Will the Honourable Member give us some idea what stage the position of the Indians in Kenya is at present?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: Does the Honourable Member wish that information with reference to the constitutional question or with reference to their position other than constitutional?

Mr. B. Das: There is only one question, and that is the position of equality of status of Indians in Kenya.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: The White Paper was published. That Paper still holds the field. The matter is now in the hands of the Joint Committee which is sitting. In that Committee evidence is being taken, and we have instructed our representative to be ready to give evidence there when called upon to do so.

GRANT OF PENSIONS TO POSTAL PORTERS AND RUNNERS.

58. ***Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer:** Will Government be pleased to state if their attention has been drawn to the resolution unanimously adopted at the Ninth Session of the United Provinces Provincial Postal and R. M. S. Conference held at Allahabad in October, 1930, urging upon the Government the granting of pensions of half-pay to the porters and runners of the Postal and R. M. S. Service and if so, whether they propose to grant them the same and if not, why not?

Mr. J. A. Shillidy: Yes, the resolution refers to all inferior servants of the Post Office and Railway Mail Service. The pensionary conditions of inferior servants of the Posts and Telegraphs Department are under examination by Government.

INAUGURATION OF AN INDIAN STATE AIR MAIL SERVICE.

59. ***Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer:** Will Government be pleased to make a statement regarding the inauguration of the Indian State Air Mail Service and matters connected therewith with reference to:

- (a) the delay to inaugurate the said service and the causes for the same; and
- (b) what the expenses will be in connexion with the purchase of machines, building of aerodromes and the provision of other equipments?

Mr. J. A. Shillidy: (a) The delay in the inauguration of the Indian State Air Service has been due to a change of policy in regard to the type of aircraft to be used.

(b) The construction of aerodromes on the route to be operated by the Indian State Air Service has already been completed. The amount to be provided in the coming Budget is still under discussion, and I must ask the Honourable Member to wait for figures until the Demands for Grants are prepared.

REFUSAL OF PERMISSION TO IMPERIAL AIRWAYS TO RUN AN AIR SERVICE IN INDIA.

60. ***Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer:** Will Government be pleased to state:

- (a) if it is a fact that they refused to grant the Imperial Airways permission to run an air service in the country and if "yes", why?
- (b) if their attention has been drawn to questions in Parliament criticising the refusal?
- (c) if any correspondence has passed between the Government of India and His Majesty's Government?
- (d) if the answer to part (c) be in the affirmative, to place the said correspondence on the table? If not, why not?

Mr. J. A. Shillidy: (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes.

(d) It is considered that it would not be in the public interest to place the correspondence on the table.

MACHINES USED FOR THE INDIAN AIR MAIL SERVICE.

61. ***Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer:** Will Government be pleased to state:

- (a) if they have abandoned their original preference for small-sized machines in connexion with the Indian Air Mails and if "yes" why?
- (b) if it is a fact that they had first preferred the use of small machines?
- (c) whether their confining the Indian State Air Mail Service to India only would not have necessitated the use of the larger machines?
- (d) whether it is a fact that their undertaking to transport the trans-Indian service was responsible for the decision to use the bigger machine?

Mr. J. A. Shillidy: (a), (b), (c) and (d). The original intention of the Government of India was to utilise aircraft of small carrying capacity for the Indian State Air Service and to undertake the carriage of mails only. They have, however, now decided to employ aircraft of greater capacity which will carry passengers, goods and mails in connection with the service from England to India.

DELAY IN INAUGURATION OF THE INDIAN AIR MAIL SERVICE.

62. ***Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state if they are aware of the disappointment in England and India caused by the delay to inaugurate the Indian State Air Mail Service?

(b) When will the said service be actually inaugurated?

Mr. J. A. Shillidy: (a) and (b). Representations from various bodies in India urging the inauguration of the Indian State Air Service have been received from time to time. Government are in full sympathy with these representations and hope that, if the necessary funds can be made available, the service will be inaugurated before the end of the next financial year.

Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad: Are the Government providing some funds in the current Budget for this purpose?

Mr. J. A. Shillidy: I think I have already said there were funds provided in the Budget, but the policy was changed. I explained that in answer to a previous question by Mr. Ranga Iyer.

FORMATION OF A SEPARATE ORISSA PROVINCE.

63. ***Mr. B. N. Misra:** (a) Are Government aware that both the Governments of Bihar and Orissa and Madras have suspended construction and other works in Orissa and Ganjam and cannot solve several other questions in their Provinces pending the question of the formation of a separate Province for Oriya-speaking tracts?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the earliest date by which they propose to appoint the Boundary Commission for the said purpose?

(c) With reference to the reply given by Government to my starred question No. 133, in the last Simla session of the Assembly on the 15th July, 1930, regarding the formation of the Orissa Province, will Government

now be pleased to state the scope and nature of the inquiry to be made by the Boundary Commission or Committee for making a separate Province for Orissa and outlying Oriya-speaking tracts?

The Honourable Sir George Rainy: (a) Government have no information on the subject.

(b) and (c). In paragraph 21 of their despatch the Government of India emphasized the need for the appointment of a boundary Commission at the earliest possible date, and for an expeditious solution of the problem. We have not yet received the decision of His Majesty's Government on this proposal and are therefore unable to give a categorical answer to the question.

INCLUSION OF THE VIZAGAPATAM AGENCY IN THE PROPOSED ORISSA PROVINCE.

64. ***Mr. B. N. Misra:** (a) Are Government aware of the proceedings of the public meeting of the Oriyas in the Utkal Samaj Hall, Vizagapatam, on the 7th December, 1930, (i) deprecating the finding of the Sub-Committee of the Simon Commission in not considering the question of including the Vizagapatam Agency (Jeypore) in the formation of the Orissa Province; and (ii) requesting the Government to entrust the case of Vizagapatam Agency to the proposed Boundary Commission for the Oriya-speaking tracts?

(b) If the answer to part (a) is in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state whether they intend to refer the case of the Vizagapatam Agency or Jeypore Oriyas to the Boundary Commission?

(c) Are Government aware that there are several other outlying Oriya-speaking Tracts adjacent to Orissa proper besides what has been shown in the map attached to Vol. II of the Simon Commission's Report?

(d) Will all such questions, including the question of Khonds and Savaras in those areas who have no written script and, who are being civilised and are receiving education through the medium of the Oriya language in Oriya schools, be referred to the Boundary Commission?

The Honourable Sir George Rainy: (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) and (d). I would refer the Honourable Member to the reply I have given to question No. 63.

(c) As far as Government are aware, the map is accurate within its limits, but it only purports to be a skeleton map.

EXTRA BOUNTY PAID ON THE RAILS MADE BY THE TATA IRON AND STEEL COMPANY.

65. ***Mr. B. Das:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state the reasons that led them to allow Rs. 20 per ton extra as bounty on Tata rails?

(b) What is the extra money paid thus on Tata rails:

(i) till the end of December, 1930; and

(ii) that Government anticipate to pay till the end of March, 1931?

The Honourable Sir George Rainy: (a) The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the Commerce Department Resolution No. 260-T. (124), dated the 1st December 1930, which was published in the Gazette of India dated the 6th December, 1930.

(b) Instructions for the additional payment of Rs. 20 per ton were issued to the Railways only on the 9th January. The extra payment till the end of March, 1931, is estimated at Rs. 17½ lakhs.

TONNAGE OF INDIAN AND FOREIGN RAILS PURCHASED IN INDIA.

66. ***Mr. B. Das:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state the tonnage of rails, with prices paid, purchased during the years 1927-28, 1928-29, 1929-30 and 1930-31 (up to December 1930):

- (i) of Indian manufacture,
(ii) of foreign manufacture?

(b) Do the above figures include rails purchased by Company-managed railways? If not, will Government be pleased to give figures of tonnage with prices for those railways for the above-mentioned years?

Mr. A. A. L. Parsons: (a) On the information at present in the possession of the Railway Board, the figures for which the Honourable Member asks are as follows:

(i) That is, of Indian manufacture in 1927-28	182,608 tons at Rs. 110 a ton,
1928-29	59,546 ,, ,, Rs. 110 ,, ,,
1929-30	108,071 ,, ,, Rs. 110, and 8,688 at Rs. 120 a ton.
1930-31	92,170 tons at Rs. 130 a ton.
(ii) That is, of foreign manufacture in 1927-28	811 tons; the price is not known.
1928-29	10,000 tons; 7,000 tons,

were supplied at a rate of Rs. 134-4-0 landed in India. The price of the balance, which was for the Burma Railways, is not known.

In 1929-30 754 tons; the price is not known.
In 1930-31 801 tons; the price is not known.

