

Monday, 7th September, 1931

THE  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES  
(Official Report)

Volume V, 1931

*(7th to 22nd September, 1931)*

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SECOND SESSION

OF THE

FOURTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
1931



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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS  
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THE  
**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES**  
(OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE  
FOURTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.)

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VOLUME V—1931.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

*Monday, 7th September, 1931.*

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The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber in Simla, at Eleven of the Clock, being the first day of the Second Session of the Fourth Legislative Assembly, pursuant to S. 63-D (2) of the Government of India Act. The President (the Honourable Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoola) was in the Chair.

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MEMBERS SWORN.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai, M.L.A. (Sind : Non-Muhammadan Rural) ; Mr. Charles Brooke Elliotte, M.L.A. (Madras : European) ; Mr. George Irving Griffiths, M.L.A. (Bombay : European) ; Mr. John Tait, M.L.A. (Burma : European) ; Dr. Francis Xavier DeSouza, M.L.A. (Nominated Non-Official) ; Mr. Satyendra Nath Roy, M.L.A. (Government of India : Nominated Official) ; Mr. Shamaldhari Lall, M.L.A. (Government of India : Nominated Official) ; Mr. Kodikal Sanjiva Row, M.L.A. (Government of India : Nominated Official) ; Rai Bahadur Udyava Rama Rao, M.L.A. (Madras : Nominated Official) ; Mr. Arthur Henry Ashworth Todd, M.L.A. (Madras : Nominated Official) ; Mr. Henry Foley Knight, M.L.A. (Bombay : Nominated Official) ; Qazi Azizuddin Ahmad Bilgrami, M.L.A. (United Provinces : Nominated Official) ; Mr. James Ferguson Dyer, C.I.E., M.L.A. (Central Provinces : Nominated Official) ; and Mr. Frank Burton Leach, M.L.A. (Burma : Nominated Official).

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

RETRENCHMENT IN GOVERNMENT OF INDIA OFFICES IN CALCUTTA.

1. **\*Mr. Muhammad Anwar-ul-Azim :** Will Government please state on what basis the ten *per cent.* cuts have been given effect to in the offices of the Government of India, stationed at Calcutta ? What are such offices ? Will Government please state whether this ten *per cent.* cut has affected the travelling and transfer allowances of any of the officers in those establishments ? Did the retrenching officers consider the advisability of retrenching those who were invalid or on the verge of retirement ?

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**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** In April last the Government of India requested all Departments to put up proposals for a reduction of 10 per cent. in the sanctioned grants for 1931-32. In response to this request proposals were put forward, but it has since become necessary to consider more drastic economies, and it is on them that the ~~Retrenchment Sub-Committees~~ are working. No special retrenchments have yet been made since last Budget in travelling and transfer allowances, but certain reductions made by Local Governments in daily and road mileage allowances automatically apply to employees of the Central Government working in those provinces. General instructions have been issued to all Departments calling their attention *inter alia* to the advisability of retrenching officers who are on the verge of retirement.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Will the Honourable Member be pleased to say if the officers who are on the verge of retirement will be affected in their pensions by this retrenchment ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** I think I must have notice of that question. It is very difficult to define what the Honourable Member means by officers who are on the "verge of retirement".

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** I would explain myself by saying persons who are just retiring within a year or so. Is it a fact or not that their pensions are calculated on the average of three years : and if their pay is reduced now, will their average pension be affected or not ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** I am afraid I must decline to be drawn into any discussion of the details of the terms of compensation which might be offered to officers who suffer by compulsory retrenchment.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Will it be possible for the Honourable Member to issue instructions that, in their case, if they are going to be affected by retrenchment, they should be given facilities for retirement on pension ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** I shall be very pleased to take note of the Honourable Member's suggestion.

#### APPOINTMENT OF A REVETMENT TIME-KEEPER AT CHITTAGONG.

2. **\*Mr. Muhammad Anwar-ul-Azim :** Will Government please state whether it is a fact that the officiating Port Engineer at Chittagong has appointed a boy aged about twelve to work as revetment time-keeper, in place of Syed Ali Khan, who is an aged and experienced man ? What policy do the Port Commissioners at Chittagong follow in making appointments of the kind indicated above ? Will Government please state whether it is a fact that the Honourable Sir George Rainy indicated the Government policy in matters of this kind, since Chittagong was declared to be a major port in 1929 ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** The reply to the first sentence of the Honourable Member's question is in the negative. As regards the second sentence of his question, the Honourable Member's attention

is invited to the reply given to his question No. 552 in the Legislative Assembly Debates of the 17th September, 1928. There has been no change in the policy adopted by the Port Commissioners at Chittagong in regard to the recruitment of Muhammadans. With reference to the last sentence of the Honourable Member's question, it is not clear what indication of policy the Honourable Member has in mind.

**Mr. Muhammad Anwar-ul-Azim :** The policy indicated in the question was the policy in regard to the matters set out in the question to which the Honourable Member has replied—regarding recruitment in the Port Trust at Chittagong.

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** The Honourable Member has conveyed certain information, but whether he has asked a question is not quite clear to me.

**Mr. K. Ahmed :** Will the Government be pleased to say whether the age of the boy was 12, as put in the question ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** I must point out that my answer to the first part of the question is in the negative.

**Mr. K. Ahmed :** Will the Honourable Member be pleased to enlighten the House as to whether boys of 12, or above, or below (Laughter) are acceptable for service ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** I am afraid I must have notice of that question. (Laughter.)

**Mr. K. Ahmed :** Is it not a fact that a boy of the age of 12 was made to do work as revetment time-keeper ? Is that quite clear to the Honourable Member ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** The original question was perfectly clear to me, and I had hoped that my answer was in the negative was equally clear to every Member of the House.

**Mr. K. Ahmed :** Will the Honourable Member explain, Sir, whether he merely read out here the answer prepared in his Department, or whether he will inquire and find out the age of the boy, because the questioner has alleged that an old and experienced man has been displaced by this young boy of 12 ? Will he for the benefit of the various stages see that people of proper age are appointed ? Will that not benefit the Government as well as the others ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** I am afraid that an inquiry as to the age of a non-existent person is beyond the capacity even of the Government of India.

**Mr. K. Ahmed :** Is there not a circular which states that appointments should not be made unless candidates are of a certain age ? If so, why can we not criticise that persons aged 12 should not be appointed ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** The Honourable Member is merely repeating his question.

**Mr. K. Ahmed :** I want that the age of this boy should be found out, so as to discover his eligibility. In the alternative do Government propose to appoint persons under-age while suitable persons are available ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** If the Honourable Member wishes to know the age of the person who was not a boy, I will certainly endeavour to ascertain the facts and communicate them to him if the information is available in Simla.

**MILITARY PENSIONS GRANTED TO RESIDENTS IN THE CHITTAGONG DISTRICT.**

3. **\*Mr. Muhammad Anwar-ul-Azim** : Will Government please state what is the method they adopt in giving military pensions to people living in Chittagong district ?

**Mr. G. M. Young** : Military pensioners in the Chittagong District are paid their pensions quarterly in arrears at the nearest civil treasury or sub-treasury in the district. If a pensioner so desires, the Treasury Officer concerned may remit the pension by postal money order up to a limit of Rs. 50 a month, provided that the money order commission is deducted from the amount of the pension.

Pensioned Indian officers holding Honorary King's Commissions are allowed to draw their pensions monthly in arrears if they wish to do so.

**DUMPING OF JAPANESE RICE INTO INDIA.**

4. **\*Mr. Muhammad Anwar-ul-Azim** : Will Government please state if they have received any representation from the Indian Chambers of Commerce in various parts of India for legislation against the dumping of rice, by the people of Japan into this country ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain** : Yes. Until recently, the price of rice was falling rapidly, but the fall was not attributable to the competition of Japanese rice. Imports of rice from Japan amounted only to 2,433 tons in 1930-31, and only to 526 tons during the period from 1st April, 1931, to 15th August, 1931 ; these imports are insignificant compared with India's production of rice, which ranges from 31 to 33 million tons annually. The fall has been arrested recently. In any case, as it was due to world causes, it could not be affected by taking action against the small imports from Japan.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai** : Does the Honourable Member know that Sind is the best rice producing tract and that Sind has suffered on account of this dumping of Japan rice ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain** : Presumably, if it is the best rice producing area in India, it does produce more than the insignificant amount imported from Japan.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai** : Will the Honourable Member be pleased to place the correspondence with regard to this on the table or let us know how these figures have been obtained ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain** : But there is no correspondence.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai** : Am I to understand that no inquiries have been made on this point ? If any have been made, will the Honourable Member kindly place those papers on the table ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain** : I shall be very glad to arrange that the source of my figures is secured. I understand the Honourable Member to ask how the figures I have given have been obtained.

**Mr. K. Ahmed** : At any rate in view of the fact that rice has become very cheap and the Indian agriculturist is undergoing difficulties, do Government propose to find out and see that foreigners do not send rice into this country at the cost of the poor people here ?



**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** There are no other countries sending rice to my knowledge.

**Mr. K. Ahmed :** Is it not a fact that rice comes from outside India, except Burma ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** I have stated that rice came from Japan and what the amount of it was.

**Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi :** In view of the fact that there is a phenomenal fall in the price of rice, will Government be prepared to bring in legislation to levy an import duty on foreign rice ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** As soon as the import of rice attains anything like the magnitude which would interfere with the price of Indian rice, I have no doubt that the Department concerned will be glad to look into the matter.

#### MUSLIM POPULATION OF BENGAL AND THE PUNJAB.

5. **\*Mr. Muhammad Anwar-ul-Azim :** Will Government please state what is the Moslem population (male and female) of the provinces of Bengal and the Punjab according to this latest Census ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** The 1931 Census of figures of the Muslim population in the Punjab and Bengal are as follows :—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Punjab ..	8,116,383	6,813,513	14,929,896
Bengal ..	14,381,835	13,461,105	27,842,940

#### PUBLIC HOLIDAYS IN INDIA.

6. **\*Mr. Muhammad Anwar-ul-Azim :** Will Government please state on what basis the public holidays are distributed in this country ? Is there any policy in allotting these holidays ? When was the closing of public offices first introduced in this country on account of the Moslem Id-ul-Fiter and Id-ul-Zuha ? On what basis have these holidays been allocated ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** I presume the Honourable Member is referring to holidays enjoyed by the offices under the Government of India subject to the provisions of the *Negotiable Instruments Act*. These are determined with reference to the convenience of those employed as well as the necessities of public business. I have no information as to when holidays were first introduced in this country on account of the Muslim festivals of Id-ul-Fiter and Id-ul-Zuha ; they were declared to be closed holidays for the Government of India Offices, respectively, in 1923 and 1930.

**Pandit Ram Krishna Jha :** What about the Hindu population in these provinces ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** I do not think that that arises of this question.

**Mr. Muhammad Anwar-ul-Azim :** Will the Honourable Member kindly see if it will be possible without inconveniencing the Government Departments to increase the number of Muhammadan holidays on the occasion of Id-ul-Fiter and Id-ul-Zuha ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** The actual number of holidays allowed, both general and communal, have been very carefully examined, and I regret that it is not possible to make any alteration in them without an appreciable interference with public business.

**Sir Cowasji Jehangir :** Are Government aware that there is a school of thought that thinks that there are sufficient bank holidays in India already ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** I have received some indications of that school of thought.

**Sir Cowasji Jehangir :** Will Government give some attention to that school of thought ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** Certainly, Sir.

#### MUSLIM REPRESENTATION IN CERTAIN GOVERNMENT OF INDIA OFFICES IN CALCUTTA.

7. **\*Mr. Muhammad Anwar-ul-Azim :** Will Government please state what is the percentage of Moslem representation in the following offices of the Government of India located at Calcutta :

- (1) Accountant-General.
- (2) Accountant-General, Posts and Telegraphs.
- (3) Commercial Intelligence Department.
- (4) Currency Office.
- (5) Government Printing, India.
- (6) Mint Office.
- (7) Patent Office.
- (8) Port Office.
- (9) Postmaster-General, Bengal and Assam
- (10) Shipping Office.
- (11) Survey of India Office.
- (12) Central Telegraph Office, Calcutta †

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** A statement giving the information asked for is being sent to the Honourable Member separately.

#### ESTABLISHMENT AND COST OF RE-EQUIPMENT OF THE CHITTAGONG TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

8. **\*Mr. Muhammad Anwar-ul-Azim :** Will Government please state what is the total strength of establishments, excepting the menials, at the Chittagong Telegraph Office, and what is the percentage of the Moslem representation therein ? When was the Telegraph Office first started at Chittagong ? How much has it cost Government to re-equip the Chittagong Telegraph Office after the Easter raid of 1930 ?

**Mr. J. A. Shillidy :** The replies to the three parts of the question are respectively, first, 27 and 3.7 per cent. ; second, 1860-61 ; third, Rs. 950.

**FIXATION BY STATUTE OF PERCENTAGE OF MUSLIM REPRESENTATION IN GOVERNMENT SERVICES.**

9. **\*Mr. Muhammad Anwar-ul-Azim :** Will Government please state whether they have submitted for the consideration of the Round Table Conference the question of fixing by statute the percentage of Moslem representation in the service of the Crown in India ? If so, when ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** The reply to the first part is in the negative. The second part does not arise.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Will the Government be pleased to say if they have considered the feasibility of filling up all Government appointments henceforth by the sole consideration of efficiency and not on communal considerations ? Has the Government considered that question ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** The policy of Government on the points to which the Honourable Member refers has been repeatedly explained in this House, and there is no change in that policy.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** What policy ? Will the Honourable Member be pleased to say whether henceforth Government will consider the desirability of filling up all appointments with a view to efficiency only and not on communal considerations ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** I think I have already answered that question.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** I did not follow you.

**ROBBERIES IN POST OFFICES IN THE DISTRICTS OF CHITTAGONG AND DACCA.**

10. **\*Mr. Muhammad Anwar-ul-Azim :** Will Government please state how much Government have lost by dacoities and robberies in post offices in the districts of Chittagong and Dacca, during the last two years ? What steps do Government propose to adopt to stop recurrence of these in future ?

**Sir Hubert Sams :**

			Rs.	A.	P.
Chittagong district	..	..	573	12	0
Dacca district	..	..	4,507	0	0

The question was discussed by the Postmaster-General with the Local Government and the police and it was considered that special measures need not be adopted by the Posts and Telegraphs Department apart from certain precautions, where and when advisable, such as the suspension of night conveyance of mails and cash by road, the strengthening of runners' lines and employment of durwans in addition to the usual precaution of storing cash for the night in police stations.

**Mr. Muhammad Anwar-ul-Azim :** Are the Government aware that in spite of the precautions taken by the local authorities, there was a robbery committed three or four days ago in a post office at the headquarters itself ?

**Sir Hubert Sams :** I should like to have notice of that question, Sir.

**ABOLITION OF RANGE OFFICES OF DEPUTY POSTMASTERS-GENERAL.**

11. **\*Mr. Muhammad Anwar-ul-Azim :** Will Government please state if they have submitted for the consideration of the Posts and Telegraphs

Sub-Committee of the Retrenchment Committee, anything about abolishing the Range Offices of the Deputy Postmasters-General all over India ? If so, when, if not, why not ?

**Mr. J. A. Shillidy :** The question of possible retrenchments throughout the Posts and Telegraphs Department is under examination by the Retrenchment Advisory Committee and Government are not in a position to make any further statement at present.

#### MATERIALS SUPPLIED BY INDIA FOR THE GREAT WAR.

12. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Is it a fact that, during the Great War, materials to the value of about Rs. 35 crores were supplied by India to England for purposes of operations in Mesopotamia and other places, but which has not yet been paid back to India by England ?

(b) Is it a fact that Sir B. N. Mitra was deputed to go to England on behalf of India, but had to cancel the whole of this claim of India, which England refused to pay ?

(c) Are Government prepared to publish all correspondence on the subject and make a statement giving the facts of this transaction, the name of the competent authority to disallow the claim of India, and the steps taken by Government to realize it ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** (a) The answer is in the negative. All debits raised in the War Accounts against the Imperial Government on account of the value of stores supplied were settled in full.

(b) and (c). In view of the reply given to part (a) these questions do not arise.

#### FORMATION OF AN INDIAN AIR FORCE.

13. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Is it a fact that the Iraq Air Force has already come into existence, and is manned and piloted by Iraqi officers ?

(b) When do Government propose to form an Indian Air Force, and why has there been this delay ?

(c) What has been estimated to be the strength, composition, the number of Indian pilots and officers and the approximate annual expenditure of such an Indian Air Force ; and will Indian revenues continue to pay both for the Royal Air Force, and the Indian Air Force when it is established ; and if so, for how long ? Will the Indian Air Force be distinct from the Indian Army ? If so, under whose control ? And will any part of its expenditure be non-voted ?

**Mr. G. M. Young :** (a) Government understand that the Iraq Government has acquired a few light aeroplanes and that these will form the nucleus of a future Air Force Squadron ; also that the aeroplanes are flown, under the supervision of a Flight Lieutenant of the Royal Air Force, by Iraqi officers who have been trained in England.

(b) The first unit of the Indian Air Force should be in existence by March 1933. Such delay as there has been is due to the fact that Indians did not succeed in qualifying for entry into Cranwell until

November 1929. The cadets who entered Cranwell after that examination are due to pass out next summer, when they will, in the ordinary course, be attached to units of the Royal Air Force for 12 months for further instruction. In the meantime, the training of aircraft apprentices will be carried out at Karachi. This training will begin in September, that is, this September, and it is hoped that a sufficient number of apprentices will be qualified by March 1933 to enable the first unit of the Indian Air Force to be formed. Indian officers will join this unit after they have completed their training with units of the Royal Air Force.