If the Honourable Member wishes, I will ascertain for him the prices at which the small quantities of foreign rails purchased in 1927-28, 1929-30 and 1930-31 and the balance of purchases in 1928-29 were obtained.

(b) These figures include rails purchased by Company-managed railways. I should explain that the purchases of rails of foreign manufacture in 1928-29 were authorised owing to a strike in the works of the Tata Iron and Steel Company, and those of the rails in 1929-30 and 1930-31 because they were of a non-standard section not rolled by the Tata Iron and Steel Company.

2. I have given the Honourable Member the information that can be derived from the records in the Railway Board's office, because I expect he wishes to have it as quickly as possible, but it may not be absolutely exact with regard to purchases of rails of foreign manufacture in the earlier years. Enquiries have been made from Railway Administrations on this point and I will let the Honourable Member know if they result in any change in the figures.

**EXTRA BOUNTY PAID ON RAILS MADE BY THE TATA
IRON AND STEEL COMPANY.**

67. ***Mr. B. Das:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state if the Tata Iron and Steel Co. approached them for the further grant of protection to Tata rails before the Government decided to sanction the extra bounty of Rs. 20 per ton?

(b) Were Government approached also in the matter of reference to the Tariff Board for further protection of the Tata rails?

(c) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table all correspondence that passed between the Tata Iron and Steel Co. and themselves on the subject?

The Honourable Sir George Rainy: (a) Messrs. Tata Sons, Limited, requested the Government of India to place with the Tata Iron and Steel Company additional orders for rails for delivery during the current year and to agree to a revision of the existing contract for rails in such a way as to increase the contract price.

(b) No.

(c) The correspondence is laid on the table.

Serial No. 1.—LETTER FROM MESSRS. TATA SONS, LIMITED, AGENTS, THE TATA IRON AND STEEL COMPANY, LIMITED, No. G.-1092/30, DATED THE 12TH/14TH AUGUST 1930.

We wish to lay before you the following statement of the position of the Tata Iron and Steel Company arising from the shortage of orders for rails and to request your careful consideration of the important issues involved.

2. In their Report dated the 14th December 1926 the Tariff Board estimated that the Steel Company would, during the seven years, 1st April 1927 to 31st March 1934, receive orders for rails to an extent averaging, 195,000 tons per year. This was so much the largest item of the production estimated that the whole scheme for protection hinged very largely on the orders for rails. As against the above estimate, the orders which have been placed with the Steel Company for rails have been as follows :

	Tons.
1927-28	183,267
1928-29	131,203
1929-30	120,679
1930-31	88,496

The above figures include all orders received for first class rails from all railways, engineering firms, etc., in India and no deduction has been made for rails which in 1928-29 we agreed might be removed from our original order as a result of the labour troubles at Jamshedpur.

3. It will be seen that the orders fall so far short of the estimate of the Tariff Board as very seriously to affect the adequacy of the scheme of protection. You will probably agree that there is no reason to believe that the orders to be placed during the remaining three years of the protection scheme will bring the average for the seven years even reasonably near the estimated average of 195,000 tons. We wish to call special attention (a) to the statement towards the end of paragraph 109 of the Tariff Board's Report that "a reduction in the orders of rails by some 40,000 or 50,000 tons would raise the cost of production by several rupees", and (b) to the opinion expressed by the Railway Board in their letter of 25th September 1926 to the Tariff Board (page 2 of Volume V of Report of Statutory Enquiry, 1926) that "it would not be unreasonable for the Tariff Board to assume for their purposes that about 200,000 tons of rails will be required by Railways in India annually during the next five years". While we realise that the above opinion was qualified by reservations, the departure from the expectations based on it by the Tariff Board and the Steel Company has been so great as to create an entirely new position.

4. It was within the knowledge of the Tariff Board, when they made their recommendations, that we should not, at any rate during the first few years of the scheme, be in a position to make good any shortage in rail manufacture by rolling other material. This arises from the nature of our equipment and although we hope that from about the middle of next year we may be in a position to roll larger quantities of structural sections on our rail mill, we shall still continue to be seriously handicapped unless we receive orders for nearly 200,000 tons of rails. No increase of production during the remaining period of protection will of itself be able to make good the serious failure of the first four years.

5. In these circumstances we regret that we are compelled to request the Railway Department :

- A { (a) to place with us immediately additional orders for rails for delivery during the year ending 31st March, 1931, and to arrange that the orders for 1931-32 shall be not less than 200,000 tons; and
- B { (b) to agree to a revision of the seven years contract for rails dated the 16th October, 1928.

We deal with these two points in more detail below.

6. The manufacture of all the rails for which we have up to the present received orders for the year 1930-31 will be finished during next month. It will be impossible, during the remainder of the year, to roll any substantial quantity of other sections on this mill. It will further be impossible for the Company to occupy this mill fully on the manufacture of rails for stock to be supplied against the orders for 1931-32, as we have not the physical capacity for stocking six months' normal output of rails. Such a procedure would in any event involve us in a heavy burden by locking up much capital and would only accentuate the difficulty during 1931-32 if the orders for that year did not exceed 200,000 tons. We, therefore, request that orders be given to the Steel Company, at a very early date, for the supply of at least an additional 50,000 tons of rails during the current year and, later in the year, for not less than 200,000 tons for supply during 1931-32.

7. The essential terms of the present rail contract were laid down at a time and in circumstances which left us with no practical alternative but to accept them in the hope that our expectation of receiving orders for about 200,000 tons a year would be fulfilled, at any rate, to a reasonable extent. All our requests for flexibility in the important terms of the contract which might have benefited us were declined and we trust that, in view of the figures given above, you will agree that we have shown our willingness to adhere to the contract as long as was possible by deferring any application for its modification until the present time. We think that in view of the low demand for rails in the past and of the uncertainty of the future demand the Railway Board should agree that the prices payable for the rails should vary with the quantity ordered. So far as we are able to ascertain, the price of imported rails landed at an Indian port would, in normal conditions, be about Rs. 130 per ton. We think it reasonable that this price should be paid for rails ordered from the Steel Company if the total orders received by the Company in one year do not exceed 120,000 tons. In the ascertainment of the quantity ordered from the Steel Company we should include all first class rails ordered by railways other than those who are parties to our contract with the Railways. We should be prepared to accept the contract price of Rs. 110 per ton if our total orders exceeded 180,000 tons, and we suggest that, for intermediate quantities, the prices should be as indicated in the table below :

Total orders booked in one year.		Price per ton.
Exceeding 180,000 tons	. . . . .	110
Exceeding 160,000 but not exceeding 180,000 tons	. . . . .	115
Exceeding 140,000 but not exceeding 160,000 tons	. . . . .	120
Exceeding 120,000 but not exceeding 140,000 tons	. . . . .	125
Not exceeding 120,000 tons	. . . . .	130

C { 8. You will realise that the shortage of rail orders has also involved a shortage of orders for fishplates. As the quantities concerned are so much smaller, we do not propose to burden this letter with the figures, but you will realise that even a small falling off in the Company's earnings is of importance in the present circumstances. The Railways have also failed to come up to the Tariff Board's expectation in the matter of orders for steel sleepers which the Tariff Board anticipated would average 15,000 tons during the seven years, 1927-1934. Although we have approached all the Railways on the matter, the orders which we have been able to obtain have been as follows :

	Tons.
1927-28	5,000
1928-29	Nil
1929-30	8,189
1930-31	Nil

The result is that although we are in a position to make 20,000 tons of sleepers per year, our sleeper plant is now out of operation; nor are we in a position, in the present state of the market, to roll into other products the steel which we could convert into sleepers if orders were forthcoming.

9. We wish to emphasize the gravity of the position in which the Steel Company finds itself as a result of the breakdown of the scheme of protection. This breakdown is not confined to the items mentioned above. The present import prices of some of the other kinds of steel are substantially below those on which the import duties were based. In addition, the proportion of our steel which we have had to sell as non-standard steel, instead of as standard steel, is higher than was assumed by the Tariff Board, and, further the fall in demand during the last year or two in some of the up-country markets has seriously reduced the Company's advantage below the figures which, so far as we can ascertain, were assumed by the Tariff Board. } E

10. In the course of the enquiry we asked the Tariff Board to make adequate allowance for the risk, which we considered might be serious, of labour troubles consequent upon an attempt to achieve the reduction in the number of workmen at Jamshedpur which was pressed upon us by the Board. It is within your knowledge that the fears which we expressed proved to be only too well founded and we need not elaborate the statement that the failure of the Tariff Board to make any allowance for this contingency has added very seriously to the Steel Company's difficulties.

11. As a result of the inadequacy of the scheme of protection in the directions indicated above, not only has our present position become most serious but also we have not, during the last three years, been able, nor do we see any near prospect of being able, to make that provision for future development by way of adequate improvement of our plant at Jamshedpur, on which all hopes of ultimately dispensing with protection rest. We have not been able to finance the New Development Programme to the extent which we anticipated and which was desirable for the future stability and the prosperity of the industry, nor do we see any early prospect of resuming our programme on an adequate scale so long as the results fall so far short of those which the Tariff Board, Government and the Legislature agreed were necessary for proper progress.

12. The failure, in actual practice, of the protection scheme to make adequate provision for the development of the Steel Company's plant has been accompanied by its even more conspicuous failure to provide for such a return on the capital invested in the Company as the shareholders are entitled to expect and as the scheme was intended to yield. The result is that the shareholders have to continue carrying an undue burden, in the form of unremunerative capital, in order to keep the industry alive and that the credit of the Company is weakened. And, what is of no less importance in the national interest, no progress has been made in the direction of encouraging the growth of the industry by the establishment of additional steel works in India. The inadequacy of protection since its inception in 1924 is best illustrated by the following figures of the total depreciation which the Company has been able to set aside and the dividends which it has been able to pay, compared with those aimed at by the 1924-27 schemes and by that now current.

	Depreciation.		Dividends.	
	Calculated 'by Tariff Board.	Actually set aside.	Calculated by Tariff Board.	Actually paid.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	lakhs.
1924-27	281	199	255	76.9
1927-29	156	95	170	56.5
Total for five years	437	294	425	133.4

The dividends "calculated by the Tariff Board" are taken at 8 per cent. on the Company's actual capital of approximately Rs. 10½ crores in preference, ordinary and deferred shares. It will be seen that the short fall in distribution of dividends has been very much greater than that in the allotment of depreciation, and that even if no dividends whatever had been paid for the five years and the money had been allotted to depreciation, the Company would not have been able to provide the amount for depreciation which was suggested in the Tariff Board Reports.

13. Unless, therefore, Government finds itself able to give us immediate relief in the directions indicated in the earlier part of this letter, we fear that we shall have no alternative but immediately to request Government to grant additional protection either generally or by the exercise of the powers granted to the Governor General in Council in Clause 2 of Act No. III of 1927. We may indeed, in any event, find ourselves compelled to make such an application, but realising the undesirability of any avoidable disturbance of trade conditions we wish first to utilize every other method of improving our position with the object of keeping to a minimum any additions to the protective import duties for which we may have to apply. } F

14. In view of the importance and urgency of our request, we shall esteem it a favour if you will kindly grant us an opportunity of discussing the matter verbally with you at an early date. We shall be glad to be informed by telegram of a date which will be convenient to you.

Serial No. 1.—LETTER TO MESSRS. TATA SONS, LIMITED, BOMBAY, NO. 260-T.(122), DATED THE 17TH SEPTEMBER 1930.

I am directed to refer to your letter No. G-1092/30, dated the 12th August 1930 [in File No. 260-T.(122)] in which you represent that the orders placed with the Tata Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., for rails have for the last three years and for the current year fallen considerably short of the average quantity of 195,000 tons estimated by the Tariff Board in formulating the scheme of protection embodied in its Report regarding the Continuance of Protection to the Steel Industry, dated the 14th December 1926. In view of this shortage of orders for rails and its effect on the working of the Company you request that additional orders for rails may be placed with the Company for delivery during the current year, that orders for not less than 200,000 tons of rails may be given for the year 1931-32 and that the contract for the supply of rails, dated the 16th October 1928, may be revised.

2. In reply I am to say that the Government of India have carefully considered your application and have discussed the matter in all its bearings with representatives of the Board of Directors of the Tata Iron and Steel Company, Ltd., on three occasions, namely, the 24th August and the 7th and 9th September. The Government of India have learnt that in their report for the year 1929-30 the Directors of the Company proposed to allot a sum of Rs. 50 lakhs to depreciation and to pay a dividend on the Second Preference Shares of the Company amounting to Rs. 23,40,000 and odd, but they understand that your Directors will be willing to accept as a condition, if they receive an additional payment of Rs. 20 per ton on the quantity of rails ordered under the contract for the year 1930-31, that no dividend shall be paid on the Second Preference Shares of the Company for the year 1929-30, and that of the sum of Rs. 23,40,000 and odd referred to above, the sum of Rs. 23 lakhs shall be added to the allotment for depreciation, making a total allotment for depreciation of Rs. 73 lakhs, and that the balance of Rs. 40,000 and odd shall be added to the balance carried forward.

3. I am now to communicate to you the decision of the Government of India on your application. The Government of India will make to the Tata Iron and Steel Company an additional payment of Rs. 20 on each ton of rails ordered from the Company under the contract for the year 1930-31 over and above the existing contract price of Rs. 110 per ton, making a total price per ton, of Rs. 130. This payment will be made subject to the following conditions and stipulations :

- (i) The arrangement set forth above is of a purely provisional character and is applicable solely to the current year's orders for rails.
- (ii) As regards the orders to be placed for rails against the requirements of future years, while the Government of India are prepared to recognise that some revision of the contract made with the Company for the supply of rails is equitable, they are not committed to the addition of Rs. 20 per ton to the existing contract price of Rs. 110 per ton, except as a maximum, nor to the application of the sliding scale of prices put

forward in paragraph 7 of your letter under reply, nor of any other scale of prices. Further, any proposal for the revision of the contract for the supply of rails for years subsequent to the year 1930-31 will be placed before the Indian Legislature, and before the Government can do this they will require to make a closer examination of certain aspects of the position.

- (iii) The Directors shall allot for depreciation out of profits of the Company for the year 1929-30 a sum of not less than Rs. 72 lakhs and shall pay no dividend in respect of that year other than a dividend on the First Preference Shares of the Company.
- (iv) The Directors shall engage that no Agents' commission shall be paid on so much of the Company's receipts as are derived from the additional payment of Rs. 20 per ton for rails.
- (v) Payment of the additional sum of Rs. 20 per ton for rails ordered during the current year will be paid only after receipt by the Government of India of evidence that conditions Nos. (iii) and (iv) have been satisfied.

4. Finally, I am to explain that, while the only express condition now made as regards payment of Second Preference dividends is limited to dividends in respect of 1929-30, the essential principle underlying this stipulation is that receipts from any payment above the contract price for rails should not be used either directly or indirectly to pay dividends on securities ranking after the First Preference Shares until full provision for depreciation has been made. The Government of India would consider it necessary to include a definite condition to this effect in any more permanent arrangement, if made.

Serial No. 2.—LETTER FROM MESSRS. TATA SONS, LIMITED, No. G-1344/30, DATED THE 3RD OCTOBER 1930.

Your letter No. 260-T.(122) of the 17th September on the subject of the granting of an additional price for rails supplied by the Steel Company has been laid before the Board of Directors, who wish to express their appreciation of the assistance Government have been good enough to give.

2. We have the honour to enclose herewith a copy of the Report and Accounts of the Steel Company for the year 1929-30 [C. Tar. October 1930, F.-168-T.(9)], which were placed before and adopted by an Ordinary General Meeting of the Company held on the 30th September and 1st October 1930. You will see that, as required by Government, a sum of Rs. 73 lacs was allotted to depreciation out of profits and that condition (iii) of paragraph 3 of your letter has been satisfied.

3. Government's condition (iv) has also been taken into consideration and has been complied with by the following Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Steel Company at a meeting held on the 30th September :

"Resolved that no commission shall be paid to the Agents on so much of the Company's receipts for the year 1930-31 as are derived from the additional payment of Rs. 20 per ton for rails; and that the Agents be authorized to send a copy of this Resolution to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Commerce Department in connection with his letter No. 260-T. (122) of the 17th September 1930 addressed to the Agents."

4. We now request you kindly to inform us of the procedure which Government wish to be followed in connection with the submission of bills for the additional Rs. 20 per ton of rails.

5. Reference is made in paragraph 3 (ii) of your letter to "a closer examination of certain aspects of the position" which Government will require to make before a decision affecting future years is reached. We shall be glad to co-operate in this examination if you consider it necessary, and we await your suggestions about procedure.

6. The Board of Directors note that Government would consider it necessary to include in any more permanent arrangement a definite condition providing for the allocation of full depreciation before payment of any dividends on securities ranking after the First Preference shares. The Board are of opinion that the primary consideration called for is whether the scheme of protection of the Steel Industry sanctioned by the Legislature on the recommendation of Government has worked in practice as anticipated and whether it should not be revised in the light of experience gained. The question of amount of depreciation can only form one part of such consideration.

Serial No. 3.—LETTER FROM MESSRS. TATA SONS, LIMITED, BOMBAY, No. G.-1473/30, DATED THE 28TH OCTOBER 1930.