(c) The first unit of the Indian Air Force will consist of a Headquarters and one Flight, and it is hoped that this will quickly expand into a full Squadron consisting of Headquarters and three Flights.

The strength of the first unit will be :—

5 British and 6 Indian Officers, 13 British and 37 Indian airmen, and 1 British Civilian Instructor.

This unit will be gradually expanded to the strength of a full squadron by the gradual addition of Indian officers and Indian airmen. It is not intended to add to the above numbers of British officers and British airmen.

The approximate annual expenditure of this unit will be Rs. 5½ lakhs. This amount will increase as the unit expands.

Indian revenues will pay both for the Royal Air Force in India and the Indian Air Force when established. The Honourable Member will realise that I am not in a position to prophesy exactly at what stage the Indian Air Force will begin to replace units of the Royal Air Force. The Indian Air Force will be distinct from the Indian Army and will be administered by the Air Officer Commanding, Royal Air Force in India, under the control of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

The classification of expenditure on the Indian Air Force will follow that of other expenditure on Defence.

#### PROHIBITION OF A DRAMA IN THE NORTH-WEST FRONTIER PROVINCE.

14. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Is it a fact that the North West Frontier Province authorities have prohibited the performance, in any public place, of a drama, known to be written by Amir Nawaz, ex-student, Islamia College, Peshawar, as it is likely to excite feelings of disaffection against Government ? If so, under what law ? And has the book itself been proscribed, or has the mere performance of the drama been prohibited ?

(b) At what places, and on how many occasions was this drama played, and with what result ?

**Mr. E. B. Howell :** (a) A copy of gazette notification No. 7083-P., dated the 7th April 1931, published by the Local Administration is laid on the table.

(b) An adaptation of the drama was enacted once at a meeting on the night of 4th-5th April near Prang and Babra villages in the Charsadda Sub-Division. It depicted the murder of the Assistant Commissioner, Charsadda, and included other scenes which amounted to direct incitement to violence. On the night following the presentation of the drama

an attempt was made to enter the Assistant Commissioner's bungalow but the intruder was detected and though fired on by the police guard succeeded in making good his escape.

# GOVERNMENT GAZETTE,

## EXTRAORDINARY.

### NOTIFICATION.

*Peshawar, the 7th April, 1931.*

**No. 7083-P.**—In exercise of the powers conferred by section 99-A. of the Criminal Procedure Code, 1898, as amended by the Press Law Repeal and Amendment Act, 1922, Code of Criminal Procedure (Third Amendment) Act, 1926, and the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1927, the Chief Commissioner is pleased hereby to declare to be forfeited to His Majesty, every copy, wherever found, of the book entitled "Dard"—published in Pushtu by Amir Nawaz Jalya, student, Islamia College, Peshawar, and printed at the Lakshmi Art Steam Press, Peshawar, by Sant Ram, Manager—and all other documents containing copies, reprints, or translations of, or extracts from, the said book, on the ground that it contains matter, the publication of which is punishable under section 124-A of the Indian Penal Code, as it tends to promote hatred and disaffection towards the Government established by law in British India.

By order, etc.,

(Sd.) C. H. GIDNEY,

*Secretary to the Chief Commissioner,*

*North West Frontier Province.*

## GARHWALI MILITARY PRISONERS.

**15. \*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Is it a fact that the case of the Garhwali military prisoners, who were sentenced to long terms of imprisonment has been under re-examination ? If so, with what result ?

**Mr. G. M. Young :** The sentences have not yet been reviewed : but they will be reviewed shortly in accordance with the usual practice in such cases.

**Kunwar Hajee Ismail Ali Khan :** May I know why these prisoners were not released under the Gandhi-Irwin Agreement ?

**Mr. G. M. Young :** Because, Sir, their case was not covered by the terms of that agreement.

## DISTURBANCES IN BURMA.

**16. \*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Will Government kindly make a statement relating to the disturbances in Burma, their causes, the number of casualties on both sides, and of the troops employed to cope with the situation, after the date up to which a statement was supplied to this House in answer to my question in the last Delhi session ?

(b) What are the troops employed in Burma, and why are Indian troops, if any, so employed ?

(c) What is the actual state of things with regard to the alleged anti-Indian feeling and activities in Burma, and what specific steps have been taken to cope with them ?

**The Honourable Sir James Orerar :** (a) I would refer the Honourable Member to the Local Government's report published on the 6th

July last and to the weekly appreciations from the 13th June to the 28th August, copies of which have been placed in the Library of the House.

(b) The troops employed in Burma are :—

(A) *Normal Garrison.*

- 1 Mountain Battery, Royal Artillery.
- 2 British Infantry Battalions.
- 4 Indian Infantry Battalions (including 1 Training Battalion).
- 1 Pioneer Battalion.
- 1 Field Company, Sappers and Miners.
- 1 Animal Transport Company.

(B) *Reinforcements.*

- 1 British Infantry Battalion.
- 1 Infantry Brigade Signal Section.
- 1 W/T Section.
- 5 Indian Infantry Battalions.
- 2 1/3 Animal Transport Companies.

The reinforcements comprised all that were available and could be spared.

(c) I have called for information and will supply an answer later.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Will the Honourable Member be pleased to say what methods the Government have employed to remove the causes of these disturbances in Burma ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** I think the Honourable Member will find that dealt with in the public statements made by the Government of Burma.

#### MERGING OF WIRELESS AND CABLE COMPANIES IN INDIA.

17. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Have there been any negotiations for merging the interests of wireless and cable offices in India ; and if so, with what result ?

(b) Is it a fact that the existing Indian Radio Telegraphs, have increased, or are going to increase the share capital, with a view to securing entire control of the Indian business ?

(c) Is it a fact that the Imperial Cable and Communications Company have substantial holdings in the new company ? Will Government kindly make a statement in this connection, indicating how the Indian demand for rupee capital with substantial Indian control on the directorate has been met ?

**Mr. J. A. Shillidy :** (a) Yes. The negotiations are still in progress.

(b) The Indian Radio Telegraph Company has not increased its capital, nor has it submitted to Government proposals for an increase of its share capital.

(c) In accordance with the Agreement with the Government of India, 60 per cent. of the original Cash Capital of the Indian Radio Telegraph Company Limited was offered for public subscription in India but as this amount was not wholly taken up in India, Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Company Limited took up the balance, in addition to 40 per cent. previously subscribed, and thus obtained nearly two-thirds of the voting power of the Indian Radio Telegraph Company. Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Company is now controlled by Cables and Wireless Limited, a company registered in Great Britain and having effective control of Imperial and International Communications Limited.

The capital of the Indian Radio Telegraph Company is rupee capital and of the eight Directors five are Indians.

#### CAPITATION CHARGES FOR BRITISH ARMY RECRUITS IN INDIA.

18. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Is it a fact that an independent tribunal has been, or is going to be appointed to adjudicate upon the question of the disputed liability of the Government of India to pay His Majesty's Government the present annual capitation charges in respect of the training in India of British Army recruits, and also India's claim for a contribution from Imperial revenues towards the military expenditure in India ? What are the present amounts on the above heads ?

(b) What is the personnel, and composition of this tribunal and its terms of reference ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** (a) and (b). I would refer the Honourable Member to the statement which I made on this subject in this House on the 10th March 1931 in the course of the debate on the Army Department vote. I am not at present in a position to add to that statement.

#### REFUSAL OF PERMISSION TO MAULANAS MUHAMMAD ISHAQ AND MUHAMMAD IRFAN TO ENTER THE NORTH WEST FRONTIER PROVINCE.

19. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Is it a fact that Maulanas Muhammad Ishaq, and Muhammad Irfan have been prevented from entering the North West Frontier Province ; and if so, when and why ?

(b) Are Government aware that their homes are in the Frontier Province, and they have been forcibly kept out for about 12 years ?

**Mr. E. B. Howell :** (a) and (b). Orders of externment under the North West Frontier Province Security Regulation, 1922, were issued against Muhammad Ishaq and Muhammad Irfan in August-September 1922. The Regulation lapsed on the 9th March 1931 and the externment orders are no longer in force.

#### PROHIBITION OF GANDHI CAPS AND KHADDAR IN BANNU CANTONMENT.

20. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Is it a fact that orders were issued about April last, prohibiting persons wearing Gandhi caps, or khaddar from entering Bannu Cantonment area (North West Frontier Province) ? And is it a fact that the Post Office, Telegraph Office, Treasury, and Courts are all situated in the cantonment area ? Is the order still in force, and if so, why ?



**Mr. G. M. Young :** The answer to the first part is in the negative and to the second in the affirmative. The third part does not arise.

**ACTION TAKEN AGAINST VOLUNTEERS OF THE AFGHAN YOUTH LEAGUE OR THE KHUDAI KHIDMATGARS IN THE NORTH WEST FRONTIER PROVINCE.**

**21. \*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (1) Will Government kindly state whether

- (a) on or about the 13th March, 1931, volunteers of the Afghan Youth League, or the Khudai Khidmatgars were beaten by the police at Takhatbai (North West Frontier Province) and a representation was duly made to Government ; and if so, what was its result ;
- (b) on the 29th March, 1931, or thereabouts, the volunteers were beaten at Pabbii, in Tehsil Nowshera ;
- (c) at Shahbaz Garhi in Mardan Sub-Division, the volunteers were beaten, their uniforms were torn off, and they were kept in the police lock up for a number of days ;
- (d) a peaceful gathering of the Nowshera Khudai Khidmatgars while proceeding to attend a public meeting at Pir Pai was forcibly prevented from crossing the bridge at Nowshera ;
- (e) in the Malakand Agency no volunteer can wear his uniform, or convene, or attend any peaceful meeting ; and about the 9th or 10th April, 1931, Mirzada and Ashan Ali were arrested as they were wearing the volunteer's uniform ; and
- (f) a military officer along with a posse of police, and some military sepoy's patrolled the streets of Nowshera village, about the 10th April, 1931, and exacted *salaams* from all passers-by ?

(2) Do Government propose to hold an inquiry into the above incidents ?

**Mr. E. B. Howell :** (1) Government do not admit that the facts are as stated by the Honourable Member—

- (a) A very large crowd collected at Takhtbai to welcome a certain Ghulam Muhammad Khan on his release from imprisonment after the Delhi Settlement. The crowd became very threatening towards the police and threw stones at them. The police, who numbered only six, were forced to take action in self-defence. Certain allegations made in connection with this incident were investigated by the Chief Commissioner, North West Frontier Province, and the Secretary, Afghan Youth League, was informed verbally by him that the allegations were exaggerated and distorted.
- (b) Government have made enquiries from the local authorities who have been unable to trace any such incident. No complaint or report was made to Government in connection with any such incident.
- (c) No such incident occurred. Certain persons were, however, arrested in connection with a robbery on the Shahbazgarhi.

Husai Road. They were not wearing red uniforms when arrested, nor were they beaten, nor were their clothes torn off. On their arrest they were produced before a Magistrate in the usual way and remanded to judicial custody.

(d) Under cantonment rules no processions or demonstrations are permitted in the cantonments of the Peshawar District. On the 9th April, 1931, a large gathering of Red Shirts attempted to force a crossing over the Nowshera Bridge into cantonment limits. The police prevented this action by closing the gate.

(e) No orders have been issued limiting the liberty of Red Shirt Volunteers to wear uniform or to convene or attend any meeting.

Mirzada and Hashim Ali (not Ashan Ali) were arrested by the Jirga of their village on the 7th and 10th April 1931, respectively, because the latter considered their conduct unsatisfactory. They were released a fortnight later at the request of the Jirga. They were not wearing uniform when arrested, nor, so far as is known, had they previously been wearing uniform.

(f) This is not a fact.

(2) Government do not propose to hold any further enquiry into these incidents.

**Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad :** Are the public provincial roads passing through cantonments also subject to cantonment rules ?

**Mr. E. B. Howell :** May I have notice of that question ?

#### CONFERENCE AT SIMLA ON RETRENCHMENT.

22. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Is it a fact that a conference was recently held in Simla to consider the subject of possible revision of salaries in view of the fall in prices, and of retrenchment generally ?

(b) Is it a fact that not a single Minister of any province was invited to attend ? If so, why ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** A conference was held in Simla in May last, to which representatives of the Home and Finance Departments of Provincial Governments alone were invited, as the problems for discussion concerned those Departments.

#### INDIANS, ANGLO-INDIANS AND EUROPEANS RETRENCHED FROM RAILWAYS AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

23. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Will Government kindly state separately the total number of Indians, Anglo-Indians, and Europeans dismissed or discharged from service on State Railways in India this year, as a measure of retrenchment, together with the amount of savings so effected under each head ?

(b) Will Government kindly give a similar statement for all Departments of Government ?

**Mr. A. A. L. Parsons :** I have called for certain information and will communicate with the Honourable Member on its receipt.

**POLITICAL PRISONERS IN THE PROVINCE OF BIHAR AND ORISSA.**

24. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** What was the total number of political prisoners in the Province of Bihar and Orissa, how many were released as a result of the Gandhi-Irwin settlement, how many are still in jail, and why have they not yet been released ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** The number of persons serving sentences of imprisonment in Bihar and Orissa for offences in connection with the Civil Disobedience movement was, on March 5th, 1931, 3,083. All of these were released except 189. These 189 were not released because their cases did not come within the terms of the settlement. They were still undergoing imprisonment on the 31st July, 1931.

**CENSORSHIP OF REPORTS OF THE CAWNPORE DISTURBANCES.**

25. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Is it a fact that Press reports of the Cawnpore disturbances, or those of the Enquiry Committee, specially the reports relating to the number of casualties, were censored. If so, why ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** No censorship of any kind was exercised beyond the excision by the Collector of Cawnpore, from two telegrams addressed to local newspapers or organisations, of passages of a character which were in his opinion likely to inflame public feeling.

**SPEECH BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE PUNJAB.**

26. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Is it a fact that the substance of the speech which the Governor of the Punjab made immediately on the departure of Lord Irwin from India, relating to nationalist activity, was previously known to and approved of by the Government of India, or its members ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** The Honourable Member presumably refers to the speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor of the Punjab at Khushab on the 25th of April. The substance of this speech was not previously known to the Government of India, but His Excellency the Governor, before making the speech, ascertained that the general trend of it was in accordance with the views of the Government of India.

**SMUGGLING OF OPIUM FROM NEPAL INTO BIHAR AND ORISSA.**

27. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Will Government kindly state what steps, if any, have been taken to check the smuggling of opium from Nepal into the Province of Bihar and Orissa, and with what result (in reference to the reply of Government to my unstarred question No. 31 of the 4th September, 1928) ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** According to my information, the Nepal Government prohibited the production of opium in their territory except for medicinal purposes some time in the end of 1928.

The seizures of opium smuggled from Nepal into Bihar and Orissa have diminished considerably from about 7½ maunds in 1926-27, 3 maunds in 1928-29, to only 2 chhattacks in 1930-31.

### RESIDENTIAL SEGREGATION IN MOMBASA.

28. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Is it a fact that in Mombasa, there has been for many years a residential area reserved exclusively for Europeans ; and the Crown leases contained a specific stipulation to the effect that no Asiatic or African could reside there, except in the capacity of domestic servant of a European resident ?

(b) Is it a fact that the above restriction did not prevent Indians from bidding at the auction of Crown lands, and thus they came to acquire several plots, and put up residential buildings on them, and let the same to European residents ?

(c) Is it a fact that in July, 1928, the Commissioner for Lands for the first time, in a notification for a sale of Crown lands in the European area, added a further restriction forbidding the Asiatics and Africans from even bidding at the auction sales ?

(d) Are Government aware that Mr. Abdul Husein Kaderbhai challenged this action in a court of law ; and ultimately the Privy Council held that no Asiatic or African subject of the Crown could bid at, or purchase Crown lands, or reside in areas reserved for the Europeans ?

(e) Are Government aware of the declaration made by His Majesty's Government in 1923, issued in the form of a White Paper by the Duke of Devonshire, the then Secretary of State for the Colonies, in which it is stated that it is " the view of the competent medical authorities that, as a sanitation measure, segregation of Europeans and Asiatics is not absolutely essential for the preservation of the health of the community ; the rigid enforcement of sanitary, police, and building regulations, without any racial discrimination, by the Colonial and municipal authorities will suffice " ; and that " the policy of segregation as between Europeans and Asiatics in the townships must be abandoned " ?

(f) What steps have Government so far taken, or now propose to take, to secure definitely in actual practice, the abandonment of residential segregation in township areas, in view of the declaration of His Majesty's Government contained in part (e) above, and the decision of the Privy Council referred to in part (d) above ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** (a) and (b). Yes. Some of the leases contained restrictive covenants of such a nature.

(c) Yes. But Government cannot say whether this was the first occasion on which bidding was restricted to a particular community.

(d) The answer to the first part is in the affirmative. The Privy Council held that the Commissioner for Lands had the power to impose restrictions as to bidding and user.

(e) Yes.

(f) The question of the abandonment of the policy of residential segregation as between Europeans and Asiatics in the townships in

East Africa formed the subject of prolonged correspondence between the Government of India and the Secretary of State after the publication of the White Paper of 1923. The situation, which has arisen as a result of the decision of the Privy Council, is under consideration.

**COMMON ELECTORAL ROLL FOR THE KENYA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.**

29. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Is it a fact that the Government of India in their despatch No. 33, dated the 21st October, 1920, regarding the electoral roll for the Kenya Legislative Council, observed as follows :

“ We desire to reiterate our opinion that there should be a common electoral roll and a common franchise on a reasonable property basis, *plus* an educational test, without racial discrimination, for all British subjects. We believe that this is the true solution of the East African problem. We fear that separate representation for different communities will perpetuate and intensify racial antagonism. On the other hand, common electorate, whereby the member of one community would represent constituents of another community, would tend to moderate and compose racial differences ” ?