We have the honour to revert to the correspondence regarding additional price for the rails ordered by the Government of India from the Steel Company during the current year, resting with Government communication No. 260-T. (122), dated the 6th October 1930.

Attention is invited to paragraph 3 of Government's letter No. 260-T. (122), dated the 17th September communicating to us their decision on our application. That paragraph states :

"... The Government of India will make to the Tata Iron and Steel Company an additional payment of Rs. 20 on each ton of rails ordered from the Company under the contract for the year 1930-31, over and above the existing contract price of Rs. 110 per ton, making a total price per ton of Rs. 130".

This additional price of Rs 20 per ton, according to the foregoing paragraph, applies to rails ordered by Government under their contract existing with the Steel Company. That contract is in respect of rails 50 lb. and above upto 100 lbs. per yard section. Government however have also ordered 115 lb. section rails to the extent of 11,814 tons at Rs. 120 per ton. While submitting our application for the increase in the price of contract rails, we have thought that any decision which Government might come to in the matter of a grant of additional payment in respect of rails ordered under contract would also apply to rails of 115 lb. section ordered by them. We trust therefore that Government will be good enough to extend the grant of additional Rs. 20 per ton to rails of 115 lb. section ordered for 1930-31.

Serial No. 4.—LETTER FROM THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, RAILWAY BOARD, TO MESSRS. TATA IRON AND STEEL COMPANY, BOMBAY, No. 3460-S./XV., DATED THE 27TH NOVEMBER 1930.

In reply to your letter No. G.-1473/30, dated the 28th October 1930, to the Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Commerce Department, New Delhi, I am directed to say that the Government of India agree (subject to the fulfilment of the conditions and stipulations attaching to the extra payment for rails ordered under the contract of the 16th October 1928) to an additional payment of Rs. 10 per ton in respect of the 115 lb. section rails, ordered during the year 1930-31, making the total price Rs. 130 per ton.

REDUCTION OF COSTS AND INDIANISATION OF THE STAFF OF THE TATA IRON AND STEEL COMPANY.

68. ***Mr. B. Das:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have exercised any control over the Tata Iron and Steel Co. since 1926 when a system of protection of rails for seven years was sanctioned regarding :

- (i) reduction of capitalisation cost of the undertaking;
- (ii) reduction of top heavy establishment charges;
- (iii) speedy Indianisation of the technical staff at Jamshedpur?

(b) Are Government aware that Messrs. Tata Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., have made no progress over Indianisation of the Company since 1926?

The Honourable Sir George Rainy: (a) and (l). The answer is in the negative.

REDUCTION OF COSTS AND INDIANISATION OF THE STAFF OF THE TATA IRON AND STEEL COMPANY.

69. ***Mr. B. Das:** (a) What steps have Government taken so far to enforce reduction of the cost of production of steel by the Tata Iron and Steel Company?

(b) Do Government contemplate to refer to the Tariff Board to include in their present inquiry the causes of heavy cost of production at the Tata Iron and Steel Works?

(c) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the following clause of agreement between Messrs. E. D. Sassoon and Co., millowners of Bombay, and consumers of their produce:

“That recruitment of staff will be restricted to Indians except for special reasons”?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state if the Tata Iron and Steel Co. seeking further protection are prepared to give a similar guarantee to Government?

The Honourable Sir George Rainy: (a) I am not aware of any steps that Government can take in the matter. It is no doubt understood by the Company that the continuance of protection to the steel industry after the expiry of the statutory period of seven years depends on whether genuine efforts have been made by them to secure a reduction of cost to the extent which the Tariff Board considered feasible.

(b) No enquiry relating to steel is at present being made by the Tariff Board, nor is any such enquiry to be made in the immediate future. I would, however, draw the Honourable Member's attention to paragraphs 20-24 of the Tariff Board's recent report on Additional protection for Galvanized Sheets, which was published on the 30th December 1930, and a copy of which has been supplied to the Honourable Member.

(c) The Government of India have no information apart from what has appeared in the newspapers.

(d) I think it has always been the policy of the Tata Iron and Steel Company to employ Indians to the greatest extent possible.

Mr. B. Das: In view of the fact that the average cost of production of Tata steel has gone down in the year 1929-30 to much less than what was calculated by the Tariff Board in its Report of 1926, may I ask whether it justifies the Tatas receiving any further protection? I refer the Honourable Member to the latest Report of the Tariff Board, page 14, where a table has been given from which it will be noticed that there has everywhere been a more substantial reduction than was anticipated in 1926 by the expert Tariff Board.

The Honourable Sir George Rainy: If the Honourable Member is referring to the Tariff Board's Report on galvanised sheets, I think that it will be more convenient to deal with the matter in the debate to-morrow on my Resolution which stands on the paper. It is rather a large subject to reply to on a supplementary question.

FINANCIAL INQUIRY BY SIR ARTHUR SALTER.

70. ***Mr. B. Das:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state if it is true that a representative of the League of Nations—Sir Arthur Salter—will shortly visit India to inquire into the finances of the Government of India?

(b) Did the Government of India ask the League of Nations for the visit of that officer or is it an independent inquiry to be held under the auspices of the League of Nations?

(c) What will be the total expenses incurred for the visit of this gentleman and how much of the same will be borne by India?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state the terms of reference of the expert inquiry by this gentleman that have been made by the Government of India or the League of Nations?

(e) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table all correspondence on the deputation of Sir Arthur Salter to India between the Government of India and the League of Nations?

(f) To what extent are the Secretary of State for India and the British Government parties to this inquiry by Sir Arthur Salter?

(g) Is it a fact that the gentleman happens to be an expert on currency? Will Sir Arthur Salter also inquire into the fixity of ratio of exchange?

The Honourable Sir George Rainy: (a) to (d) and (f). The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the Press communiqué issued by the Government of India on the 30th December, 1930, a copy of which has been placed in the Library.

(e) No correspondence took place between the Government of India and the League of Nations. The Government of India requested the Secretary of State for India to make the enquiry mentioned in the Press communiqué from the League of Nations, and a copy of the correspondence between the Secretary of State and the Secretary General of the League of Nations is laid on the table.

(g) Sir Arthur Salter no doubt includes knowledge of currency matters in his qualifications, but he will make no enquiry of the kind mentioned by the Honourable Member.

Copy of letter, dated the 21st November, 1930, from the Secretary of State for India, to the Secretary General, League of Nations, Geneva.

The Government of India have for some time been studying plans for the creation of some organisation for the study of economic questions, including both the continuous interpretation of current developments and the consideration of plans designed to achieve particular purposes. In this connection they have given attention to organisations which have recently been established in other countries and particularly to the work which has been done by the League of Nations. The Government of India are of opinion that the special experience acquired by Sir Arthur Salter as Director of the Economic and Finance Sections of the League might be most valuable to them and are anxious to have an opportunity for consulting him. I am therefore to enquire whether it would be possible for the League to assist them in this matter by arranging for Sir Arthur Salter to pay a short visit to India this winter.

Copy of letter No. 10A/24177/24177, dated the 27th November, 1930, from the Secretary General, League of Nations, to the Secretary of State for India.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of November, 21st, in which you ask me whether it would be possible for the Director of the Economic and Financial Section to pay a short visit to India this winter, in order to advise the Government of India in regard particularly to the work which has been done by the League of Nations in organising the study of economic questions.

In reply, I am glad to be able to inform you that it will be possible to arrange for Sir Arthur Salter to pay the visit suggested, leaving for India towards the end of December. I am asking him to take this opportunity of discussing the development of India's collaboration in the work of the Technical Organisations of the League.

I am communicating your letter and the present reply to the Council of the League of Nations for its information.

Copy of letter No. E. & O.-9158/30, dated the 4th December, 1930, from Mr. M. C. Seaton, to the Secretary General, League of Nations.

I am directed by the Secretary of State for India to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 27th November, 10A/24177/24177, in which you intimate that it will be possible to arrange for Sir Arthur Salter to visit India this winter in connection with the work done by the League of Nations in organising the study of economic questions.

Mr. Benn desires me to convey to you an expression of his appreciation of your assistance in this matter.

Mr. B. Das: Are Government aware that, before the Government of India decided to issue their Press communiqué, various statements had appeared in the London Press and also in the Journal of the League of Nations about Sir Arthur Salter's mission to India?

The Honourable Sir George Rainy: I am aware that unfounded rumours did appear in the Press.

Mr. B. Das: May I know what were the reasons why the Government of India delayed issue of their communiqué so late, while the *Morning Post*, the *London Times* and other papers had already come out with different versions from what has been given afterwards in the Government of India communiqué?