(b) Do Government propose to give effect to the above principle in the solution of the impending constitutional problem in India ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy.** (a) Yes.

(b) Government are unable to make any statement at present. As the Honourable Member is aware, this is one of the important matters that will be considered by the Indian Round Table Conference.

**SCHEME FOR CLOSER UNION IN EAST AFRICA.**

30. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Will Government kindly explain why they failed to place their views formulated in their despatch of November last before this House, regarding the scheme of a closer union of East Africa ?

(b) Are Government aware that some of the views expressed in that despatch are not supported by the Indian public opinion, either here, or in East Africa, particularly the views that (i) the Government have no objection to the scheme of closer union proposed in the White Paper, and (ii) in regard to the composition of the Central Council, which is to assist the High Commissioner, that “ at least one Indian should be appointed to it from each of the three territories to represent the interests of his community ” ?

(c) Are Government aware that the Indian demand is that half the un-official members nominated from each territory should be Indians ?

(d) Is it a fact that the number of Indian settlers in East African territories is about 27,000, while that of the white settlers is only 9,000 ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** (a) The East African question, so far as it concerns the Indian community settled in these territories, was placed on several occasions before the Standing Emigration Committee. The Committee consisted of Members from both Houses of the Legislature, and the leaders of all political parties were also invited to attend. The opinions expressed at these meetings proved most useful to Government in formulating their views. It is not clear what the Honourable Member means by stating that Government failed to place the despatch before this House.

(b) and (c). The despatch was sent on the 24th November 1930. The Government of India modified their views in certain respects in the light of subsequent events and instructed their spokesman, the Right Honourable V. S. Srinivasa Sastri, to communicate the changes to the Joint Select Committee of Parliament when he appeared for oral examination. The Committee was informed that the Government of India, instead of saying that they had no objection to the scheme of Closer Union which was proposed in the White Paper, would now say that they did not approve of the scheme but that, if the scheme were adopted, they would seek to make the safeguards proposed by them. As regards representation on the proposed Central Council and the Kenya Legislative Council, Mr. Sastri pointed out to the Committee that the Government of India were now of the opinion that African representation should be secured by appointment of natives or, if this was not advisable, then by the appointment of officials. In the event of neither of these alternatives being accepted, the Government of India suggested that Indians, in virtue of their special knowledge of the country, should be appointed equally with Europeans to represent the natives. The modified views of the Government of India were thus substantially in accord with the Indian public opinion, to which the Honourable Member has referred.

(d) The Honourable Member is presumably referring to Kenya only. According to the Census taken in 1926, there were 26,759 Indians and 12,529 Europeans in Kenya.

#### INDIANS REPATRIATED TO INDIA FROM ABROAD.

31. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Will Government kindly lay on the table a statement, showing the number of repatriated Indians returned to India from abroad, during the last 5 years, or for such period for which the figures may be available, giving separately the territories abroad from which they returned, the provinces in India to which they belong, the steps taken by Government to meet their wants, and how they were settled in life ?

(b) With reference to the reply given by the Hon'ble Sir Fazl-i-Husain to a question put in the Council of State on the 25th September, 1929, that " Government are considering whether anything can be done to help the repatriates ", will the Hon'ble Member in charge kindly state if the consideration stage has passed, or still continues ; and if so, with what result ?

(c) Has the attention of Government been drawn to a " Report on the Emigrants Repatriated to India under the Assisted Emigration Scheme from South Africa, and on the Problem of Returned Emigrants from All Colonies ", by Bhawani Dayal Sannyasi, and Benarsidas Chaturvedi (15th May, 1931), depicting the miserable plight of the returned emigrants in India, and the need of urgent relief ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** A statement showing the number of Indian emigrants repatriated since 1928 is laid on the table. As regards the distribution according to provinces, information is not readily available, but the repatriates mostly belong to Madras and the United Provinces. Emigrants returning to Calcutta from the Colonies of Mauritius, Fiji, British Guiana, Trinidad and

Jamaica are received on arrival by the Protector of Emigrants. Some of them have taken up abode in or near Calcutta. The Protector of Emigrants tries to find work for those who are unemployed and sends to the charitable institutions those that are destitute or have been left stranded and helps the sick in being admitted into hospitals. As a result of the facilities offered by the Colonial Governments of British Guiana and Fiji, more than 500 persons were assisted to go back to these Colonies. An attempt to find an outlet for them in Malaya was not successful. As regards those who return from South Africa under the assisted emigration scheme, special arrangements have been made for their reception and for rendering them all possible assistance in banking their savings and finding employment suited to their aptitude and resources. The arrangements are in charge of the Director of Industries in the United Provinces and of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies in Bihar and Orissa. Emigrants returning to these provinces are first sent to Calcutta from Madras. Generally speaking, they have seldom expressed any desire to avail themselves of the facilities provided by Government. The majority of the repatriates from South Africa belong to the Madras Presidency and a Special Officer with necessary staff has been appointed to look after them. The working of this organisation formed the subject of an inquiry by Messrs. Natesan and Gray in April last year. A copy of their report will be found in the Library of the House.

(b) This part of the question apparently relates to the repatriates who have settled down at Matiabruz near Calcutta. The Government of Bengal recently made inquiries whether suitable employment could be found for any of them in the Public Works, Irrigation, Agriculture or Industries Departments, but it was not found possible to do anything in this direction.

(c) Yes.

*Statement showing the number of Indians who were repatriated from the various colonies, etc., since 1928.*

Year.	Name of colony, etc.							
	Mauritius.	Trinidad.	Fiji.	Jamaica.	British Guiana.	South Africa.	Malaya.	Ceylon.
1928 .. ..	367	..	973	..	654	3,477	18,147	3,501
1929 .. ..	112	938	653	..	..	1,328	6,731	3,212
1930 .. ..	..	..	642	425	520	1,012	77,761	7,472
1931 .. .. (up to end of July)	..	1,012	..	..	..	531*	32,456	10,705

\* Does not include arrivals, if any, in Bombay during the month of July.

**Mr. S. G. Jog :** Looking to the financial stringency in India and the question of unemployment in India, will the Government start propaganda and advise the emigrants on the inadvisability of returning to India under the present circumstances ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** I would gladly consider the possibility of moving in that direction if economic depression and financial troubles did not exist where these people are at present living.

**Mr. S. G. Jog :** Is not the position in India at present worse than in Africa ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** It would be very difficult to say.

**Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer :** Are not the emigrants who come back to this country more unhappy in this country than they were in Africa ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** That is not a point on which either the Honourable Member or I can congratulate ourselves.

**Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer :** Will it not be possible for the Government to warn these people of the circumstances that await them, if they were to come back to this country ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** I should see particularly no harm in it. Only I find from these statements that from Malaya 32,456 people have come back already this year. In 1930, 77,761 had returned. Other people also have got no money and they do not want our labour.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Will the Government not facilitate their coming over here ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** When the Sind Barrage Scheme is completed, things may be better.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** The Sind Barrage scheme is nearing completion. Does not the Honourable Member think that it is the duty of the Government to give them a warning and also give them facilities ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** I do not quite understand what the Honourable Member means by giving facilities, unless it be that some money attraction is to be offered to them to come back to their homes.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** I should like to make their passage easy.

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** By giving financial assistance or only by sentiment ?

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Financial assistance.

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** That is worth consideration by the House.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Will the Honourable Member consider that ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** I am afraid that is beyond the function of the Honourable Member in charge of Indians overseas.



**Mr. Lalchand Navarai :** May I request the Honourable Member to refer the matter to the Finance Member ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** I will try to place the matter before the Retrenchment Committee, Sir.

**Sir Hari Singh Gour :** Before the Honourable Member considers the matter favourably, will he also consider how these men who come here from overseas are to live in this country ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** I think that again will have to be referred to an economic committee of the House.

#### NON-REPRESENTATION OF THE PROVINCE OF BIHAR AND ORISSA ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

32. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the following Resolution passed by the First Bihar and Orissa Industrial Conference, which was opened by the Hon'ble Sir Mohammad Fakhruddin, Minister of Education, at Patna in April last (*vide Searchlight*, dated the 22nd April, 1931) :

" This Conference protests against the practical non-representation of the Province (i.e., Bihar and Orissa) in the East Indian Railway Advisory Committee. It urges that a Provincial Advisory Committee should be established immediately, or adequate representation of the Province be given on the Calcutta Committee " ?

(b) What action, if any, is proposed to be taken in the matter ?

**Mr. A. A. L. Persons :** The reply to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. The matter is under consideration.

#### INDIAN AIR SERVICE FROM KARACHI TO CALCUTTA.

33. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Will Government kindly say when the Indian State Air Service from Karachi to Calcutta will begin to operate ; and what approximate time it will take between the two stations ?

(b) How many aeroplanes are required for this service, and how many Indian pilots have been, or are going to be engaged, and at what monthly salary ? How many European pilots are to be engaged ; and at what salary ?

(c) What are the landing places between Karachi and Calcutta on this regular service ; and what part of the route has been, or is going to be, equipped with facilities for night flying ; and how many passengers with what quantity of luggage will it be permissible to carry ?

(d) What is the total amount of expenditure incurred so far in Karachi, in the construction of aerodromes, hangars, night-flying arrangements, establishment, and other heads, to be separately shown ?

**Mr. J. A. Shillidy :** (a), (b) and (c). I regret that no information with regard to the Indian State Air Service can be given until Government have reached a decision on the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee.

(d) The total capital expenditure incurred so far in Karachi is Rs. 5,52,467 as detailed below :—

	Rs.
Cost of acquisition of land .. ..	1,22,180
Cost of preparation of ground .. ..	79,981
Cost of two hangars .. ..	1,78,325
Cost of other buildings, <i>e.g.</i> , quarters for staff, etc. *	1,27,157
Cost of roads in the aerodrome .. ..	36,264
Cost of aerodrome equipment, <i>e.g.</i> , first aid equipment, ambulances, fire extinguishers, weighing machines, etc. .. ..	8,610
	<hr/>
	5,52,467
	<hr/>

This does not include equipment for airships.

\*(Night flying equipment has not been provided but some obstruction lights, the cost of which is included in this figure, have been installed.)

The recurring expenditure at Karachi Aerodrome, based on the estimate for 1931-32, is approximately as under :—

	Rs.
Staff .. ..	9,158
Buildings and Roads .. ..	2,120
Electric and Water services .. ..	9,870
Landing ground .. ..	3,865
Contingencies .. ..	1,740
	<hr/>
	26,753 per annum.
	<hr/>

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** May I take it that the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee will be laid on the table of the House before action is taken thereon ?

**Mr. J. A. Shillidy :** I will take that suggestion into consideration.

**Mr. S. G. Jog :** Are Government aware that there was a very trenchant criticism in the *Times of India* recently under the heading " Behind the smoke-screen of Simla " and that there were some personal attacks against the Finance Member with regard to the State Air Service ?

**Mr. J. A. Shillidy :** Will the Honourable Member show me the article ?

**Mr. S. G. Jog :** I have not got the exact date now, but I have already given the heading. I shall bring it to his personal notice.

#### COMMUTATION OF DEATH SENTENCES.

34. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Will Government kindly state how many cases during the last 5 years came up for the exercise of the prerogative of mercy in cases in which the accused persons were sentenced to

capital punishment ; and in how many cases was the sentence of hanging commuted ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** During the period 1926 to 1930, the Government of India received petitions against the sentence of death under section 401, Criminal Procedure Code in 3,083 criminal cases and death sentences were commuted in the case of 60 persons. I have no information as to the number of such cases disposed of by Local Governments who have concurrent powers under that section.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Will the Honourable Member be pleased to let the House know whether there is any move in the Government of India in the direction of the abolition of capital punishment ? Is there any correspondence which the Government of India may have conducted with Provincial Governments on the subject and which they can lay on the table ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** I would invite the Honourable Member's attention to the debate on the Bill which was moved during the last session by the Honourable Member opposite, Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** And which is coming on to-morrow.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Will the policy of the Government be more liberal in future in regard to granting mercy ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** The Government of India in dealing with these petitions always adopt the greatest measure of leniency which the circumstances and ends of justice permit of, and that policy will continue.

#### DELAY IN OPENING OF THE THIRD CLASS BOOKING OFFICE AT PATNA JUNCTION RAILWAY STATION.

35. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to a letter published in the *Indian Nation* of Patna, dated the 26th May, 1931, complaining that the 3rd class Booking Office at Patna Junction (East Indian Railway) is opened only one hour before the arrival of a train, with the result that the rush at the booking window is terrible ?

(b) Is the 3rd class Booking Office at Patna Junction ordered to be open for 24 hours, or for what period ? And are Government aware that this complaint at Patna Junction has been persistent, and I have had to bring it up before the House ?

(c) What steps do Government propose to take to remove this complaint ?

**Mr. A. A. L. Parsons :** (a) Government have not seen the letter.

(b) Government have no information showing the periods for which booking offices are opened at the various stations, as these periods vary according to local conditions. But from the East Indian Railway Time Table in force from 1st March, 1931, it would appear that Patna is not one of the stations at which booking offices are opened throughout the day. As regards the latter part of this question, I presume the Honourable

Member refers to his question No. 7 which I answered on the 4th September, 1928, but this had reference to the number of booking clerks provided at Patna for the issue of third class tickets.

(c) A copy of the Honourable Member's question and this answer will be forwarded to the Agent of the East Indian Railway for such action as may be found to be required.

**Pandit Ram Krishna Jha :** Will the Honourable Member consider the advisability of making Patna one of those stations where booking can go on for 24 hours ?

**Mr. A. A. L. Parsons :** That is exactly the question which the Agent of the Railway will consider when he receives a copy of the Honourable Member's question and of the answer.

#### CREATION OF AN ALL-INDIA MEDICAL COUNCIL.

36. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Is it a fact that a Medical Conference was held in Simla in June, 1930, to consider the question of the creation of an All-India Medical Council ? Why was not a single representative of the independent medical profession, invited to the Conference ?

(b) When do Government propose to undertake necessary legislation, or take other steps for the creation of an All-India Medical Council ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** (a) Yes. Medical Faculties of Indian Universities on which the independent medical profession is represented were requested to send representatives to the Conference, and three of these who attended it on behalf of the University Medical Faculties were actually independent medical practitioners.

(b) Government have drafted a Bill and circulated it to Local Governments for opinion. Further progress will depend on the nature of the replies received.

#### GOVERNING BODY OF THE INDIAN RESEARCH FUND ASSOCIATION.

37. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Will Government be pleased to give the names of the members of the Governing Body of the Indian Research Fund Association, and indicate how many of them are officials, and how many non-officials ?

(b) What is the annual grant made by Government to this Association ; and do Government propose to appoint a suitable number of members of the independent medical profession, and of the Central Legislature to the Governing Body ? If not, why not ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** (a) A statement is laid on the table. Seven of the members of the Governing Body are officials (including the President) and seven are non-officials.

(b) Rs. 7,50,000 at present. Members of the Central Legislature and the independent medical profession are already on the Governing Body, but the question of revising its composition is under consideration.

STATEMENT.

*List of Members of the Governing Body of the Indian Research Fund Association.*

1. The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain, K.C.I.E., Kt., President.
2. The Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Education, Health and Lands.
3. The Honourable Major General J. W. D. Megaw, C.I.E., K.H.P., I.M.S., Director General, Indian Medical Service.
4. Major General J. D. Graham, C.B., C.I.E., K.H.S., I.M.S., Public Health Commissioner (Secretary).
5. The Honourable Sir Phiroz Sethna, Kt., O.B.E., M.C.S.
6. Raja Bahadur G. Krishnamachariar, C.I.E., M.L.A.
7. Dr. Zia-ud-Din Ahmad, C.I.E., M.L.A.
8. Brevet-Colonel Sir S. B. Christophers, Kt., C.I.E., O.B.E., F.R.S., I.M.S. (Retired), Director, Central Research Institute, Kasauli.
9. Lieutenant-Colonel A. D. Stewart, I.M.S., Director-Designate, All-India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, Calcutta.
10. Major G. Covell, I.M.S., Officiating Director, Malaria Survey of India, Kasauli.
11. Dr. Jivraj M. Mehta, Dean, Seth Gordhandas G. Medical College, Parel, Bombay.
12. Rao Bahadur Dr. A. L. Mudaliar, B.A., M.D.
13. Rajah Sahib of Parlakimedi.
14. One eminent non-medical Scientist to be nominated by the Governor General.

QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATES FOR THE INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE.

38. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Is it a fact that the Secretary of State for India issued a regulation many years ago that all candidates who want to enter the Indian Medical Service, should possess a medical qualification registerable in England ? If so, why ?

(b) Do Government propose to take necessary steps to have this restriction removed ? If not, why not ?

**Mr. G. M. Young :** (a) Yes, in 1865. The object of the rule is to ensure an adequate professional standard in the Indian Medical Service.

(b) Government are considering whether any modification of the rule has become necessary or desirable in consequence of the fact that Indian medical qualifications have ceased for the time being to be registrable in the United Kingdom.

REFUSAL OF A PASSPORT TO ENGLAND TO THE CHIEF REPORTER OF THE *Hindustan Times*.

39. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Is it a fact that Mr. Chaman Lal, Chief Reporter of the *Hindustan Times*, applied for a passport to go to England with Mahatma Gandhi, and report the activities in connection with the Round Table Conference for his paper ; but he has been refused the passport ? If so, why ?

**The Honourable Sir James Ormer :** Yes. From the information in possession of Government regarding his past and recent activities, it is undesirable that a passport be granted.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Will Government kindly indicate the nature of the activities referred to of this particular individual ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** I am afraid I cannot indicate in detail the nature of those activities, but I assure the Honourable Member that it was after a very careful examination of the case that Government came to the conclusion that the action was justified.