The Honourable Sir George Rainy: The main reason why the communiqué could not be issued earlier was that it was very difficult to issue one until the Government had the actual correspondence before them, which had passed between the Secretary of State and the League of Nations.

Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad: Will the exchange ratio also be one of the subjects of enquiry by him?

The Honourable Sir George Rainy: No, Sir, certainly not.

REPORT OF THE CENTRAL BANKING INQUIRY COMMITTEE.

71. ***Mr. B. Das:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state when they expect to publish the report of the Central Banking Inquiry Committee?

(b) Do they expect to introduce legislation in the current session of the Assembly regarding the establishment of a State Reserve Bank?

The Honourable Sir George Schuster: (a) I hope that the Report of the Committee will be completed by the end of April, but I cannot at present give any definite indication as to the date of its publication.

(b) No.

Mr. B. Das: Is it a fact that certain experts have come from abroad to give advice to the Banking Enquiry Committee?

The Honourable Sir George Schuster: The Honourable Member, I think, is quite aware of all the details concerning the plan for this enquiry, which have been frequently announced in the Press and discussed in this House. There are now six foreign experts in the country, who at the present moment are in actual consultation with the Central Banking

Enquiry Committee, and it is hoped that the experience and advice of those foreign experts will be of value to the Central Banking Enquiry Committee in making their final report.

Mr. B. Das: Will these foreign experts function in the same way as the Central Committee did in reference to the Simon Commission, or will they render the necessary advice to the Central Banking Enquiry Committee and help them to arrive at a common agreement?

The Honourable Sir George Schuster: The intention and the desire is that the foreign experts should work in close co-operation with the Central Banking Enquiry Committee and that there should be a common and agreed report. The exact procedure for recording the foreign experts' views is actually now under discussion. There is no disagreement between the Central Banking Enquiry Committee and the foreign experts, or between the Central Banking Enquiry Committee and myself as representing the Government of India, on that subject. I cannot inform the Honourable Member exactly what form the record of the views of the foreign experts will take. It is simply a question of practical convenience. One of the foreign experts actually has to leave India on the 5th February, and it may be necessary to obtain some written record, so as to incorporate his particular ideas, before he goes. But the general intention is that the foreign experts, as I have said, should work in close co-operation with the Central Banking Enquiry Committee, and I have every hope that there will be no difference of opinion between the two bodies.

Mr. Arthur Moore: May I ask the Honourable Member whether, in view of the expressions of opinion at the Round Table Conference that the establishment of a Central Reserve Bank was a condition precedent to any constitutional advance, he is in a position to tell this House approximately when the Government of India would be able to introduce legislation on that subject?

The Honourable Sir George Schuster: I cannot give the Honourable Member any exact answer to that question. The inauguration of a Central Bank for India is in my opinion one of the most important steps now before the country. It is not merely a question of legislation. There are practical issues involved also. It would, for example, be useless to attempt to set up a Central Bank unless that Bank had adequate reserves to maintain its position and the provision of adequate reserves is a practical measure which requires a good deal of careful thought and a great deal of practical action. I can only say this—that, as far as I am concerned, as representing the Government of India, I think that we should immediately turn our attention to the establishment of a Central Bank. I hope that in the course of the discussions which will now take place for working out practical means for the introduction of a new constitution for India, the measures for establishing a Reserve Bank will take an important and early place, and the Government will do all in their power to assist the early formation of a Central Bank for India.

Maulvi Muhammad Yakub: Will the Honourable Member tell the House why the foreign experts were invited; by whom they were invited, and who bears their expenses?

The Honourable Sir George Schuster: The plan for the Central Banking Committee has, I am sure my Honourable friend will agree, been fully discussed at all stages by this Assembly. It was always made clear that foreign experts would be associated with the Central Committee in making their final recommendation. I gave this Assembly full information of the whole plan at all its stages. Before any steps were taken, I consulted leaders of various parties in this Assembly, or the representatives of various parties nominated by their leaders, and I also had meetings with representatives of the Council of State. Everything that has been done has been done, I think, with full agreement from all parties in this House. The cost of the foreign experts will be part of the cost of the Central Banking Inquiry for which estimates have already been before this House and for which money has been provided in the current Budget. The cost of having these foreign experts out will not be great because in practically all cases these gentlemen, although they are very busy and important people, have agreed to come free of all cost except their own expenses.

INDIANISATION OF THE STAFF OF THE IMPERIAL BANK OF INDIA.

72. ***Mr. B. Das:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have extended the period of their agreement with the Imperial Bank of India, Ltd., and if so, for what period?

(b) In view of this extension of agreement with the Imperial Bank, will Government be pleased to state if they intend to exercise closer control on the Indianisation of the staff of the Imperial Bank?

(c) With reference to the speech of the Hon'ble Sir George Schuster on the policy of Indianisation and control of Government over the Bank on the 21st January, 1930, will Government be pleased to state the steps they have taken since that statement was made to ensure adequate Indianisation and better control of the Imperial Bank?

The Honourable Sir George Schuster: (a) Under clause 16 of the agreement with the Imperial Bank, the agreement may be determined after 10 years from the 27th January, 1921, by twelve months' notice in writing by either party. As Government have neither given nor received such notice the agreement continues in force.

(b) and (c). In the debate referred to by the Honourable Member, I stated that, in the opinion of the Government, the Imperial Bank was advancing in the direction of the Indianisation of its staff and that the measures that have been already adopted were proving effective in attaining the object which the Honourable Member had in view at that time. As to the measures taken, I forwarded the report of the debate to the Managing Governors and have discussed the matter with them since. I am satisfied that they fully appreciate public opinion on this point and are doing their best to give effect to it.

STATUS OF INDIANS IN THE DOMINIONS.

73. ***Mr. B. Das:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state if the Indian Delegation at the Imperial Conference in London raised the question of enfranchisement of Indian residents in (i) Australia, (ii) South Africa, (iii) Canada (British Columbia)?

(b) What is the present position of Indians in each of these countries and at what stage of negotiation are the Government of India at present, regarding equal status in these Dominions?

(c) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table all relevant correspondence with Australia on the subject since the Rt. Hon'ble Mr. Sastri raised that question in 1921 at that year's Imperial Conference?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: (a) This was not one of the subjects discussed at the last Imperial Conference.

(b) The position is as follows. In Australia, so far as the Commonwealth franchise is concerned, the disability under which natives of India suffered was removed by legislation in 1925. As regards State franchise, Indians are not disqualified on racial grounds in the States of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania. It is only in Western Australia and Queensland that they cannot be enrolled as electors. In Canada, Indian residents do not suffer from any disability in eight out of the nine provinces which comprise the Dominion. It is only in British Columbia that Indian residents, in common with Chinese and Japanese, are debarred from having their names registered on any list of voters. This disability in respect of the provincial franchise has also the effect of depriving them of the Federal franchise.

In South Africa, under section 36 of the Union of South Africa Act, 1910, only those persons are entitled to vote for the election of Members of the House of Assembly who possess such qualifications as existed for parliamentary voters in the several colonies at the establishment of the Union. This provision applies to Indians also. Under the law of the Cape Province, no distinction is made as regards race or colour. In the other provinces the franchise is confined to Europeans, except that in Natal there is a small number of native and Indian voters who were enrolled prior to the passing of Natal Act, 8 of 1896, which had the effect of limiting the franchise in that province to Europeans.

No negotiations are in progress in regard to South Africa. As regards Canada and Australia, the question was discussed informally with the Prime Ministers of these Dominions recently in London.

(c) The Government of India have had no direct correspondence on the subject with the authorities in Australia.

Sir Hari Singh Gour: Did the Indian Government instruct their representative at the Imperial Conference to raise this question at that Conference and, if so, with what effect?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: There were no instructions given on the subject.

Sir Hari Singh Gour: Do I understand that when the Government of India send up a representative to the Imperial Conference, he is not given any instructions upon the outstanding questions that call for the decision of the Government of India and in which the people of India are interested?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: I have no doubt the Government of India realise fully the importance of the subjects in which we Indians are all keenly interested, but the formation of the agenda is not always in the hands of any particular country, invited to the Conference.

Mr. B. Das: Have the Government realised the very difficult situation in South Africa and has the Honourable Member received a copy of the Resolutions of the Indian Congress that was held very recently in South Africa and are the Government alive to the situation for which Mr. C. F. Andrews has recently visited South Africa?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: Yes.

Mr. B. Das: Is the situation hopeful in the opinion of the Honourable Member?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: It is extremely difficult to say, Sir. (Laughter.)

TREATMENT OF LEPROSY.

74. ***Mr. B. Das:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state the progress regarding the treatment and cure of leprosy, recently made by Dr. Muir attached to the Tropical School of Medicine, Calcutta?

(b) What is the total contribution towards this investigation from the Indian Medical Research Fund per annum since Dr. Muir took up the research work?

(c) Does the League of Nations contribute in money or otherwise towards investigation of a permanent cure for leprosy?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: (a) The progress which has recently been made by Dr. Muir in the treatment of leprosy consists in:

- (1) the discovery of improved methods of testing a patient's resistance to leprosy, by special blood tests;
- (2) the discovery that patients who suffer from both leprosy and pyorrhœa can be treated for leprosy with greater success when the pyorrhœa has been cured;
- (3) the discovery that the special drugs which are used for the cure of leprosy are more effective when they are injected into the diseased parts of the skin.

(b) The annual contributions by the Indian Research Fund Association towards Dr. Muir's research work on leprosy have varied from year to year, but the total contributions made by that body during the years 1920-21 to 1929-30 amounted to Rs. 1,71,989.

(c) The League of Nations has recently established an International Commission for the purpose of promoting and co-ordinating the work of investigation into leprosy.

Mr. B. Das: May I know if Dr. Muir was deputed by the British Leprosy Association or by the League of Nations?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: I have not quite followed the Honourable Member.

Mr. B. Das: Under what body does Dr. Muir work at present in India? Was he not deputed by the British Leprosy Association to India?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: I am afraid I must ask for notice of that question.

ERADICATION OF LEPROSY FROM INDIA.

75. ***Mr. B. Das:** (a) Is it a fact that the method of treatment of leprosy by outdoor clinics, as has been introduced by Dr. Muir in various provinces, has introduced a very cheap and popular system of treatment of leprosy?

(b) Do the Government of India make any contribution towards stamping out leprosy by this process of outdoor clinics to various provinces from the Indian Medical Research Fund?

(c) What are the total numbers of lepers in India at present?

(d) What steps do the Government of India propose to take for the eradication and control of leprosy in India?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: (a) The system of treatment introduced by Sir Leonard Rogers and Dr. Muir is cheap, effective and popular, and is being widely adopted.

(b) The answer is in the negative. The administration of the funds of the Research Fund Association is vested in the Governing Body and is not controlled by the Government of India. The funds of the Association are devoted to the investigation of disease. The practical application of the results of the research work it finances in such ways as the establishment of out-door clinics is a matter for Provincial Governments.

(c) No precise information is available as to the number of lepers in India. Only 1,02,513 persons were returned as lepers at the Census of 1921, but in the opinion of medical experts, the true figure at present is about 7,00,000.

(d) The eradication and control of leprosy are primarily the concern of Local Governments, but much is already being done by the Indian Research Fund Association, to which the Government of India make a large annual grant, to throw further light on the causes of this disease, in co-operation with the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association and the Mission to Lepers. For an account of the work which is being done I would refer the Honourable Member to the annual reports of the Association.

The Revd. J. C. Chatterjee: With reference to the answer given to part (d) of the last question, will the Honourable Member kindly tell me if there is any enactment to prevent the entry of lepers into an inhabited town and their mixing with the rest of the population?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: Not that I am aware of.

The Revd. J. C. Chatterjee: Will Government be prepared to undertake some method of registration of lepers in order to segregate them and to prevent the spread of this disease in the country?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: The matter is one, so far as I can see, of a peculiarly provincial nature and in the domain of local self-government. I shall invite the attention of Local Governments to the Honourable Member's question and my reply thereto.

Mr. B. Das: Is it not a fact that the latest medical research shows that leprosy in the first stage, that is, for a period of seven years, and in the third stage, that is, a period of seven years after the first stage, is not dangerous, so that lepers in those two stages are not infectious and need not be segregated?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: I shall be very glad to give an answer to that question after I have consulted my experts.

Mr. S. G. Jog: Are separate arrangements in railway compartments provided for the travel of lepers?

Mr. B. Das: Why? They are our brothers.

Mr. A. A. L. Parsons: No, Sir. At present there are no separate arrangements.

THE DRUGS INQUIRY COMMITTEE.

76. ***Mr. B. Das:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state the reasons that led them to appoint a Drugs Inquiry Committee?

(b) Were they advised to have such an inquiry by the League of Nations?

(c) What is the personnel of this committee?

(d) In what way do indigenous systems of treatment, namely, Kaviraji and Unani find representation in that Committee?

(e) Is it the purpose of the Committee to inquire into the properties and ingredients of indigenous Indian medicines?

(f) If the reply to part (e) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state which of the gentlemen of the Drugs Inquiry Committee have experience of indigenous medicines and their curative properties?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: (a), (c) and (e). The Honourable Member's attention is invited to the Government of India, Department of Education, Health and Lands Resolution No. 1637, dated the 11th August, 1930, which was published in part I of the Gazette of India, dated the 16th August, 1930. A copy of this Resolution has been placed in the Library of the House.

(b) No.

(d) The Committee is not enquiring into indigenous system of treatment.

(f) The personnel of the Committee includes Lieutenant-Colonel Chopra and Father Caius, both of whom have been conducting extensive researches into the properties of indigenous drugs for several years past.

NUMBERS OF MEMBERS OF VARIOUS COMMUNITIES IN THE INDIAN STORES DEPARTMENT, KARACHI.

77. *Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad (on behalf of Seth Haji Abdoola Haroon): (a) Will Government be pleased to state the total number of officers of all grades and clerks working at the Inspection Section and Purchase Section of the Karachi Indian Stores Department?

(b) How many of them are Hindus, how many Muslims and how many of other communities?

Mr. J. A. Shillidy: (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the table giving in detail the information asked for by the Honourable Member.

Karachi Purchase Circle.

	Hindus.	Muslims.	Other communities.	Total.
Officers	2	..	..	2
Clerks	17	3	1	21

Karachi Inspection Circle.

Officers . . . . .	..	..	2	2
Clerks	13	5	3	21

NAMES OF MERCHANTS OF KARACHI ON THE LIST OF THE INDIAN STORES DEPARTMENT.

78. *Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad (on behalf of Seth Haji Abdoola Haroon): (a) Will Government be pleased to state the names of merchants of Karachi who were on the list of the Indian Stores Department before Mr. Thadhani was transferred to Karachi, and the names of the merchants on the list in June, 1930?

(b) What were the reasons for deduction and additions between the two lists as per part (a) above?

(c) Is it a fact that the names of some merchants in Karachi who hold large stocks have been removed from the list, and if so, why?

(d) Is it a fact that some of these large stockists made repeated applications for the inclusion of their names on the list but without success? If 'yes', who were they, and on what grounds were their applications rejected?

(e) Are all the inquiries sent to every person on the list?

(f) Is it a fact that some petty dealers who hold very little or no stock are on the list?

Mr. J. A. Shillidy: (a), (b), (c) and (d). Government regret their inability to publish the names of firms on the list of approved contractors to the Indian Stores Department, or to discuss on the floor of the House the merits and demerits of individual firms whose names have been removed from the list in the past. I should like to mention, however, for the Honourable Member's information that the total number of firms in

Karachi on the approved list in March, 1926, before Mr. Thadhani's posting to Karachi was 41, and the number on the same list in June, 1930, was 91. I should also like to mention that all work connected with the registration of firms on the approved list is centralized in the Chief Controller's own office, and that Mr. Thadhani has no authority either to add to the list or to remove names from that list.

(e) No. Enquiries valued over Rs. 5,000 are advertised except when demands are urgent or when they relate to proprietary articles; enquiries valued between Rs. 500 and Rs. 5,000 are sent to all the firms registered for that particular class of material; enquiries valued under Rs. 500 are sent to a limited number of approved firms.

(f) The reply is in the negative.

Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad: Are the reasons for not publishing the names of a private or of a public nature?

Mr. J. A. Shillidy: I did not quite understand the question.

Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad: The Honourable Member said that he did not think it desirable to give the names of the firms. I ask whether the reasons for not giving the names are of a private or of a public nature.

Mr. J. A. Shillidy: I think it would be contrary to the public interest to give names or publish or discuss here on the floor of the House the merits or demerits of individual firms whose names are removed from the list.

NEED OF LAVATORIES ON THE DARJEELING HIMALAYAN RAILWAY TRAINS.

79. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** Is it a fact that there are no lavatories provided in carriages of the Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway trains, and that the trains take 4 or 5 hours in their journey between Siliguri and Darjeeling? Why latrines are not provided? Do Government propose to take necessary steps to have this source of inconvenience removed?

Mr. A. A. L. Parsons: My information is that, out of 110 carriages, 14 are supplied with lavatories. The passenger trains take between four and five hours to complete the journey from Siliguri and Darjeeling. This distance is only about 50 miles, and I presume it is for this reason and because the trains stop about every 12 miles that more lavatories are not provided. I will, however, send a copy of the Honourable Member's question and of this reply to the Managing Agents of the Company.