**Mr. K. Ahmed :** Is it the same Mr. Chaman Lall who dropped on the head of the then Finance Minister, Sir Basil Blackett, an attache case from the Press Gallery ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** Yes, Sir.

#### INDIAN HOSTEL IN JERUSALEM.

40. **\*Kunwar Hajee Ismail Ali Khan :** (a) Are Government aware that there is one Indian Hostel known as Zawiat-ul-Hanood in Jerusalem which was built by the Moghal Emperors for the free use of Indian pilgrims ?

(b) Will Government kindly inform the House who is in charge of the building now and who is bearing the expenses for its maintenance ?

(c) Are the Government of India contributing anything towards its maintenance ?

(d) Is it under the control of the Palestine Government or the Government of India ?

(e) Will Government kindly inform the House what is the present condition of its building ?

(f) Are the Indian pilgrims staying there free ?

**Mr. E. B. Howell :** (a) There is an Indian hostel known as the Zawiat-ul-Hanood in Jerusalem.

(b) Sheikh Nazir Hasan Ansari, of Saharanpur, in the United Provinces is in charge of the building. The cost of maintenance of the Sheikh and of the pilgrims is paid from the revenues of certain Waqf properties belonging to the Hostel. The Sheikh in charge of the building also receives a monthly salary of pounds Palestinian 9 and 860 mills from the Palestinian treasury and pounds Palestinian 1 and 600 mills from the Moslem Waqf Department.

(c) No.

(d) The Hostel is under the control of the Supreme Moslem Council.

(e) The building is reported to be very old and to require substantial repairs.

(f) Indian pilgrims are provided with accommodation and food in the Hostel free of charge.

#### INDIAN PILGRIMS TO THE HEDJAZ.

41. **\*Kunwar Hajee Ismail Ali Khan :** (a) Will Government kindly inform the House what is the total number of Indian pilgrims who went this year to the Hedjaz from each of the Indian ports ?

(b) What is the total number of these pilgrims who went to the Hedjaz this year *via* the Persian Gulf ?

(c) What is the total number of Indian pilgrims who died this year during their voyage and how many in the Hedjaz ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** (a) 7,263 Indian pilgrims went to the Hedjaz during the last Haj season, of whom 4,300 sailed from Bombay, 2,604 from Karachi, and 359 from Calcutta.

(b) The High Commissioner in Iraq reports that only 27 Indian pilgrims proceeded to the Hedjaz this year *via* Iraq. This figure does not include pilgrims by the cross-Arabia route from Bahrein or Kuwait, the number of whom is always insignificant.

(c) Two Indian pilgrims died during the outward voyage and about 70 in the Hedjaz.

#### INDIAN LABOURERS IN CEYLON.

**42. \*Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer :** (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to an account of the "Special interview" published in a daily newspaper of Madras called *The Hindu* in its issue of the 25th May, 1931, under the title "Indian Labourers in Ceylon" on page 10 of the said paper ?

(b) Is it a fact that the wages of Indian labourers in the tea estates is being reduced ?

(c) If the answer to part (b) is in the affirmative, is the reduction being made on the ground that prices have gone down ?

(d) Is it a fact that the Ceylon Tea Company in London had declared a thirty-five per cent. dividend ?

(e) Is it a fact that the Chairman of the Board of Directors said that they were trying with the consent of the Ceylon Government to reduce the wages of Indian labourers ?

(f) Has the Government of India protested against the said procedure ?

(g) If not, why not ? If yes, when ?

(h) Are Government aware that Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru described the said reduction of wages as "monstrous" ?

(i) Are Government further aware that the opinion of Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru is shared by the public of the Madras Presidency which is the recruiting field for Ceylon labour ?

(j) Are Government aware that Indian labourers in Ceylon are not popular with Ceylon labourers ?

(k) Are Government aware that Ceylon labourers felt that Indian labourers lowered the former's standard of living ?

(l) Is it a fact that the reduction sought in the above said wages of the said Indian labourers is of the legal minimum wage fixed by law ? If so, what is the legal minimum wage and what is the present reduction sought ?

(m) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the statement of Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru in the above said interview, "He had no doubt if the Government of India so choose they could improve the condition of Indian labour" in Ceylon ?

(n) What steps have the Government of India taken to improve the condition of Indian labourers in Ceylon ?

(o) Will Government be prepared to take steps to stop Indian labour from proceeding to Ceylon until labour wages and conditions are made satisfactory ? If not, why not ?

(p) Has any correspondence passed between the Government of India and the Government of Ceylon on the subject and with what result ?

(q) Will Government be pleased to make a full statement on the subject of Indian labour to Ceylon answering points raised in parts (a) to (p), and Government efforts, if any, to mitigate the condition of the said labour ?

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

(b), (c), (f), (g), (l), (p) & (q). The following minimum rates of wages for Indian estate labourers were introduced in Ceylon with effect from the 1st January, 1929 :—

		<i>Men.</i>	<i>Women.</i>	<i>Children.</i>
		Cents.	Cents.	Cents.
Up-country	.. ..	54	43	32
Mid-country	.. ..	52	41	31
Low-country	.. ..	50	40	30

When these wages were fixed, it was arranged, that good clean unbleached rice should also be issued to each Indian labourer at a cost not exceeding Rs. 6.40 per bushel at a monthly rate of not less than  $\frac{1}{4}$ ths of a bushel for a man,  $\frac{6}{8}$ ths of a bushel for a woman and  $\frac{1}{4}$ ths of a bushel for a child. Owing to a fall in the market price of rice, the Ceylon Government approached the Government of India in April last with a proposal that the issue price of rice should be fixed at Rs. 4.80 per bushel and that a corresponding reduction should be made in the standard wages by 5, 4 and 3 cents per day for men, women and children respectively. The Government of India were satisfied that the proposal amounted only to a re-adjustment of wages and caused no reduction in the effectual earnings of the labourers. They accordingly gave their consent to it. The Ceylon Government then summoned Estate Wages Boards for the re-assessment of wages owing to the fall in the general cost of living. It is understood that the suggestions put forward by these Boards have been considered by the Board of Indian Immigrant Labour, but the Government of India have not yet received any communication on the subject from the Colonial Government. They are in close touch with the situation through their Agent and will do all they can to safeguard the interests of the Indian labourer in Ceylon.

(d) The Honourable Member is presumably referring to a Ceylon Tea Company in London known as "The Newara Eliya Tea Estates Company" which declared a dividend of 37 per cent. this year. The properties of this Company are situated in the very highest and best tea districts in Ceylon.

(e) It was one of the Directors who had recently visited Ceylon, and not the Chairman who referred to the proposal for the reduction of minimum wages. The exact words used by him were these :—

"When wages were standardised by Government, the Ordinance linked the rate of pay with the cost of living, the one being dependent on the other. The cost of living



has fallen materially and I am glad that Government have agreed to that question being inquired into with the idea, of putting the wage rates more into relation with the reduced cost of living."

(h) Yes.

(i) Government have no information.

(j) No. There is no ill-feeling. Indian estate labourers, especially on tea estates, fill a void which local labour in Ceylon is unable to fill.

(k) No. On the contrary, the regulations for minimum wage, housing, medical aid, etc., for the Indian labourers are likely to raise the standard of living of the Ceylon labourer as well.

(m) Yes.

(n) The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the annual reports of the Agent of the Government of India in Ceylon for the years 1925 to 1930, copies of which will be found in the library of the House.

(o) Recruitment for rubber estates in Ceylon has entirely ceased, while in the case of tea estates fresh recruiting licenses are not issued, unless special reasons are shown. The Government of India do not consider that any further steps are needed to restrict emigration to that country.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Will the Honourable Member be pleased to state if the Government of India have secured the opinion of the non-official Members of the Ceylon Government with regard to the reduction in the wages of labourers ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** I thought I had made it clear that there were well recognised institutions on both sides which went into these matters and our Agent keeps himself in touch with them.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** What I want to know from the Honourable Member is with regard to the opinion of the non-official Members of the Ceylon Government itself.

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** That will have to be ascertained.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Thank you.

## UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

### DEPRESSION IN THE WOOLLEN INDUSTRY.

1. **Lala Rameshwar Prasad Bagla :** Will Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether they are aware of the serious depression in the woollen trade ;

(b) whether they are aware that the condition of the woollen mills is very serious and precarious ;

- (c) whether they have received several representations and applications from the woollen mills either individually or jointly about the state of the woollen industry ;
- (d) if so, when and from whom ;
- (e) whether a joint representation has been received from several woollen mills ;
- (f) if so, when and the names of the mills which have sent the representation ;
- (g) whether Government intend to take any steps to protect the woollen textile industry ; and
- (h) if so, what action they propose to take in this matter and when ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** The Government have received representations on the subject of the depression in the woollen industry individually from the following mills :

- (1) Maharani Woollen Mills, Limited.
- (2) Indian Woollen Mills.
- (3) Kaiser-i-Hind Woollen, Cotton and Silk Mills, Limited.
- (4) Sir Shapurji Broacha Mills, Limited,

and jointly from the following :

- (1) Maharani Woollen Mills, Limited.
- (2) Indian Woollen Mills.
- (3) Kaiser-i-Hind Woollen, Cotton and Silk Mills, Limited.
- (4) Raymond Woollen Mills, Limited.
- (5) Bombay Woollen Manufacturing Company, Limited.
- (6) Bangalore Woollen, Cotton and Silk Mills Company, Limited.

The individual representations were received at different times during the period from December 1929 to March 1930, and the joint representation was received in December 1930. The Government have not yet come to a decision on these representations, but they expect to reply to them at an early date.

#### CONDITION OF WOOLLEN MILLS IN INDIA.

**2. Lala Rameshwar Prasad Bagla :** Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of woollen mills in India in the year 1913, 1920, and 1930 ;
- (b) the total authorised and paid up capital of all these woollen mills in the years 1913, 1920, and 1930 ;
- (c) the number of woollen mills which have gone into liquidation since the year 1920 ;
- (d) the number of woollen mills which may not have gone into liquidation but which are closed since the year 1920 ; and

- (e) the total amount of the capital and reserve lost by such mills which have gone into liquidation as well as by reduction of capital ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** Complete information regarding the woollen mills in India for the year 1930 is not yet available. I therefore give figures up to and for the year 1929 so far as available.

(a) 1913	..	..	..	7
1920	..	..	..	8
1929	..	..	..	15

(b) *Authorised capital—*

Rs. (000).

1913	..	53,00 (for five mills only).
1920	..	51,75 (for four mills only).
1929	..	2,36,75 (for seven mills only).

*Paid up capital—*

Rs. (000).

1913	..	Not available.
1920	..	36,50 (for three mills only).
1929	..	1,22,73 (for nine mills only).

- (c) Four up to the end of 1929 ; of these one was subsequently amalgamated with another limited company.
- (d) Three.
- (e) Paid up capital lost up to the end of 1929 amounts to Rs. 61,15,000. This excludes the paid up capital of Rs. 26,50,000 of one mill which was amalgamated with another limited concern after going into voluntary liquidation. Government have no information regarding the amount of reserve lost by the mills which have gone into liquidation nor have they information as to the amount lost by reduction of capital.

**APPOINTMENT TO THE IMPERIAL DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE OF CANDIDATES FROM THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, PUSA.**

**3. Lala Rameshwar Prasad Bagla :** (a) Is it a fact that the training given at the Imperial Institute of Agricultural Research, Pusa, is regarded by the Government of India as adequate qualification for class I and class II appointments in the Imperial Department of Agriculture ?

(b) How many appointments have been made to the staff of the Imperial Department of Agriculture in class I and class II grades in the last two years and to what sections ?

(c) How many applications were received for these posts from qualified candidates who had been trained at Pusa ?

(d) How many qualified candidates trained at Pusa were appointed and to what sections ?

(e) Are the Government of India prepared to give preference to qualified candidates who have received training at Pusa in making appointments to the staff of the Imperial Department of Agriculture ?

(f) If the selection of candidates for such posts is referred to the Public Service Commission, are the Government of India prepared to issue instructions that the selection should be made from candidates at Pusa where such candidates are available ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** (a) Yes, provided the candidate is of the right calibre.

(b) and (d). None. Two posts, one of Second Economic Botanist (Class I) in the Botanical Section and the other of a Class II Assistant in the Mycological Section, were advertised recently and candidates selected through the Public Service Commission, but no appointments have yet been made.

(c) Three out of 21 applicants for the post of Second Economic Botanist and 6 out of 30 for the post of Class II Assistant, Mycological Section, had undergone post-graduate training at Pusa.

(e) and (f). In view of the national importance of the Pusa research work, it is essential that only the best available candidates should be appointed to its superior staff. Government are not prepared, therefore, to give any kind of preference to Pusa-trained students, though such students will be eligible for appointment, on the basis of merit and qualifications, equally with other candidates.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS OF DRUG COMMITTEES.

4. **Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Will Government be pleased to supply :

- (a) the summary of the recommendations of the Indigenous Drugs Committee appointed in 1895, and of the Drugs Manufacture Committee appointed in 1918, and the reason for their dissolution ;
- (b) the numbers and names of Indian drugs, recommended for use, and the names and numbers of drugs investigated and manufactured by the Government's Stores and the names of drugs whose cultivation was recommended by the foregoing Committees ; and
- (c) information as to any other Drug Committee appointed by the Government of India during the last 50 years, and the recommendations made by them ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** (a). The Indigenous Drugs Committee appointed in 1895 did not make any final recommendations ; it was dissolved in 1920 as the functions which it was intended to perform came within the scope of the operations of the Drugs Manufacture Committee, which was appointed in 1919. This latter Committee made certain recommendations, a summary of which is appended. The meetings of this Committee were adjourned *sine die* in 1924 on account of financial stringency.

(b) It is not the function of the Medical Stores Department to recommend the use of Indian drugs or to investigate them. 255 drugs are manu-

factured in Medical Store Depots ; their names will be found in the enclosed statement. Neither the Committee of 1895 nor the Committee of 1919 recommended the cultivation of any drugs.

(c) The only other Drugs Committee appointed during the last 50 years is the Drugs Enquiry Committee which was set up in 1930. The report of this Committee is at present being printed and has not yet been considered.

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*Summary of the recommendations of the Drugs Manufacture Committee established in 1919 so far as drugs are concerned.*

(i) Government should appoint without delay at least one out of the three botanists recommended by the Sub-Committee of the Board of Scientific Advice for assisting in obtaining a supply of the variety of *Artemisia Maritima* which yields the valuable and scarce drug Santonin.

(ii) A list of drugs in the British Pharmacopœia derived from purely mineral sources should be prepared for the Director, Geological Survey, who should report as to the possibility of obtaining the necessary raw materials in India.

(iii) The Chief Conservator of Forests, Kashmir, should be advised to export to England and to offer to the Director-General of Stores the quantity of *Artemisia Brevifolia* which he proposed to collect during the season in 1921.

(iv) If *Artemisia Brevifolia* was found in the Darjeeling District in quantity, arrangements should be made with the Director, Botanical Survey of India, for a preliminary extraction of Santonin to be carried out in the quinine factory at Mungpoo.

(v) Exports of *Artemisia Brevifolia* from Indian States, etc., and from zamindari land should not be restricted until it was found that India's requirements and the requirements of the Imperial Government could not be found from other sources, e.g., Government land.

(vi) The Santonin extracted by the Advisory Chemist should be submitted to tests for its therapeutic action.

(vii) The *Digitalis* leaf obtained from the Government cinchona plantations, Nilgiris, the Botanic Gardens, Ootacamund, and the Superintendent of Cinchona Cultivation, Bengal, should be sent to the Medical Store Depot, Madras, for the preparation of tincture from each sample and tested physiologically.

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*List of drugs manufactured in Medical Store Depots.*

1. Acetum Scillæ.
2. Acidum Aceticum.
3. Acidum Hydrocyanicum dilutum.
4. Acidum Phosphoricum dilutum.
5. Acidum Sulphuricum Aromaticum.
6. Amylum (Starch).
7. Antiseptic solution.
8. Argenti Nitras (crystals).
9. Argenti Nitras Induratus.
10. Calcii Chloridum.
11. Camphorodine.
12. Chirata pulvis.
13. Collodium Flexile.
14. Confectio Piperis.
15. Confectio Sennæ.
16. Confectio Sulphuris.
17. Oreta Præparata.
18. *Digitalis foliorum pulvis.*

19. Emplastrum Ammoniacicum Hydrargyro.
20. Emplastrum Belladonnæ.
21. Emplastrum Cantharidini.
22. Emplastrum Hydrargyri.
23. Emplastrum Plumbi.
24. Emplastrum Resinæ.
25. Emplastrum Resinæ (spread).
26. Emplastrum Saponis.
27. Extractum Belæ Liquidum.
28. Extractum Belladonnæ Liquidum.
29. Extractum Belladonnæ Siccum.
30. Extractum Cannabis Indicæ.
31. Extractum Cascaræ Sagradæ Liquidum.
32. Extractum Cascaræ Sagradæ siccum.
33. Extractum Colocynthis Co.
34. Extractum Ergotæ.
35. Extractum Ergotæ Liquidum.
36. Extractum Gentianæ.
37. Extractum Glycyrrhizæ liquidum.
38. Extractum Hamamelidis liquidum.
39. Extractum Hydrastis Liquidum.
40. Extractum Hyoscyami.
41. Extractum Jaborandi liquidum.
42. Extractum Nucis Vomice liquidum.
43. Extractum Nucis Vomice siccum.
44. Extractum Opii Liquidum.
45. Extractum Sarsæ liquidum.
46. Extractum Starmonii.
47. Extractum Viburni liquidum.
48. Ferri Carbonas Saccharatus.
49. Ferri Phosphas Saccharatus.
50. Ferri Sulphas Exsiccatus.
51. Fly Spray.
52. Fly Spfay (concentrated).
53. Gentianæ Radix pulvis.
54. Horse Balls, Aloe, 110 grains each.
55. Horse Balls, Ammonii Carbonas, 110 grains each.
56. Horse Balls, Chloral Hydras, 240 grains each.
57. Horse Balls—Stimulating balls.
58. Hydrargyri Iodidum Rubrum.
59. Hydrargyri Oxidum Flavum.
60. Hydrargyrum Ammoniatum.
61. Hydrargyrum cum Creta Saccharata.
62. Hydrargyrum Oleatum.
63. Ipecacuanhæ Radix pulvis.
64. Lassare paste.
65. Linimentum Aconiti.
66. Linimentum Belladonnæ.
67. Linimentum Camphoræ Ammoniatum.
68. Linimentum Chloroformi.
69. Linimentum Opii.
70. Linimentum Saponis.
71. Linimentum Terebinthinæ.
72. Liquor Ammonis.