THE NEW INDIA STERLING LOAN.

80. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** (a) Will Government kindly state whether the Secretary of State for India consulted the Government of India, regarding the floatation of the new sterling loan in London in October, 1930, its need, and the terms on which it was to be floated; and whether the Executive Council was given an opportunity of discussing this matter and formally recording their opinion?

(b) Why was this loan floated; and how has it been utilized?

The Honourable Sir George Schuster: (a) I would refer the Honourable Member to the reply given to Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad's question on the same subject on 26th January, 1931.

(b) The loan was floated in order to provide funds for disbursements in London. It has been utilised for repayment of £6 million India Bills due in December, 1930, for capital expenditure on railways and for general purposes.

THE ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE, DEHRA DUN.

81. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** (a) Is it a fact that the post of Commandant in the Royal Military College, Dehra Dun, has been abolished? If so, since when; and why?

(b) Is it a fact that riding and shooting are not taught in that College? How many horses and rifles are kept there; and is cadet's efficiency in riding and shooting embodied in his certificate given every session? What is the amount of approximate monthly expenditure on this account?

(c) Is it a fact that cadets of the Royal Military College, Dehra Dun, have to appear at the Diploma examinations at which the total number of examinees hardly exceeds fifty? Why are they not allowed to appear at the public examinations, as the Senior Cambridge, or the school examinations instead?

(d) Is it a fact that only two students of the Military College, out of twelve, have been selected at the Army examination held in Delhi last June, for admission into Sandhurst, Woolwich and Croydon?

(e) Will Government kindly state the total number of applications received for admission, the number admitted, and the number rejected, during the last two years separately? How many of those admitted come from the Indian States?

Mr. G. M. Young: (a) The post was abolished in March, 1930. Experience of the working of the College during its first few years showed that a Commandant was no longer necessary in addition to a Principal.

(b) Riding is not taught in the College and no horses are kept. Senior cadets practise shooting on miniature ranges. 10 short rifles are provided and each cadet is allowed about 50 rounds of ammunition per year. The cost is about Rs. 12 a month. No remarks on a cadet's efficiency in shooting are made in his terminal reports.

(c) The Diploma exists for the benefit of those boys who fail to enter the Army. It fits in with the curriculum of the College, and has been accepted generally by leading Universities of India as equivalent to the Matriculation or School Leaving Certificate examination. There is nothing to prevent students of the College from appearing for matriculation or at similar public examinations, but the curriculum is not designed for these.

(d) Yes.

(e) 26 applications for admission to the College were received in 1929, and 32 in 1930. 21 boys, including 6 from Indian States, were admitted in 1929, and 23, of whom 9 were from Indian States, in 1930.

Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad: The syllabus and the courses of studies in this College do not include any military subjects. May I ask why do Government call it a military college? Secondly why should it not be transferred from the Military Department to the Education Department?

Mr. G. M. Young: I am afraid I can hardly deal with a question of policy of that magnitude in answer to a supplementary question. The reason why it is called a military college is that it prepares students for entry into the Army.

The Revd. J. C. Chatterjee: Who conducts the Diploma examination in the Royal Military College?

Mr. G. M. Young: I am afraid I cannot say offhand what authority conducts the examination.

Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad: What is the percentage of students who went to Sandhurst from this Military College?

Mr. G. M. Young: There is no fixed percentage; it depends upon how many are successful at the entrance examination.

Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad: How many are successful at the entrance examination?

Mr. G. M. Young: I must ask for notice of that question.

DEFACEMENT OF SPURIOUS COINS COLLECTED BY BOOKING CLERKS.

82. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** (a) Are Government aware that when remittances are sent by Booking Clerks at stations on the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway, the authorities concerned of that Railway Company cut the rupees which they regard as suspicious or not genuine, and return them to the stations concerned, with the result that the Booking Clerks have to make good the loss out of their pay every month?

(b) Under what law or rule is the Railway Company authorized to cut, or otherwise deface silver coins; and who is the railway authority which decides whether a particular coin is genuine or not?

(c) Are Government aware that this practice operates as a hardship upon the Booking Clerks; and is it a fact that such practice does not obtain on many other railways?

(d) Do Government propose to enquire whether it is possible to introduce any other method, which while safeguarding the financial interests of the Railway Company, may not operate as a hardship upon the railway staff concerned?

Mr. A. A. L. Parsons: I am obtaining the information required and will let the Honourable Member have it in due course.

POLITICAL ACTIVITY BY ANGLO-INDIAN AND EUROPEAN RAILWAY SERVANTS.

83. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** (a) Is it a fact that the rules of the newly-started Anglo-Indian and European Railway Labour Union of India include the provision of a "political fund", which is to be applied, among other things, "towards the holding of political meetings of any kind, or the distribution of any literature, or political document of any kind"?

(b) Do Government propose to enquire into this, and to state whether employees on State Railways can be permitted to create such a fund, or take part in any political activity?

Mr. A. A. L. Parsons: (a) Yes.

(b) State Railway employes are subject to the Government Servants' Conduct Rules. Government do not propose to enquire specially into this case, but the revision of the rules is under consideration.

RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN WAITING ROOMS ON THE GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.

84. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** Are Government aware that at Bhopal station (Great Indian Peninsula Railway) there are separate waiting rooms for "First and Second class European gentlemen", "First and Second class Indian gentlemen", "First and Second class European ladies", and "First and Second class Ladies" (the latter presumably meaning Indian ladies), with better type of bathroom and furniture in those intended for the Europeans? Do the Europeans pay more than the Indians; if not, why this racial discrimination, and do Government propose to take necessary steps to do away with it at an early date?

Mr. A. A. L. Parsons: I have asked the Agent of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway for a report, and will communicate with the Honourable Member as soon as it is received.

METHODS EMPLOYED IN THE COLLECTION OF LAND REVENUE IN THE BORSAD AND BARDOLI TALUKAS.

85. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** Has there been any correspondence between the Government of India and the Bombay Government, regarding the agricultural situation in Borsad and Bardoli Talukas, and the methods employed in the collection of land revenue? If so, have the Bombay Government pointed out that among the methods employed is, "giving a man 50 stripes", or "kicking off of cooking utensils when the aged mother of ex-President of the Assembly was cooking in her kitchen" as instances mentioned in the letter of the Indian Merchants' Chamber, Bombay, to the Bombay Government? Under what law have such steps been taken for the realization of revenue?

The Honourable Sir James Crerar: The Government of India are aware of the procedure laid down by the Government of Bombay for the recovery of land revenue in areas in which its payment is being refused. I need hardly say that the procedure does not include the methods which the Honourable Member mentions. In regard to the allegations contained in the letter of the Indian Merchants' Chamber to the Government of Bombay, dated the 14th of November, 1930, I invite the attention of the Honourable Member to the reply of the Bombay Government, dated the 27th of November, 1930, which has appeared in the Press. As regards the two incidents mentioned, the Government of India have been informed that the local officers are not aware of any case to justify the first allegation. As regards the second allegation, the only foundation for it appears to be the fact that, in order to recover a fine of Rs. 150 from Mr. Kashibai J. Patel, who had been convicted of offences under Ordinances V and VI, some utensils were attached at his house, but there is no truth in the story that, in the course of the attachment, any cooking utensils were kicked or knocked over when Mr. Patel's mother was cooking.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh: May I ask what methods were employed by the Bombay Government to find out the truth of the allegations mentioned in my question?

The Honourable Sir James Crerar: I think if the Honourable Member wants further details, I must refer him to the letter of the Bombay Government which deals very comprehensively with a whole series of allegations.

CLASSIFICATION FOR THE CENSUS OF BUDDHISTS, ETC., AS NON-HINDUS.

86. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** (a) Is it a fact that the Commissioner of Census in India has issued orders in compliance with which provincial officers have issued supplementary instructions to their subordinates to the effect that Buddhists, Jains, Sikhs, Arya Samajists, Brahmos and others should not be entered as Hindus, even if they so desire? Will Government kindly lay on the table the orders issued by the Commissioner of Census, and the instructions issued to the supervisors, and other subordinates in this connection?

(b) Wherein do these orders and instructions differ from those issued on occasions of previous census; and have these been issued on the present occasion to lessen the numerical strength of the Hindus for political purposes?

The Honourable Sir James Crerar: (a) Instructions, as on previous occasions, were issued that the answer which each person gives about his religion must be accepted and entered by enumerators in column 4 of the general Schedule, but that Buddhists, Jains, Sikhs, Arya Samajists and Brahmos should not be entered as "Hindu" in this Schedule, with a view to secure more accurate figures of the sub-totals of these sects. Table XXI (Religion) makes Aryas and Brahmos sub-heads of a general head "Hindu" and there was therefore no question of their exclusion from the Hindu total. As, however, some apprehension was felt, these instructions have been since revised so as to ensure that Brahmos, Aryas, Buddhists and Jains, if they desire, may add the term "Hindu" to the description of their religion given in column 4 of the general Schedule. The general instructions are contained in the Home Department Resolution and Notification Nos. F.-45/7/30-Public and F.-45/2/29 of the 7th June, 1930, and 31st July, 1930, respectively, and the Imperial code of census procedure. A copy of the supplementary instructions issued on the subject has been placed in the Library.

(b) The answer to the first part is contained in the answer given to part (a).

The answer to the second part is in the negative.

Sir Hari Singh Gour: Is the Honourable Member aware that the Census Commissioner has issued instructions to the effect that, in the case of Sikhs and Jains, they would be treated as Hindus if they desired that they should be classed as Hindus, but that in that case they would not be classed under the heads, Sikhs and Jains, the two categories of Hindus and Sikhs and Jains being mutually exclusive? May I ask the Honourable Member whether it is not advisable that, in the case of Sikhs and Jains who wish to have the total of their own community and are still willing to be classed as Hindus, they should be classed both as Hindus and under the sub-head of Sikhs and Jains?

The Honourable Sir James Crerar: The general principle of the instructions is, as I pointed out, that any answer given by any person on the question of his religion must be accepted by the enumerator and recorded.

Sir Hari Singh Gour: That is not the question I put. The question I put was slightly different. The question is, if a Sikh goes to the enumerator and says he is a Sikh and also a Hindu, would he be classed both under the head Sikh and under the head Hindu? Whereas the instructions are that if he is once counted as a Sikh, he would be excluded from the category of Hindu and *vice versa*.

The Honourable Sir James Crerar: The Honourable Member will understand that these questions of census procedure are somewhat intricate and technical. I should be obliged if he would give me notice of the question.

Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad: I do not understand why a particular person can simultaneously be classified as a Sikh and a second time as a Hindu? He will be counted twice.

Sir Hari Singh Gour: No. no. I am only referring to the grand total.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INDIAN CINEMATOGRAPH COMMITTEE.

87. **Mr. K. P. Thampan** (on behalf of Dewan Bahadur T. Rangachariar):

(a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have concluded the consideration of the recommendations of the Indian Cinematograph Committee for encouraging production, distribution and exhibition of films in this country contained in Chapter IV of that Report?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state in detail the steps taken by them under each head to the recommendations as summarised by them in Chapter IX?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state what steps, if any, have been taken by them to give effect to the recommendations contained in Chapter V of the Report as regards educational and public utility films?

The Honourable Sir James Crerar: (a), (b) and (c). As the Honourable Member is probably aware the recommendations referred to have been dealt with not by one but by several Departments of the Government of India. I am collecting the information and hope to send him a full reply on all points shortly.

I think, Sir, that also covers question No. 88.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INDIAN CINEMATOGRAPH COMMITTEE.

†88. **Mr. K. P. Thampan** (on behalf of Dewan Bahadur T. Rangachariar): Will Government be pleased to state whether they have concluded the consideration of the recommendations of the Indian Cinematograph Committee as regards modification suggested in Chapter VII of their Report as regards censorship and control including those relating to reorganisation of the machinery for censorship?

LAND REVENUE ADMINISTRATION IN MADRAS.

89. **Mr. K. P. Thampan** (on behalf of Dewan Bahadur T. Rangachariar):

(a) Will Government be pleased to state what are the difficulties which stand in the way of the recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Land Revenue Administration being carried out in Madras and also to explain why the attempts to carry out the recommendations have not proved successful as stated by the Honourable Member for Education, Health and Lands in the Council of State on the 9th July, 1930—*vide* the reply to question No. 42?

(b) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table their correspondence with the Government of Madras on the question of land revenue legislation after the recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee were made?

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 87.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: (a) The efforts of the Government of Madras to translate into action the recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee have not so far proved successful owing to the fact that the local Legislative Council has declared itself against any legislation incorporating the main principles on which settlements and re-settlements of land revenue have been and are being conducted in the ryotwari districts of the Presidency unless it gives the Council the power to sanction or reject the rates of assessment proposed in each scheme of settlement or re-settlement. Government have been unable to agree to the grant of such powers to the Legislative Council and, in these circumstances, no progress with legislation has so far been possible.

(b) I regret that I am unable to comply with the Honourable Member's request.

Raja Bahadur G. Krishnamachariar: Will the Government be pleased to say as to why they were not agreeable to what the Madras Legislative Council wanted?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: Because they did not consider it right to do so.

Raja Bahadur G. Krishnamachariar: Are the Government aware that the pitch of assessment is also included as one of the subjects which should be included in this proposed Land Revenue Bill?

The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: Yes, Sir.

Mr. President: Order, order.. The question time is now over.

THE INDIAN CATTLE PROTECTION BILL.

Mr. Bhuput Sing (Bihar and Orissa: Landholders): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to prohibit the export trade of Cattle Meat.

Depletion of our cattle stock is daily going on all around us in multifarious ways, although it is quite evident that cattle constitute the wealth of our agriculturist classes. In a country like ours the value of cattle cannot be over-emphasised. Coupled with its depletion, there is a steady decline of its breed. As a result of these two causes, the number of cattle is day by day getting inadequate for the manifold needs of the country. On the one hand the insufficiency is affecting our agricultural operations, while on the other hand the health and vitality of the nation suffer abnormally from the same cause. It need hardly be impressed upon the House that to send out of the country meat of such a valuable live-stock, without let or hindrance, means nothing but disaster to the whole population. I confess we cannot check the indiscriminate waste that is inevitable within the country itself at present without special legislation, but surely for the sake of our most vital interests, it behoves us to introduce some sort of legislation as can stop the unrestricted export of meat from our country.

Sir, I move.

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Bhuput Sing: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE INDIAN CATTLE EXPORT PROHIBITION BILL.

Mr. Bhuput Sing (Bihar and Orissa: Landholders): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to prohibit the export of Indian Cattle.

I do not think, Sir, that I need emphasise what an important part our cattle play in our existence. Our agricultural operations cannot proceed without them; our infants and invalids cannot exist without them; we who are strict vegetarians must derive our main nutrition from them; the health and vitality of the whole nation directly and indirectly depend upon them. In view of these facts to suffer an export trade of our cattle stock without any sort of restriction means nothing but national deterioration and destruction. Of course if there is surplus, we can dispose of that stock. But what we actually find and feel convinces us that, instead of a surplus, there is a steady shortage of cattle life everywhere. Under these circumstances it is nothing but meet and proper that we should forthwith restrict the free and unhampered export of our Indian cattle.

Sir, I move.

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Bhuput Sing: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE INDIAN BAR COUNCILS (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Sir Hari Singh Gour (Central Provinces Hindi Divisions: Non-Muhamadan): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Bar Councils Act, 1926.

From the Statement of Objects and Reasons it will be clear to the Honourable Members why I have ventured to sponsor this Bill. My main purpose in asking the leave of the House is to get an opportunity of doing something towards the development of an independent Indian Bar.

Sir, I move.

The motion was adopted.

Sir Hari Singh Gour: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE SPECIAL MARRIAGE (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Sir Hari Singh Gour (Central Provinces Hindi Divisions: Non-Muhamadan): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Special Marriage Act, 1872.

Honourable Members will find in the Statement of Objects and Reasons all that I intend to say in connection with this motion.

Sir, I move.

The motion was adopted.

Sir Hari Singh Gour: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE ABOLITION OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT BILL.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh (Muzaffarpur *cum* Champaran: Non-Muham-
madan): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to abolish the
punishment of death for offences under the Indian Penal Code.

The object is given in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, and I do
not wish to add anything at this stage.

Sir, I move.

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE HINDU MARRIAGES DISSOLUTION BILL.

Sir Hari Singh Gour (Central Provinces Hindi Divisions: Non-Muham-
madan): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to remove
certain doubts regarding the dissolution of marriages of persons professing
the Hindu religion.

The Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill is my
sufficient justification for asking for leave.

Sir, I move.

The motion was adopted.

Sir Hari Singh Gour: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh (Muzaffarpur *cum* Champaran: Non-Muham-
madan): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend
the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898.

This is with reference to an amendment of section 144 of the Code.
The Statement of Objects and Reasons briefly gives the object for which
I seek to introduce this Bill.

Sir, I move.

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE INDIAN TELEGRAPH (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh (Muzaffarpur *cum* Champaran: Non-Muham-
madan): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend
the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.

Sir, I move.

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Assembly then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday,
the 28th January, 1931.