73. Liquor Ammoniae Fortis.
74. Liquor Ammonii Acetatis.
75. Liquor Arsenicalis.
76. Liquor Arsenici Hydrochloricus.
77. Liquor Arsenii et Hydrargyri Iodidi.
78. Liquor Bismuthi et Ammonii Citratii.
79. Liquor Epispasticus.
80. Liquor Ferri Perchloridi Fortis.
81. Liquor Morphinae Hydrochloridi.
82. Liquor Picis Carbonis.
83. Liquor Plumbi Subacetatis Fort.
84. Liquor Potassae.
85. Liquor Strychninae Hydrochlroidi.
86. Liquor Zinci Chloridi.
87. Lysol.
88. Magnesii Carbonas Levis.
89. Mel Depuratum (purified honey).
90. Mistura pro Diarrhoea.
91. Mistura Sennae Co.
92. N. C. I. powder (antivermin).
93. Nucis Vomicae pulvis.
94. Oleum Anethi.
95. Oleum Caryophylli.
96. Oleum Crotonis.
97. Oleum Ricini.
98. \*Omum Water.
99. Oxytel Scilla.
100. Paraffin Citronella oil.
101. Paraffinum Molle, antiseptic.
102. Paraffinum Molle, medicated.
103. Pil Aloes et Asafoetida, in mass.
104. Pil Aloes et Ferri, in mass.
105. Pil Aloes et Myrrhae.
106. Pil Calomel, Compound Rhubarb and Colocynth (2 grains of each).
107. Pil Cholera without Opium (4 grains).
108. Pil Colocynthidis et Hyoscyami, 4 grains.
109. Pil Digitalis Co. (Guy's pill), 3 grains.
110. Pil Gallie Acid and Opium, 4 grains.
111. Pil Ipecacuanhae et Opii, 3½ grains.
112. Pil Ipecacuanhae et Scilla, in mass.
113. Pil Opii, 1 grain.
114. Pil Opium, Capsicum, Camphor, Pepper and Asafoetida, ½ grain of each (Pil Opii Co.).
115. Pil Plumbi cum Opio, 4 grains.
116. Pil Plumbi cum Opio, in mass.
117. Pil Rhei Co., in mass.
118. Pil Scilla Co., 4 grains.
119. Pulvis Cretae Aromaticus.
120. Pulvis Cretae Aromaticus cum Opio.
121. Pulvis Glycyrrhizae Co.
122. Pulvis Ipecacuanhae Co.
123. Pulvis Jalapae Co.
124. Pulvis Kino Co.

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\*Stocked at Madras Depot only.

125. Pulvis Rhei Co.
126. Pulvis Tragacanthæ Co.
127. Rhei Rhizoma Pulvis.
128. Santoninum.
129. Sapo Mollis.
130. Sodii Carbonas Exsiccatas.
131. Sodii Chloridum.
132. Sodii Hydnocarpas.
133. Sodii Morrhuas.
134. Sodii Sulphas Exsiccatas.
135. Spiritus Aetheris.
136. Spiritus Aetheris Nitrosi.
137. Spiritus Ammonia Aromaticus.
138. Spiritus Chloroformi.
139. Syrupus Aurantii.
140. Syrupus Calci Hypophosphitis.
141. Syrupus Ferri Iodidi.
142. Syrupus Ferri Phosphatis Co.
143. Syrupus Ferri Phosphatis cum Quinine et Strychina (Easton's Syrup).
144. Syrupus Scilla.
145. Syrupus Tolutanus.

*Tablets Disinfectant.*

146. Acidum Boricum, 5 grains.
147. Potassii Permanganas, 2 grs.
148. Sodii Carbonas, Exsiccatas, 22 grs.

*Tablets Intravenous.*

149. Saline Compound, 36½ grs.
150. Sodium Chloride, 30 grs., Calcium Chloride, 1 gr.
151. Sodium Chloride, 40 grs.

*Tablets Medicinal.*

152. Acidum Acetyl Salicylic, 5 grs.
153. Ammonii Carbonas, 5 grs.
154. Bismuthi Salicylas, 10 grs.
155. \*Cholera.
156. Hydrargyri Subchloridum, 20 grs. (Veterinary), (Yellow).
157. Hydrargyri Subchloridum, 1 gr.
158. Phenacetinum, 5 grs.
159. Phenacetinum, 4 grs. et Caffeina, 1 gr.
160. Plumbi Acetas, 1½ grs. (Veterinary), (Yellow).
161. Potassii, Bromidum, 10 grs.
162. Potassii Chloras, 5 grs.
163. Potassii Iodidum, 5 grs.
164. Potassii Permanganas, Salol coated, 2 grs.
165. Pulvis Oretæ Aromaticus cum Opio, 5 grs.
166. Pulvis Ipecacuanhæ, 5 grs.
167. Pulvis Ipecacuanhæ Co., 5 grs.
168. Pulvis Rhei Co., 5 grs.
169. Quininæ Hydrochloridum Acidum, 5 grs.
170. Quininæ Sulphus, 2 grs.
171. Quininæ Sulphus, 5 grs.

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\*Stocked at Madras Depot only.



172. Santonin, 1 gr.
173. Sodii Bicarbonas, 5 grs.
174. Sodii Salicylas, 5 grs.
175. Trional, 5 grs.
176. Zinci Sulphas, 18 grs. (Veterinary), (Yellow).
177. Argenti Nitras, 5 grs.
178. Soda Mint.
179. Tinct. Aconite, 1 minim.
180. Tinct. Digitalis, 5 minims.
181. Tinct. Nux Vomica, 10 minims.
182. Vinum Ipecacuanhæ, 5 minims.
183. Bismuthi Subnitras, 10 grs.
184. Pulvis Jalapæ Co., 5 grs.
185. Sulphonal, 5 grs.
186. Zinci Sulphas, 1 gr.

*Tablets Ophthalmicæ.*

187. Talc, purified.
188. Tinctura Aconiti.
189. Tinctura Aloës.
190. Tinctura Arnicæ Florum.
191. Tinctura Asafœtidæ.
192. Tinctura Aurantii.
193. Tinctura Belladonnæ.
194. Tinctura Benzoini Co.
195. Tinctura Buchu.
196. Tinctura Calumbæ.
197. Tinctura Camphoræ Co.
198. Tinctura Cannabis Indicæ.
199. Tinctura Capsici.
200. Tinctura Cardamomi Co.
201. Tinctura Chiratzæ.
202. Tinctura Catechu.
203. Tinctura Chloroformi et Morphine Co.
204. Tinctura Cinchonæ Co.
205. Tinctura Cinnamomi.
206. Tinctura Colchici.
207. Tinctura Digitalis.
208. Tinctura Ferri Perchloridi.
209. Tinctura Gelsemii.
210. Tinctura Gentianæ Co.
211. Tinctura Guaiaci Ammoniatæ.
212. Tinctura Hydrastis.
213. Tinctura Hyoscyami.
214. Tinctura Iodi Fortis.
215. Tinctura Iodi Mitis.
216. Tinctura Kino.
217. Tinctura Lavandulæ Co.
218. Tinctura Lobeliæ Aetherea.
219. Tinctura Myrrhæ.
220. Tinctura Nucis Vomice.
221. Tinctura Opil.
222. Tinctura Podophylli.
223. Tinctura Pruni Virginianæ.

224. Tinctura Quassiae.
225. Tinctura Quininae Ammoniate.
226. Tinctura Rhei Co.
227. Tinctura Scillae.
228. Tinctura Senegae.
229. Tinctura Sennae Co.
230. Tinctura Stramonii.
231. Tinctura Strophanthi.
232. Tinctura Valerianae Ammoniate.
233. Tinctura Zingiberis.
234. Unguentum Acidi Borici.
235. Unguentum Creosoti.
236. Unguentum Gallae cum Opio.
237. Unguentum Hydrargyri.
238. Unguentum Hydrargyri Ammoniate.
239. Unguentum Hydrargyri Nitratis.
240. Unguentum Hydrargyri Oleati.
241. Unguentum Hydrargyri Oxidi Flavi.
242. Unguentum Ichthyol.
243. Unguentum Picis Liquidæ.
244. Unguentum Resinae.
245. Unguentum Sabinæ.
246. Unguentum Sulphuris.
247. Unguentum Zinci.
248. Vermijelly (Antivermin ointment).
249. Vinum Antimoniale.
250. Vinum Colechici.
251. Vinum Ferri Citratis.
252. Vinum Ipecacuanhæ.
253. Zinci Carbonas.
254. Zinci Sulphas.
255. Zingiberis Pulvis.

#### CULTIVATION OF DRUGS IN INDIA.

5. **Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** : Are Government aware that half the drugs in the British Pharmacopœia are indigenous to India, and nearly the whole of the rest could be cultivated or exploited as stated by Sir David Hooper, F.I.C. ; if so, will Government be pleased to state what steps have been taken by them to cultivate any of the drugs, and the names of drugs which are being cultivated under their authority ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain** : About half the vegetable drugs of the British Pharmacopœia are indigenous to India. It is doubtful whether all or most of the others can be cultivated or exploited at a profit. Government have cultivated or helped in the exploitation of the following :

Cinchona,  
 Ipecacuanha,  
 Digitalis,  
 Atropa Belladonna,  
 Hydrastis,  
 Lycopodium,

Felix-mas,  
 Artemisia (for Santonin),  
 Scilla,  
 Jalap.

The steps taken to cultivate each drug are indicated below :

*Cinchona* is being cultivated successfully in the plantations of the Government of India in Burma and in the plantations of the Local Governments in Bengal and Madras.

*Ipecacuanha* is being cultivated successfully in the Burma and Bengal Cinchona Plantations.

*Digitalis* was successfully cultivated for a number of years in the Bengal and Madras Plantations, but as the demand had ceased, its cultivation was given up last year.

*Atropa Belladonna* was also successfully cultivated as long as there was a demand.

*Hydrastis* was grown one year in Bengal but was not a success.

*Lycopodium* is still being collected and sold by the Bengal Cinchona Plantation.

*Felix-mas* was also collected as long as there was a demand for it.

The possibilities of *Artemisia* and *Scilla* are being investigated and an officer of the Botanical Survey of India has been deputed to the North-West Frontier Province to assist in the work.

*Jalap* has long been cultivated by the Madras Cinchona Plantation, but the demand has practically ceased.

#### DRUGS AVAILABLE IN INDIA PURCHASED BY GOVERNMENT MEDICAL STORES.

6. **Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** : Will Government be pleased to state the names and cost of drugs available in India, which are being purchased every year by the Government Medical Stores of different provinces ?

**Mr. G. M. Young** : The Government of India have no information as regards drugs purchased by Local Governments. I will furnish the Honourable Member separately with a list showing the names and cost of drugs available in India which are purchased annually by the Medical Store Depots under the control of the Central Government. The list contains 140 different items. Their total cost is Rs. 8,97,743.

#### RESEARCHES INTO THE ACTION OF INDIAN DRUGS.

7. **Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the researches into the action of Indian drugs undertaken by the bacteriological and other institutes established in the different provinces, and by the Indian Science Institute of Bangalore and other science institutes in India ?

(b) Do Government propose to undertake the publication of an Annual Report of Researches into indigenous drugs and therapeutic substances made in the various Government and university and private

institutes in India for the information of the medical profession, chemists, and the public ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** (a) Researches into indigenous Indian drugs have been carried out in recent years principally at the Pharmacological Sections of the School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, Calcutta, and the Haffkine Institute, Bombay. Full information regarding them is contained in the Indian Journals of Medical Research and in the Annual Reports of the Governing Body, and Scientific Advisory Board, Indian Research Fund Association, to which the Honourable Member is referred.

In addition, the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, has investigated many indigenous drugs from the chemical, though not from the physiological point of view ; accounts of the work are given in the institution's Journal.

(b) The answer is in the negative.

#### CHEMICAL PREPARATIONS MANUFACTURED IN INDIA.

**8. Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state how many of the inorganic chemical preparations of the British Pharmacopoeia are now being manufactured in India, and to what extent the Central and Local Governments purchase the same and encourage such Indian industries ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the percentage of drugs and other preparations analysed by Government officers and condemned by them as adulterated, deteriorated or misbranded for the last 10 years, and what steps Government have taken to ensure purity and potency of the drugs supplied to the Government's hospitals, dispensaries, the Army, etc. ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** (a) The Medical Stores Depots of the Central Government at present manufacture in India about 36, and purchase about 17 inorganic chemical preparations of the British Pharmacopoeia in this country. Government have no further information and are not aware to what extent Local Governments manufacture or purchase such preparations in India for themselves.

(b) No information is available as to the percentage of drugs condemned on analysis by Government officers, whether belonging to the Medical Stores Depots or serving under Local Governments or as to the steps taken by Local Governments to ensure the purity of drugs supplied to them and their institutions. All drugs supplied by the Medical Stores Depots are, however, fully tested either by Chemists of the Depots or by Chemical Examiners to ensure that they are of standard quality.

#### STOCKS OF QUININE IN INDIA.

**9. Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Will Government be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of bark and alkaloids of cinchona in stock at its depots ;

(b) the numbers of years during which these stocks have been accumulated ;

- (c) the cost of stock when purchased, and the current estimate of the cost ;
- (d) the deterioration, if any, and consequent depreciation from the keeping ;
- (e) the rules of the Government of India Act under which the purchases were made ; and
- (f) the rules, if any, which prohibit the utilisation of the huge stock of quinine for the relief of millions of sufferers from malaria and for prevention of deaths of lakhs of such sufferers every year ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazi-i-Husain :** (a) The Government of India stocks on the 1st April, 1931, were as follows :

	lbs.
Cinchona bark .. .. .	5,38,100
Quinine Sulphate .. .. .	3,05,561
Cinchona febrifuge .. .. .	29,688

(b) Since 1919.

(c) This question is not understood. The present stock was not all purchased. The Government of India have a plantation of their own in Burma and the bark from this plantation is worked up into quinine. The present value of the stocks mentioned in the reply to part (a) is as follows :

	Rs.
Cinchona bark .. .. .	2,84,974
Quinine Sulphate .. .. .	55,00,098 (at Rs. 18 per lb.)
Cinchona febrifuge .. .. .	2,67,192 (at Rs. 9 per lb.)

(d) The stock does not deteriorate or depreciate by keeping.

(e) The purchases were made in the public interest to keep sufficiently large stocks of quinine to provide for the contingency of an increased demand due to a severe epidemic of malaria, and also to guard against the effects of a possible combination among producers or manufacturers.

(f) The Government of India are not aware of any such rules.

#### MALARIA CASES AND THE SUPPLY OF QUININE.

10. **Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Are Government aware that :

- (1) the Government hospital and dispensary figures show (i) over 80,00,000 of malaria cases treated therein, whilst, (ii) the number of sufferers who do not attend such hospitals stands at 10,00,00,000 and deaths per year number over 13,00,000 ;
- (2) the potential demand for quinine varies between 1,50,000 lbs. for class (i), and 15,00,000 lbs. for class (ii) per annum ; and
- (3) the Public Health Commissioner states that " There is no question of effective treatment of malaria in India until consumption of quinine approximates 5,00,000 lbs." ?

(b) Do Government accept the above estimates ; and, if so, do they provide for the supply of this quantity per annum ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazi-i-Husain :** The figures appear to have been taken from the Report of the Public Health Commissioner with the Government of India for the year 1922. They have

been quoted correctly except in one respect. The figure in part (2) of the question should be 1,25,000 instead of 1,50,000. It may also be mentioned that, if the estimate of annual deaths from malaria referred to in part (1) of the question is based on the figures given on page 99 of the Report, these figures relate only to a few provinces, and not to the whole of India.

(b) These are estimates only and are a matter of opinion. The quantity of quinine sulphate and cinchona febrifuge issued from the stocks of the Government of India and the Governments of Bengal and Madras amounted to 1,09,439 lbs. in 1928-29 and 91,858 lbs. in 1929-30. The question of the adoption of a policy to encourage the use of quinine is for Provincial Governments to consider.

#### TREATMENT OF MALARIA AND AREA OF CINCHONA PLANTATIONS.

11. **Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Will Government please state when they will be in a position to make efficient provision for effective treatment of malaria in India ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to supply figures in acres for consecutive years, from the year of establishment, of cinchona plantations in Madras, Bengal and Burma, the total output of the bark every year, the amount of alkaloids turned out by Government factories and the price at which the salts made in these factories are sold year after year and the accepted total yield of all the plantations within the next 5 years ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :** (a) The Honourable Member apparently does not seem to be satisfied with the "effectiveness" so far secured. He may rest assured that those engaged in the investigations bearing on this subject are as anxious as he is to make the remedy more effective.

(b) A statement giving the necessary information is appended.

*Statement referred to in the reply to part (b) of question No. 11.*

#### A.—BURMA PLANTATIONS.

Year.	Acres.	Output of Bark.	Amount of Alkaloids.		Selling price per lb.	
			Quinine Sulphate.	Cinchona Febrifuge.	Quinine Sulphate.	Cinchona Febrifuge.
		lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	Rs.	Rs.
1924-25	100	..	..	..	..	..
1925-26	99	..	..	..	..	..
1926-27	147	18,965	..	..	..	..
1927-28	122	48,261	945	369	18	9
1928-29	66	1,08,588	2,170	1,260	18	9
1929-30	180	1,42,268	559	480	18	9
1930-31	149	1,31,533	2,786	2,813	18	9

#### 2. Expected annual yield for the next five years.

An average of 140,000 lbs. of bark.

An average of 4,600 lbs. of Quinine Sulphate.

An average of 2,700 lbs. of Cinchona Febrifuge.

This average is given on the assumption that no further areas will be planted in Burma.

## B.—MADRAS PLANTATIONS.

Year.	Acres.	Output of bark.	Amount of alkaloids.		Selling price per lb.	
			Quinine Sulphate.	Cinchona Febrifuge.	Quinine Sulphate.	Cinchona Febrifuge.
		lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	Rs.	Rs.
1922-23 ..	1,482	2,38,871	32,465	11,290	36, 27*	8
1923-24 ..	1,397	2,57,707	28,560	17,442	27	8
1924-25 ..	1,367	2,77,984	23,590	11,430	27	8
1925-26 ..	1,308	2,91,825	25,075	10,324	24	9
1926-27 ..	1,451	2,81,485	21,915	10,101	24, 1st†	9
1927-28 ..	1,567	2,28,409	23,810	15,158	18	9
1928-29 ..	1,858	1,94,299	22,085	17,088	18	9
1929-30 ..	1,857	1,52,421	23,474	14,873	18	9
1930-31 ..	2,002	1,65,571	21,368	10,916	18	9

\*Rs. 27 from November 1922.

†Rs. 18 from May 1926.

NOTE.—(i) As the records were not readily available, the statement has been prepared from the year 1922-23 instead of from 1863 when the plantations were first formed in Madras.

(ii) The amount of alkaloids shown each year is derived from (a) the plantation output and (b) cinchona bark purchased from private planters.

2. Expected annual yield for the next five years.

An average of 2,32,880 lbs. of bark.

An average of 10,044 lbs. of quinine sulphate.

An average of 3,892 lbs. of cinchona febrifuge.

## C.—BENGAL PLANTATIONS.

Year.	Acres.	Output of bark.	Amount of alkaloids.		Selling price per lb.	
			Quinine Sulphate.	Cinchona Febrifuge.	Quinine Sulphate.	Cinchona Febrifuge.
		lbs.	lbs. oz.	lbs. oz.	Rs. as.	Rs. as.
1869-70 ..	No record of acreage kept.	2,400	..	..	..	..
1870-71 ..		12,500	..	..	..	..
1871-72 ..		39,000	..	..	..	..
1872-73 ..		..	..	..	..	..
1873-74 ..		16,000	..	..	..	..
1874-75 ..		39,405	..	48 10	..	..
1875-76 ..		2,11,931	..	1,940 6	..	..
1876-77 ..		2,07,781	..	3,750 12	..	16 0
1877-78 ..		3,44,225	..	5,182 0	..	16 8
1878-79 ..		2,61,659	..	7,007 0	..	16 8
1879-80 ..		3,61,590	..	9,434 13	..	16 8
1880-81 ..		3,77,525	..	9,296 0	..	16 8
1881-82 ..		3,41,570	..	8,010 0	..	16 8
1882-83 ..		3,96,980	..	10,663 4	..	16 8
1883-84 ..		3,05,160	..	8,714 0	..	16 8
1884-85 ..		3,39,201	..	6,464 0	..	16 8
1885-86 ..		2,05,416	..	4,743 0	..	16 8
1886-87 ..		2,25,631	..	6,790 0	..	16/8 to 24

## C.—BENGAL PLANTATIONS—contd.

Year.	Acres.	Output of bark.	Amount of alkaloids.		Selling price per lb.	
			Quinine Sulphate.	Cinchona Febrifuge.	Quinine Sulphate.	Cinchona Febrifuge.
		lbs.	lbs. oz.	lbs. oz.	Rs. as.	Rs. as.
1887-88 ..		2,90,410	331 8	6,917 0	24 14	16/8 to 24
1888-89 ..		3,73,100	2,191 0	6,384 0	20 0	16/8 to 22
1889-90 ..		3,04,785	1,833 2	6,578 0	17/8 to 20	16/8 to 19/8
1890-91 ..		2,93,972	4,010 0	4,031 9	17 to 20	14 to 17/8
1891-92 ..		2,85,580	4,566 0	4,190 0	16 to 20	10 to 14
1892-93 ..		3,04,390	5,242 4	3,481 8	13/6 to 16	10 to 12
1893-94 ..		4,25,010	4,765 0	3,848 0	13/6 to 16	10 to 12
1894-95 ..		5,00,534	8,317 15	4,082 0	13/6 to 16	10 to 12
1895-96 ..		4,67,190	9,004 0	3,124 0	14 to 16	10 to 12
1896-97 ..		6,29,222	10,672 14	3,452 0	14/8 to 18	10 to 12
1897-98 ..		3,18,715	10,148 12	4,075 0	11 to 15	10 to 12
1898-99 ..		2,36,098	10,335 4	3,912 0	13/3 to 17	10 to 12
1899-1900 ..		2,08,652	8,799 8	4,046 0	14/8 to 17	10 to 12
1900-01 ..		1,98,023	7,347 0	2,488 0	14/8 to 18	10 to 12
1901-02 ..		2,03,405	10,010 12	3,424 0	14/8 to 17	10 to 12
1902-03 ..		2,35,605	11,927 4	4,348 0	14/8 to 17	10 to 12
1903-04 ..		3,16,757	12,314 8	3,800 0	14/8 to 16	10 to 12
1904-05 ..		3,11,278	13,068 12	2,026 0	11/6 to 16	7/8 to 9
1905-06 ..		3,73,813	15,777 12	5,462 0	10/6 to 16	7/8 to 9
1906-07 ..		4,29,557	16,065 4	2,652 0	10/6 to 15	7/8 to 9
1907-08 ..		4,45,638	27,564 0	3,370 0	10/6 to 15	7/8 to 9
1908-09 ..		4,51,768	36,619 5½	7,281 12	10/6 to 15	7/8 to 9
1909-10 ..		3,26,559-1	23,097 4	2,890 0	10 to 15	7/8 to 9
1910-11 ..		5,00,960	39,980 9	..	10 to 15	7/8 to 9
1911-12 ..	1,558	2,99,390	40,378 12	6,004 0	10 to 15	7/8 to 9
1912-13 ..	1,779	6,11,338	43,853 0	6,949 12	10 to 15	7/8 to 9
1913-14 ..	2,246	6,90,524	51,562 0	7,361 0	13 to 21/14	5 to 6
1914-15 ..	2,552	6,80,375	34,650 0	5,307 0	13 to 21/14	5 to 6
1915-16 ..	2,295	5,69,337	41,814 8	12,027 2	14/8 to 17	5 to 6
1916-17 ..	2,405	4,99,417	20,903 8	..	21/8 to 26/8	5 to 6
1917-18 ..	2,514	6,18,703	29,417 8	8,518 0	21/14 to 30	5 to 6
1918-19 ..	2,600	8,22,779	32,640 4	11,439 12	26 to 28	5 to 7
1919-20 ..	3,080	5,20,243	18,138 4	15,166 0	24 to 26	7 to 8
1920-21 ..	3,236	5,01,018	23,984 12	10,626 8	33 to 35	10 to 12
1921-22 ..	3,127	57,562	22,713 0	6,712 0	48 to 50	8 to 10
1922-23 ..	3,026	5,57,037	21,550 6	8,294 0	36 to 38	8 to 10
1923-24 ..	3,055	6,51,452	19,207 6½	7,857 8	27 to 29	9 to 11
1924-25 ..	3,060	3,98,872	19,230 12	8,098 12	24 to 28	9 to 11
1925-26 ..	3,153	5,38,783	17,378 6	9,168 0	24 to 26	9 to 11
1926-27 ..	4,742*	6,69,066	35,538 7	11,411 0	18 to 20	9 to 11
1927-28 ..	3,162	9,17,259	43,970 0	16,730 0	18 to 20	9 to 11
1928-29 ..	2,986	10,41,827	36,523 0	17,371 0	18 to 20	9 to 11
1929-30 ..	2,877	11,30,402	43,031 0	20,078 0	18 to 20	9 to 11
1930-31 ..	2,658	14,76,059	37,638 0	16,953 0	18 to 20	9 to 11

\*Acres of ground cultivated.

NOTE.—From 1862 to 1864 experiments were carried out. The first plantations were harvested in 1869-70, from which year figures are shown.

2. Expected annual yield for the next five years.

An average of 11,00,000 lbs. of bark with quinine contents 44,000 lbs.



## PRICES OF QUININE.

12. **Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Are Government aware that the quinine ring of Amsterdam controls the world prices of quinine and that the sufferers from malaria in India are deprived of the only specific treatment owing to the heavy cost of quinine ? Under the circumstances, will Government please state the measures they propose to take for regulating the necessary supply of quinine to the 10,00,000 sufferers in India ?

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazli-Husain :** The world price of quinine is affected by the existence of the ring to which the Honourable Member has referred. The consumption of quinine does not, however, seem to fluctuate with the price as it has not varied appreciably during the last ten years, though the price has fallen gradually from 3s. 5d. to 1s. 8d. an ounce. As regards the second part of the question, medical relief is a provincial transferred subject and is the concern of Provincial Governments. The Government of India have under consideration the question of disposing of their surplus stocks of quinine.

## GRANT OF SPECIAL RAILWAY FREIGHT RATES FOR GRAINS, SEEDS, ETC., FROM POONA.

13. **Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Are Government aware that owing to heavy fall in market rates, especially of grain, pulses, etc., the situation of trade, and the economic condition of the agriculturists, have become very serious ?

(b) Are Government aware that Patna City and Ghat are important centres of trade in such goods, being the capital of the Province of Bihar and Orissa ; but have been at a disadvantage in respect of railway rates and freights ?

(c) Is it a fact that there is a special station to station rate for cotton (raw) from Etawah (East Indian Railway) to Bhagalpur (East Indian Railway), while there are no such rates for Patna City and Ghat ?

(d) Are Government aware that a representation, dated the 6th February, 1931, was submitted by the mill-owners and merchants of Patna to the Agent, East Indian Railway, praying for a grant of special rates for grains, seeds, and pulses between Patna and the leading railway stations on the line ?

(e) Do Government propose to take any action in the matter ?

**Mr. A. A. L. Parsons :** (a) Yes. The fall in prices of agricultural produce is one of the causes of the world-wide trade depression and has affected the agriculturist severely.

(b) The reply to the first part is in the affirmative and to the second part in the negative.

(c) The special station to station rate for cotton (raw) from Etawah to Bhagalpur also applies from Etawah to Patna City and Patna Ghat.

(d) Yes.

(e) No. The matter is one within the competence of the East Indian Railway Administration to deal with.

## COST OF MAINTENANCE OF THE EXCHANGE RATIO AT 1s. 6d.

14. **Major Nawab Malik Talib Mehdi Khan :** (a) Will Government kindly state the total amount in rupees of the Indian Currency Reserve which existed in England in the year preceding the year in which the exchange ratio was raised from 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d. for a rupee ?

(b) Will Government kindly state the total amount of Indian Currency Reserve which existed in England on the 1st July, 1931 ?

(c) Will Government kindly state if the raising of the exchange ratio from 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d. is costing the Government of India any money ; if so, what is the extent of such loss per annum ? If there is any loss, how do Government justify it, and how do the Government of India propose to meet it, when the Indian Currency Reserve in England is finished ?

(d) Is it a fact that the raising of the exchange ratio has adversely affected the prices of Indian agricultural produce in the world market ; if so, to what extent ?

(e) Is it a fact that the raising of the exchange ratio has taken out of the pocket of the Indian farmer two annas in every rupee of the total value of exports of Indian raw material, and put two annas extra per rupee into the pockets of those foreigners who import goods into India ?

(f) How long do the Government of India wish to continue this drain on Indian wealth through this artificial and raised exchange ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** (a) The implication underlying this and other parts of this question that the rupee ratio was raised from 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d. by the Currency Act of 1927 is not correct. The ratio was legally stabilised at 1s. 6d. by that Act in the sense that the Act imposed a statutory obligation to maintain the ratio at that figure. The rupee had been *de facto* stable at about 1s. 6d. since September, 1924. The cost price of sterling securities held in the Paper Currency Reserve in London on the 31st March, 1927, was Rs. 5,57,16,400 at 2s. to the rupee.

(b) No portion of the Paper Currency Reserve was held in England on the 1st July, 1931.

(c) The only direct effect on the Government Budgetary position of maintaining the ratio at 1s. 6d. instead of say 1s. 4d. is to reduce the amount of rupees which have to be raised to meet the Government's annual sterling obligations by 1/9th. That is to say, taking the normal sterling obligation at £30 millions per annum, if the rupee stands at 1s. 6d., the Government have to raise Rs. 40 crores to meet them, whereas if the rupee stood at 1s. 4d., the Government would have to raise Rs. 45 crores. Therefore the immediate effect on the Government's Budget of dropping the rupee to 1s. 4d. would be to make it necessary to raise over 5 crores more of revenue.

(d) The price of the Indian products in the world markets being based on external currencies is not affected by the rupee ratio.

(e) The amount of rupees received in India by a man who sells goods in the world market is affected in the sense that if the gold value of the rupee is increased the seller receives proportionately less rupees. On the other hand these rupees are worth more in terms of gold or foreign currencies and therefore they can buy correspondingly more goods. As far as trade is concerned, therefore, the position is exactly the same and

the Indian producer neither loses nor gains anything so far as the price received for the goods which he sells is spent by him in buying other goods. Equally the foreigners who import goods into India neither gain nor lose anything. They also receive a smaller number of rupees for what they sell in India if the gold value of the rupee is higher. On the other hand for them also the smaller number of rupees is worth more.

(f) The Government of India cannot repudiate their statutory obligations.

As it is impossible to deal adequately with these points in reply to questions, I would invite the attention of the Honourable Member to the speech delivered by me at the annual meeting of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry at Delhi on the 8th April, 1931, a copy of which is being furnished to the Honourable Member.

#### PASSPORTS FOR AFGHANISTAN GRANTED TO INDIANS.

†15. **Mr. N. B. Gunjal** : Will Government be pleased to state :—

- (a) the number of Indians who had applied for passports to Afghanistan after the accession of H. M. King Nadir Shah ; and
- (b) how many of them were granted passports ?

#### HOLDERS OF AFGHAN PASSPORTS REFUSED PERMISSION TO ENTER INDIA.

16. **Mr. N. B. Gunjal** : Will Government be pleased to state :—

- (a) how many holders of Afghan passports were allowed to enter India after the accession of H. M. King Nadir Shah ; and
- (b) how many holders of such passports were refused permission ?

**Mr. E. B. Howell** : Sir, with your permission, I propose to answer questions Nos. 15 and 16 together.

The necessary information is being collected and will be communicated to the Honourable Member in due course.

#### THE ARMY IN INDIA RESERVE OF OFFICERS.

17. **Mr. N. B. Gunjal** : (a) What is the present total strength of the Army in India Reserve of Officers and what is the number of officers in each category ?

(b) What is the total number of Indians out of these in the Army in India Reserve of Officers ?

(c) What is the number of Indians in each separate category ?

(d) What are their professions in civil life ?

(e) Are Government aware of any Indian officers of the Army in India Reserve of Officers who are willing to transfer their services from the Army in India Reserve of Officers to the regular standing Army ?

(f) Are Government prepared to transfer the services of any such officers who may be so willing ?

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†For answer to this question, see answer to unstarred question No. 16.

(g) What are the conditions, if any, under which such transfer of services can be made ?

(The questions relate to peace-time transfer of services.)

(h) What is the policy of Government in the matter of recruitment of officers in the Army in India Reserve of Officers ?

Mr. G. M. Young : (a), (b), (c) and (d).—

Category.	Number of Officers appointed.		Total.
	European.	Indian.	
1. Staff .. .. .	139	11	150
2. Cavalry .. .. .	107	4	111
2. Royal Tank Corps .. .. .	15	..	15
2. Remounts .. .. .	13	1	14
3. Artillery .. .. .	49	..	49
4. Engineers .. .. .	131	3	134
5. Signals .. .. .	37	..	37
6. Infantry .. .. .	305	15	320
7. Recruiting .. .. .	24	36	60
7. Miscellaneous Duties .. .. .	100	29	129
8. I. A. S. C. (Supplies) .. .. .	110	7	117
8. I. A. S. C. (Animal Transport) .. .. .	42	5	47
8. I. A. S. C. (Mechanical Transport) .. .. .	100	5	105
9. I. A. S. C. .. .. .	14	..	14
10. Ordnance Factories and Inspection .. .. .	18	1	19
11. Medical and Dental .. .. .	30	312	342
12. Veterinary .. .. .	3	4	7
Totals .. .. .	1,237	433	1,670

Number of Indian gentlemen appointed to the Reserve .. .. . 433

Professions—

Landlords .. .. .	23
Veterinary College Professors .. .. .	8
Employees—Government Cattle Farms .. .. .	2
Indian and Provincial Civil Services .. .. .	18
Munsifs, Vakeils, and Judges .. .. .	9
Professors and Lecturers .. .. .	5
Independent .. .. .	8
Private Businessmen .. .. .	11
Engineers .. .. .	12
Journalist .. .. .	1
Accountants .. .. .	2
Insurance Agents .. .. .	2
Government Contractors .. .. .	5
Pensioners .. .. .	2
Forest Officer .. .. .	1
Barristers .. .. .	4
Quartermaster Executive Officers .. .. .	4
Police Service .. .. .	3
Postal Service .. .. .	1
Students .. .. .	4
Doctors .. .. .	813
Total .. .. .	433

(e) No.

(f) No, Sir. The Army in India Reserve of Officers is not a channel of appointment to the regular Army, nor are its officers eligible for such appointment.

(g) None.

(h) The policy is to build up among civilians a reserve of officers that can be drawn upon in war.

**LIFE SENTENCES AWARDED TO PANDIT JAGAT RAM AND BHAI JAWALA SINGH.**

18. **Bhai Parma Nand :** (a) What is the usual time-limit for such prisoners as have been sentenced to transportation for life ?

(b) Will Government please state whether special and ordinary remissions are allowed to be deducted from that period ?

(c) What is the actual period of imprisonment which Pandit Jagat Ram and Bhai Jawala Singh have undergone ever since they were punished in the Lahore conspiracy case in the year 1914-15 ?

(d) While at Port Blair Jail, did Pandit Jagat Ram earn any remission and, if so, how much ? Did he earn any remission under the two-third system during this period ?

(e) Taking these different periods of remission and adding them to the actual jail period, what is the total period of punishment undergone by Pandit Jagat Ram ?

(f) Is it a fact that all the Superintendents of Jails, in which Pandit Jagat Ram has been kept, as well as the Inspectors General of Prisons of the various provinces, where he had to spend his time, have highly spoken of his behaviour in jail and recommended his release ?

(g) If the answer to question part (f) be in the affirmative, what are the grounds on which Pandit Jagat Ram has not been released as yet ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** (a) A sentence of transportation for life is actually a sentence for life and its limitation to a period of years is a matter for the Local Government concerned. There are executive orders directing the consideration of the cases of prisoners serving sentences of transportation for life in a Jail in India at the end of 14 years, but it is for the Local Government to decide whether at the end of that time he should be released.

(b) Yes.

(c) On the 1st September the period of imprisonment undergone by Pandit Jagat Ram was 15 years, 11 months and 18 days. I have no information about Bhai Jawala Singh, but I have called for it and will supply it to the Honourable Member in due course.

(d) He earned a remission of 2 years and 1 month while he was at Port Blair. I am not aware to what rule the Honourable Member is referring.

(e) On the 13th January, 1931, the period of remission added to the period of imprisonment amounted to 19 years, 8 months and 4 days.

(f) and (g). I have made enquiries and will communicate the result to the Honourable Member in due course.

#### RETRENCHMENT OF TEMPORARY RAILWAY ENGINEERS.

19. **Bhai Parma Nand :** (a) How many temporary engineers on different Railways have been reduced under the new retrenchment scheme ? About how many years' service each of them had put in the Railway Department ? At the time of discharge were their names noted and were they given any promise of enlistment as soon as any opportunities occurred ?

(b) Is it a fact that after their discharge a number of engineers have been employed, thus depriving the old and experienced hands, who had served up to eight years, of any chance of getting employment again ? If so, why were the retrenched hands not re-employed ?

**Mr. A. A. L. Parsons :** I have called for information and will communicate with the Honourable Member on its receipt.

#### APPOINTMENTS TO ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENTS OF THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

20. **Bhai Parma Nand :** (a) Is it a fact that paragraph 9 of the Railway Board's Memorandum No. 5565-F., dated the 31st July, 1929, lays it down that any person appointed to the Accounts Department of the East Indian Railway between the 30th November, 1925, and the 31st December, 1928, or to the Clearing Accounts Office, or to work connected with the Clearing Accounts Experiments between the 16th November, 1925, and the 31st December, 1928, or to the office of the Controller of Railway Accounts between the 1st October, 1928, and 31st December, 1928, will be eligible for confirmation in the actual rank or grade which he held on the 1st April, 1929, without being required to pass any examination ?

(b) Are Government aware that a large number of employees, in the hope of being confirmed, have continued their service, though they have attained the age of 25, rendering them unfit for any other Government service ?

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

(b) There is a certain number of employees waiting for confirmation who belong to the category referred to in (a), but their confirmation depends upon vacancies and the claims of other men who have qualified themselves for confirmation by passing the necessary examination.

#### COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION IN THE NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT.

21. **Bhai Parma Nand :** (a) Is it a fact that since the inauguration of the policy of communal representation in services the North Western Railway Accounts Department have allowed non-Hindus a very large share in appointments ?

(b) Is it a fact that in spite of the two conditions under the retrenchment Scheme referred to in the preceding question as many as sixty, or even more, Hindus have been discharged as compared to six persons belonging to the so-called minority communities and that non-Hindus with very little service have been retained in preference to Hindus with long years of service to their credit ?

(c) Is it a fact that some of these non-Hindus who were retained were recruited after the 1st April, 1929, against temporary posts of specified duration under the clear understanding that such temporary staff would not be absorbed against the permanent post without their passing a fixed examination? Is it a fact that the Chief Accounts Officer, Lahore, passed definite orders on 1st April, 1931, that in the case of substitute clerks appointed after 1st April, 1929, no reference to communal representation should be made in ordering their wholesale discharge which should be based solely on the length of service?

(d) How many of the Hindus brought under reduction had rendered one year's service? How many of the Hindus had rendered more than two years' service? How many of the non-Hindus retained had done less than one year's service?

(e) Is it a fact that a large number of telegrams and memorials have been sent to the authorities by the Hindu employees who have been discharged at Delhi, Quetta, Karachi and Multan Cantonment? If so, what did the Financial Commissioner do, or what does he intend to do, to maintain the principle of equal treatment for the employees of all communities?

**Mr. A. A. L. Parsons :** Enquiries are being made and the result will be communicated to the Honourable Member shortly.

#### EMPLOYMENT IN THE POSTAL DEPARTMENT OF THE SONS OF POSTAL EMPLOYEES.

**22. Mr. B. Sitaramaraju :** (a) Is it the policy of Government to give preference to the sons of postal employees in the matter of entertaining candidates in that departmental service?

(b) If so, have any orders been issued to that effect?

(c) If the answer to part (b) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state whether those orders were given effect to in the Madras Circle; if not, why not?

**Sir Hubert Sams :** (a) There are at present no rules on the subject, but in practice some preference is given.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

#### TRANSFER OF DEPUTY POSTMASTERS-GENERAL BETWEEN MADRAS AND LAHORE.

**23. Mr. B. Sitaramaraju :** (a) Is it a fact that the Deputy Postmasters-General of Madras and Lahore are under orders of transfer to exchange places?

(b) If so, will Government state whether the transfers from one end of the country to the other would involve a heavy expenditure of about Rs. 5,000?

(c) Are Government prepared to consider the desirability of avoiding long distance transfers involving heavy expenditure?

**Sir Hubert Sams :** (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

CONFERENCE RELATING TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE  
TREATMENT OF FOREIGNERS.

24. **Mr. Jamal Muhammad Saib :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state :

- (i) whether they were a party to the first Conference relating to the International Convention on the Treatment of Foreigners ;
- (ii) whether they are invited to the second Conference ; and
- (iii) whether they have any information as to the dates of the holding of the second session of the Conference ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table for the information of the House the conclusions reached by the first session of the Conference ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have been invited to submit any observations on the conclusions of the first Conference and whether they have submitted any observations ?

(d) If the replies to the above parts be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to lay on the table for the information of the House a copy of their observations ?

(e) Is it a fact that the Committee of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry asked Government for a copy of their observations on the Draft Convention and that Government declined to furnish the Committee of the Federation with a copy thereof ? If so, will Government be pleased to state the reasons which actuated them in declining to furnish a copy ?

(f) Is it a fact that these observations are in due course published by the League of Nations for the information of all the countries and are treated as a public document ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** (a) (i) Yes.

(ii) and (iii). The Government have not received an invitation to the second session of the Conference, the date for which, so far as they are aware, has not yet been fixed.

(b) A copy of the proceedings of the first session of the Conference is already available in the Library.

(c) The answers to both questions are in the affirmative.

(d) Government regret that they are unable to lay a copy of their observations on the table.

(e) Government were unable to comply with the request of the Committee of the Federation for a copy of their observations, as it would not be in accordance with the usual practice to disclose the contents of communications made to the Secretary General of the League of Nations in advance of their publication by the League. I may add that a copy of the proceedings of the Conference was supplied to the Federation.

(f) I understand that the usual practice is as stated by the Honourable Member.

IMPORTATION OF CHEAP RUBBER AND CANVAS SHOES FROM JAPAN.

25. **Mr. Jamal Muhammad Saib :** (a) Are Government aware that the import of cheap rubber and canvas shoes from Japan during the last



three years has risen in value from Rupees 3 lakhs in 1928-29 to the enormous sum of Rupees 67 lakhs in 1930-31 ?

(b) Are Government aware that these imports of cheap rubber and canvas shoes have had the effect of closing a number of small Indian factories, particularly working in Northern India in chrome leathers, manufacturing boots and shoes for local use ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state what action they propose to take to check the imports of cheap rubber and canvas shoes in the above circumstances ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** (a) The figures quoted by the Honourable Member relate to imports of all kinds of boots and shoes from Japan. There is, however, no doubt that imports of cheap rubber and canvas shoes from Japan have considerably increased in recent years.

(b) Government have received representations to that effect.

(c) No action with the object of checking these imports is proposed to be taken at present.

#### PRECARIOUS STATE OF THE TANNING INDUSTRY.

**26. Mr. Jamal Muhammad Saib :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state the names of Provincial Governments and commercial organisations which submitted representations to them regarding the precarious state of the tanning industry and what action have they taken so far or do they propose to take in the matter ?

(b) Are the Government of India aware of the changes in the new import duties levied by the United States of America on the imports of tanned hides and skins ?

(c) Are Government aware of the effect of the said new duties on the tanning industry of this country and its export trade in tanned hides and skins ? Will Government be pleased to state what action they have so far taken or propose to take to meet the situation ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** (a), (b) and (c). Government have received representations from the Government of Madras ; the Madras Chamber of Commerce, Madras ; the Southern India Skin and Hide Merchants' Association, Madras ; the Southern India Chamber of Commerce, Madras ; and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industries, Madras, suggesting the desirability of granting protection to the tanning industry. The decline in the export trade in tanned hides and skins has been attributed to the revised American tariff in some of these representations, which are now under consideration.

#### REVERSION OF MR. N. A. DALVI FROM THE POST OF ACCOUNTANT, DHARWAR HEAD POST OFFICE.

**27. Rao Bahadur B. L. Patil :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they accept the interpretation of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs. given in reply to the starred question No. 538 in the Legislative Assembly on the 12th March, 1930, that the term " provisionally permanent " means that the incumbent so appointed holds the post substantively so long as he works satisfactorily in the post and that there is no prescribed time limit for holding the post provisionally ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state why the appeal of Mr. N. A. Dalvi (clerk in the office of the Superintendent of Post Offices, Dharwar Division) against the order of the Postmaster-General, Bombay, reverting him from his provisionally permanent post of Accountant, Dharwar Head Office, was not upheld? Is it a fact that the order of the Postmaster-General, Bombay, did not show that Mr. N. A. Dalvi was reverted on account of his inefficiency or misconduct?

(c) Will Government be pleased to say whether Circular No. 41 of 6th November, 1930, of the Director General, could be given effect to retrospectively in the case of accountants in the ordinary time-scale of pay in the absence of any orders to that effect in the circular?

(d) Is it a fact that Mr. N. A. Dalvi held the post "provisionally permanent" for over one year and a half in a clear vacancy prior to the issue of the said circular and that his work was reported on to be satisfactory?

**Sir Hubert Sams :** (a) The intention was as stated in part (a) of the reply to Mr. S. C. Mitra's starred question No. 118 in the Legislative Assembly on the 15th July, 1930, in making this appointment. Government see no reason to object to it.

(b) to (d). The case of Mr. Dalvi differs from that referred to in part (a). The post of Accountant, Dharwar Post Office, was on the ordinary time-scale of pay, and his provisional appointment to it did not involve promotion to a higher grade but only entitled him to draw an allowance. He had to vacate the post in favour of a senior qualified official. Government are not prepared to interfere.

#### IMPRISONMENT OF MR. IHSAN ILAHI UNDER REGULATION III OF 1818.

**28. Mr. N. B. Gunjal :** (1) Will Government be pleased to state if it is a fact :

- (a) that Mr. Ihsan Ilahi, a State prisoner, under Regulation III of 1818, who is at present confined in the Central Jail, Lahore, is an educated young man of 22 years of age ;
- (b) that he is one of the founder-members of the Naujawan Bharat Sabha and that he joined the political movement only in 1927 ;
- (c) that he was incarcerated under the said Regulation on 9th February, 1931 ;
- (d) that during this short interval he held at times such important offices as Secretary, Lahore City Congress Committee, Vice-President, Lahore City Congress Committee, President, Punjab Naujawan Bharat Sabha, General Secretary, All-India Naujawan Bharat Sabha, and member of All-India Congress Committee ;
- (e) that the local police considered his activities for organizing the youth movement as undesirable and was anxious to suppress the same ;
- (f) that his residence was searched on various occasions and, if so, on how many occasions ;

(g) that he was arrested in the following cases and was either released by the police themselves or found innocent by the courts of law :

- (i) in 1928, at Calcutta, where he went as an escort with the dead body of the late Mr. Jatindra Nath Dass when it was alleged that he was suspected of complicity in the Jullundur conspiracy case.
- (ii) during December, 1929, when the sessions of the All-India Naujawan Bharat Sabha and of the Congress were being held at Lahore.
- (iii) in the middle of 1930, under section 17-A, Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1908.
- (iv) during the pendency of the above case on 27th December, 1930, in connection with the case regarding the attempt on the life of the Governor, Punjab.
- (h) that the local police suggested that he should be dealt with under the Regulation III of 1818, and Government endorsed the suggestion ;
- (i) that the real object of his incarceration is to keep him away from organizing the youth movement ; and
- (j) that this action against him is caused by a desire to suppress the youth movement ?

(2) Will Government be pleased to state how long it is proposed to keep Mr. Ihsan Ilahi in confinement and why ?

(3) Is it a fact that since his incarceration in the Lahore Central Jail, Mr. Ihsan Ilahi has been segregated from other inmates and is kept practically in solitary confinement ; if so, why ?

(4) Is it a fact that he has contracted a heart disease ?

**The Honourable Sir James Orerar :** (1) (a) The prisoner is educated and aged about 25 or 26 years.

(b) The facts appear to be as stated.

(c) Yes.

(d) Government do not question the suggestions of the Honourable Member.

(e) So far as I understand this question, the answer is in the negative.

(f) I understand that his residence was searched more than once.

(g) The facts are generally as stated.

(h) The Government of India sanctioned his detention under Regulation III of 1818, on the recommendation of the Government of the Punjab.

(i) and (j). The answer is in the negative.

(2) He will be released as soon as Government are satisfied that his detention is no longer necessary in the interests of public safety.

(3) The State prisoner is not kept in solitary confinement, but he has complained of lack of companionship. This complaint is under consideration.

(4) I have no information to suggest this. His health was certified to be good as recently as the 1st September.

## DEATHS OF MR. ALEXANDER, MR. SHAHANI AND U TOK KYI.

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy** (Leader of the House) : Since we

last met, Mr. President, two of our number have been removed by the hand of death and we are the poorer for their loss. Mr. Alexander did not intervene frequently in our debates, but, when he spoke, his words were direct and to the point and the House was always ready to listen to one who never addressed it, unless he could make a definite contribution to the discussion. His frank and straightforward character and his kindly nature were known to all of us and we shall long miss him.

12 NOON. Mr. Shahani was a Member of the first Assembly and came back to this House at the last general election. He combined various qualifications for public life, for he was at once a zamindar, a scholar and a man of affairs and, whether the topic under discussion was the advancement of education, the promotion of agriculture or the larger political issues, he never failed to throw himself into it with his whole heart. There must be many in this House who knew Mr. Shahani for a much longer period, and who knew him much more intimately, than I could claim to do, but during the short months of the Delhi Session I learnt to know him and to respect him. Two things about him were noteworthy and could not possibly be overlooked. One was his obvious desire to devote to the service of his country every power he possessed ; and the other was a sincerity which made it impossible for him to represent things in any other light than that in which he saw them or to adopt a point of view which was not his own. His death leaves a sensible blank in our midst.

Finally, Mr. President, we have to mourn the death of a Member of a former Assembly. Many of us, I am sure, remember U Tok Kyi, who represented a Burma constituency for several years. He seldom spoke, save on topics in which Burma was directly interested, but he never failed to represent faithfully the needs and the desires of Burma when he felt that these were likely to be overlooked. He has now passed away.

I believe, Mr. President, it will be in accordance with the wishes of everyone of us if you would convey to the relatives of the deceased the deep sympathy and sorrow we feel.

**Diwan Bahadur T. Rangachariar** (South Arcot *cum* Chingleput : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : Sir, I beg to associate myself with all that has been said by the Leader of the House about the departed friends whose loss we are mourning to-day. I knew Mr. Shahani from the year 1921 when I joined him in the first Assembly. He was a very keen student, an able politician and he was a sincere man, as the Leader of the House has told us. It was not easy to convert him to our views and he was always ready with his own opinion on various points. I worked with him as a member of the old Democratic Party and also the present Nationalist Party. It is a serious loss to the party and also to the Assembly that he should have been taken away at a time when he was most useful to the country. I know, Sir, that he was greatly respected in his own town for all his manifold good qualities, and I am sure the Member from Sind, who has taken his place, would like to say a few words about him in that connection. Sir, as a Member of this Assembly, I can say most emphatically that his loss is a very serious one.

As for Mr. Alexander, he came from my province. We knew him very well there ; he was greatly respected by the citizens there. He was a very

modest man and never pushed himself forward. He was a very able man and his charms were manifold. His loss we regret most keenly.

I had the honour of sitting with U Tok Kyi in this House. I knew him for a long time even in his home in Burma : a more genial host one could hardly expect to find. The Burmese people are always kindly people and it is their presence here which lends charm and colour to the House. We miss him very much indeed. He was a very nice man ; he was a very young man and in his death at this juncture his country has suffered a great loss.

I associate myself with the motion moved by the Leader of the House.

**Sir Abdur Rahim** (Calcutta and Suburbs : Muhammadan Urban) : I beg to associate myself with what fell from the Honourable the Leader of the House regarding the deaths of Mr. Alexander, Mr. Shahani and U Toy Kyi. The last named gentleman represented Burma in the last Assembly and as regards the other two, we had the pleasure and privilege of working with them and we all regret their death. Mr. Alexander had retired from his business and he had chosen to make India his home and he died in England. Mr. Shahani was in evidence whenever any important question came up before the House and I agree with what has been said that, whatever speeches Mr. Shahani made on different questions which were mooted in this House, he displayed a considerable amount of research and a great deal of undoubted sincerity. I feel that Mr. Shahani's death is a loss to this House. I am sure, as the Honourable the Leader of the House has suggested, this House will adopt the motion conveying to the relatives of the deceased the deep sympathy and sorrow we feel.

**Mr. Arthur Moore** (Bengal : European) : I was one of those who knew U Tok Kyi as a Member of this House. My regret is personal for one who brought to this House that particular charm that we all associate with Burma.

At the end of the Delhi Session, Mr. Shahani seemed to most of us so full of vitality that I think his death immediately afterwards came as a great shock. As the Honourable Sir George Rainy said, most of us had not had the opportunity of knowing him very long, but we had already learnt to like him and to respect him. In particular I think we all realised that he was a real educationist, and we were impressed by his tremendous enthusiasm in the cause of education. He was, as we all know, of an impetuous temperament which led him into controversy, but that very impetuosity, I think, helped to endear him to us because we realised that it came from a warm heart.

In Mr. Alexander, we, on these benches, have lost a colleague of great sagacity and experience and of serene and unruffled temper. We are grateful to Sir Abdur Rahim for the reference which he made, and I would like to stress that point, because it is sometimes made a reproach to the European community that they are birds of passage. The French have a proud proverb which says that every man has two countries,—his own and France. I think in the case of Britons their divided allegiance might be more correctly described as England and India ; and I doubt if those who bring that reproach realise in how many cases there are men who, when it comes to retire, would, if they were free from responsibilities, stay in this country, and how many realise how numerous are the cases of those who, fortunately, finding themselves in a position to do so, do

[Mr. Arthur Moore.]

decide to live in this country which has become dear to them. Mr. Alexander and his wife were such a couple. He had finished his business career some years ago. He had retired from business, but his heart was in India, and he and his wife decided that they would settle down to live in this country and that he should render such public service as he could. It was only the doctor's orders that finally sent him Home—where he died. We desire to be associated with the Resolution of Sir George Rainy.

**Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan** (Agra Division : Muhammadan Rural) : On my behalf and on my party's behalf I associate myself with all that has been said by the Honourable the Leader of the House and other Honourable Members and I, whole-heartedly, support the suggestion that has been made that we should convey to the relatives of the deceased the sympathy and sorrow of this House.

**Mr. Amar Nath Dutt** (Burdwan Division : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : Sir, I rise to perform a sacred and solemn duty, a duty which we not only owe to the departed but which we owe to ourselves. Sir, the deaths of Mr. Alexander and Mr. Shahani have been mourned in this House, as also the death of the other Honourable Member, U Tok Kyi, who was not a Member of this present Assembly. As far as Mr. Alexander is concerned, all I can say is, I wish all Europeans were like him and the salvation of India would be nearer at hand. As for Mr. Shahani, I wish all Indian politicians had the same sober mind and political insight as he had. Lastly, it is my painful duty as one of the few remnants of the former Swaraj Party in this House to refer to the death of one with whose work we were associated for more than half a dozen years. It is U Tok Kyi, and if there were more Nationalists of his type, I think Burma would not have asked for separation. I do not want to enter into any controversial matters while speaking on this painful event, viz., when we are mourning his death. All I wish to say is that I whole-heartedly associate myself with all the Members and the leaders of the various parties in what they have said about the deceased Members of this House.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai** (Sind : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : I regret the most the demise of Mr. Shahani. I come from Sind and I personally know that he was a renowned citizen of Sind. He was not only a Sind man, but I would call him an all-India man. He took a great interest in all the affairs of Sind as also those which concerned the whole of India. Sir, he was my personal friend. He, however, opposed me in the third Assembly elections but he carried on the campaign in a gentlemanly way, though I came in then. But in the last Assembly he came in practically unopposed and now by his sudden death I have taken the place. I must say that not only Sind but also this House has lost a politician of a very high order. He was responsible for the well-being of the D. J. Sind College. He was more or less the pioneer of that College and I must say with pride that the young graduates—both Hindus and Muhammadans—who have come out from that College showed allegiance and respect to him. If Sind has now so many graduates, it is almost all due to the untiring energy of Mr. Shahani. Mr. Shahani, besides being an educationist, was a public man of high character. I must also say to his credit that he was a great social reformer. Female education in Sind

owes its present advancement to Mr. Shahani. To illustrative it I may tell the House that Mr. Shahani has left behind him well educated children. His three daughters are graduates and one of them has passed the LL.B., and is practising the legal profession.

(At this stage, Mr. K. C. Roy had a seizure and fell down from his seat.)

**Mr. President :** I think you will all regret that one of our colleagues should have been attacked with a serious fit in the Assembly. We all earnestly trust that he will soon recover his normal health. I think it is desirable to adjourn the House for fifteen minutes so that Honourable Members may be able to render help to Mr. Roy.

The Assembly then adjourned till One of the Clock.

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The Assembly re-assembled at One of the Clock, Mr. President in the Chair.

**Mr. President :** In asking you to resume the business of the Assembly, I am sure you will all join with me in expressing the fervent hope that our colleague Mr. K. C. Roy may soon be restored to perfect health.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Sir, in continuing the tribute that I was paying to Principal Shahani, I will say that I am exceedingly sorry for the incident that has happened in this House. I wish good and speedy health to Mr. K. C. Roy.

Sir, beyond the remarks I made, I cannot forget one quality of Principal Shahani, viz., that as a zamindar he always had a soft feeling for agriculturists. He looked after the interests of the peasantry in Mirpur Khas District and rendered them good service.

I need not detain the House any longer. I do share fully the remarks that have fallen from the Leader of the House and the other Honourable Members. With regard to the other two Honourable Members who have also passed away from this frail world, I fully associate myself with the expressions given vent to in this House, and with these remarks I support the proposal that a message of condolence be sent to their families.

**Mr. President :** I wish to associate myself with all that has fallen from Honourable Members with regard to the loss that the Assembly and the country have sustained. I knew Mr. Shahani for many years and I highly admired his great educational and social work. Whatever he took in hand, he was very enthusiastic about it and tried to further the cause to the best of his ability. I had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Alexander only recently and the only remark that I will make about him is that he won every heart by the charm of his manners. I had not the pleasure of knowing U Tok Kyi, but I wish to associate myself with all that has fallen from previous speakers in regard to his public services. Gentlemen, it will be my duty to communicate to the members of the families of the deceased the sympathies of the House.

## GOVERNOR GENERAL'S ASSENT TO BILLS.

**Mr. President :** I have to inform Honourable Members that the following Bills which were passed by both Chambers of the Indian Legislature during the Delhi Session, 1931, have been assented to by His Excellency the Governor General under the provisions of sub-section (1) of section 68 of the Government of India Act :—

1. The Punjab Criminal Procedure Amendment (Supplementary) Act, 1931.
2. The Steel Industry (Protection) Act, 1931.
3. The Gold Thread Industry (Protection) Act, 1931.
4. The Indian Income-tax (Amendment) Act, 1931.
5. The Indian Territorial Force (Amendment) Act, 1931.
6. The Auxiliary Force (Amendment) Act, 1931.
7. The Cantonments (Amendment) Act, 1931.
8. The Indian Naval Armament (Amendment) Act, 1931.
9. The Indian Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Act, 1931.
10. The Vizagapatam Port Act, 1931.
11. The Indian Ports (Amendment) Act, 1931.
12. The Indian Reserve Forces (Amendment) Act, 1931.
13. The Indian Factories (Amendment) Act, 1931.
14. The Salt (Additional Import Duty) Act, 1931, and
15. The Wheat (Import Duty) Act, 1931.

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## NOMINATION OF THE PANEL OF CHAIRMEN AND APPOINTMENT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS.

**Mr. President :** Under Standing Order 80 of the Legislative Assembly Standing Orders, I have to appoint a Committee on Petitions and under rule 3 (1) of the Indian Legislative Rules I am required to nominate a Panel of not more than four Chairmen from among the Members of the Assembly. In view of the short Session of the Legislative Assembly, I have decided that the existing Panel and the existing Committee should continue for this Session also and that Mr. Arthur Moore should take the place, on the Panel as well as on the Committee, of Sir Hugh Cocke who has ceased to be a Member of the Legislative Assembly.

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## STATEMENT LAID ON THE TABLE.

### RECRUITMENT OF MUSLIMS ON THE NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

**Mr. A. A. L. Parsons :** Sir, I lay on the table the information promised in reply to a supplementary question to starred question No. 627 asked by Khan Bahadur H. M. Wilayatullah on the 23rd February 1931 regarding the recruitment of Muslims on the North Western Railway.



LETTER No. 638-E.G., DATED SIMLA, THE 8TH AUGUST, 1931, FROM **MR. P. C. CHOPRA**, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, RAILWAY BOARD, TO **KHAN BAHADUR H. M. WALAYATULLAH**, M.L.A.

“ In reply to part (b) of your question No. 627, asked in the Legislative Assembly on the 23rd February, 1931, I am directed to state that the Divisional Superintendent, Rawalpindi, forwarded the representation from the Vice-President, Anjuman Islamia, Kohat, on the subject of recruitment of Mohammedans to the Railway Clerical Establishment, to the Agent, North-Western Railway, who asked the Vice-President of the Anjuman Islamia, Kohat, to substantiate certain assumptions made by the latter and that no reply to this letter has so far been received by the Agent.”

### STATEMENT OF BUSINESS.

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy** (Leader of the House) : With your permission, Sir, I desire to make a statement giving Honourable Members information as to Government business which will be brought before the House this week in so far as such information is not available in the Lists of Business for today and Wednesday which were circulated to Members on Friday last. If the House gives leave today for the introduction of the Bill to provide for the better control of the Press, it is proposed to make a motion on Friday, the 11th, to refer the Bill to a Select Committee with instructions to report within a week. With your permission, Sir, I shall make a further announcement on Thursday or Friday of this week in respect of the business to be taken up in the second week of the Session.

### ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIES AND LABOUR.

**Mr. J. A. Shillidy** (Secretary, Industries and Labour Department) : Sir, I beg to move :

“ That this Assembly do proceed to elect in such manner as the Honourable the President may direct three non-official Members to serve on the Standing Committee to advise on subjects, other than ‘ Roads ’ and ‘ Broadcasting ’, dealt with in the Department of Industries and Labour.”

The motion was adopted.

**Mr. President** : I may inform the Assembly that for the purpose of election of members to the Standing Committee for the Department of Industries and Labour the Assembly Office will be open to receive nominations up to 12 noon on Wednesday, the 9th September, 1931, and that the election, if necessary, will take place in this Chamber on Wednesday, the 16th September. The election will be conducted in accordance with the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.

The Assembly then adjourned for Lunch till Half Past Two of the Clock.

The Assembly re-assembled after Lunch at Half Past Two of the Clock, Mr. President in the Chair.

### THE INDIAN PRESS BILL.

**The Honourable Sir James Ocrer** (Home Member) : Mr. President, I beg to move for leave to withdraw the Bill to provide for the better control of the Press which was introduced on the 15th January, 1931. I think that the motion which stands next in the List of Business will suffice to explain the object of my present motion. The Bill which is the

[Sir James Crerar.]

immediate subject of the present motion is a more comprehensive measure which was introduced in the last session, and with which, for reasons which were then explained to Honourable Members, the Government decided at that time not to proceed. We now contemplate a much more restricted measure, directed specifically and exclusively to the restraint of incitement to, or the encouragement in other ways of, murder and other violent crimes. It is as a preliminary to my making that subsequent motion that I lay this motion before the House.

**Mr. Amar Nath Dutt** (Burdwan Division : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : Sir, it may appear to be somewhat unusual that I should rise to oppose the withdrawal of a reactionary piece of legislation like the one which the Honourable the Home Member wants to withdraw. But as has been made clear by his speech, the reason for his withdrawal is not that he wants simply to withdraw the Bill, which of course I would have welcomed, but that he wants to withdraw to enable him to bring in another Bill of a more drastic nature. This Bill, which he wishes to introduce, if leave is granted to him to withdraw the other, was not placed in our hands till we came into this House to-day. In all fairness we should have been given an opportunity to study the provisions of both the Bills, and I think if the Honourable the Home Member gives us an undertaking that he will not move the next motion before we have had sufficient time to study the next Bill, then we will not oppose this motion. Otherwise, you are simply taking us unawares. When we enter the hall at 11 o'clock, you place heaps of papers in our hands and expect us to judge which measure is good and which measure is bad : that is something more than human. We know that the members of the Indian Civil Service are endowed with rare gifts of intellect, but for those who are not members of that heaven-born service, some allowance should be made for their intelligence. I would like to know whether the Honourable the Home Member will give us at least two days' time to think over the matter whether we should or should not oppose the withdrawal of this Bill. I do not know his mind, and I would like to know what he thinks before we make up our minds. I can tell him that we have not had time to go through the provisions of the other Bill which he proposes to introduce. I do not think anybody on this side could have done so—and in fact it will be a dereliction of our duty if we do not devote sufficient time to a study of the provisions of the Bill before giving our support to the withdrawal of the Bill. The Honourable the Home Member may take it that we on this side of the House will not approve of the withdrawal of this Bill unless we get at least two days' time for studying those provisions.

**Mr. B. Das** (Orissa Division : Non-Muhammadan) : Sir, I wish to make a few observations at this stage. I never expected last session, when my Honourable friend the Home Member postponed consideration of this Press Bill, that he would be in an indecent hurry to bring it forward in another form again this session and would ask the permission of the House for withdrawal of the old Bill so that he could introduce the new Bill. I agree with my friend, Mr. Dutt, that we have not had time to read the contents of the new Bill that he is going to introduce ; but it seems that if his purpose is to gag the Press, which the Government of India did by means of ordinances during the Civil Disobedience days, he is going to

meet with strong opposition from this side of the House. When the Honourable the Home Member did not want further consideration of his Bill last session, we thought he was one with us and desired to create a good atmosphere in the country. At that time, Sir, it is well known, that negotiations were going on between Mahatma Gandhi and Lord Irwin, and everybody was anxious—we on this side and the Home Member on the other—that there should be a peaceful atmosphere. Even very recently, there were negotiations going on between Mahatma Gandhi and the Viceroy ; and if newspaper reports be correct, the Honourable the Home Member played a splendid part in those negotiations. If he played that splendid part, I ask him to play that part again. What is the necessity of having another piece of oppressive legislation on the anvil ? Is it going to create a good and calm atmosphere in the country ? Will it not divert our attention from the greater atmosphere of peace and goodwill for the success of the Round Table Conference to the persecution and prosecution that Government will launch in every province against the Press ?

It has been said that the vernacular Press and certain portions of the Indian-owned Press incite to violence. I do not have access to those papers to which the Home Member and the Government of India have access. I did not have any opportunity to glance through certain papers placed in our hands as they were placed in my hands only this morning on the floor of the House. What was the situation two months ago is not the situation at present. That, Sir, everybody must recognise. At present the Home Member is aware that throughout the country there is a better tone ; and not only the leaders and public men throughout the country but also the Indian Press are trying to control the temper of the country. But if it is the opinion of the Government of India that it is public men and leaders of the type of Mr. Subash Chandra Bose (whose speeches I find have been quoted) and the vernacular Press that incite young men to terrorism, then I say, they are entirely in the wrong. I am not one who is in love with terrorism or with violence, but I do not want Government to make a wrong diagnosis at this time and at this stage when all our hearts, all our minds and all our eyes are turned to London where Mahatma Gandhi is going to settle the future constitution of India. I want to know this : do the Government of India want a peaceful settlement ? Or is it that they have got a certain message, confidential or official—I do not care what it is—from the Conservative Secretary of State ? Already there is a great suspicion throughout India against the present so-called national government in England. The Labour Party has abdicated and a few Labour men have combined with the Conservative Party to form an almost Conservative Cabinet. It does not in the least matter if there are a few Labour Members or a few Liberals in that Cabinet. The policy of the Conservatives is well known and it suits so well the bureaucrats here who rule India to get their own repressive actions supported by the Conservative Government of England. The Honourable the Home Member is therefore liable to the twofold charges that he is trying to get passed what he and his Civil Service Government in India wanted so long and which they, now, can get through with the help of the Conservative Government in England ; and I want to ask him is it going to create a good atmosphere ?

Are the Government of India so afraid from the secret documents that their Criminal Intelligence Department possess that the young men are going to murder everybody, official as well as non-official ?—I am aware

there have been murders ; but those murders are the results of the *lathi* charges and repressive policy of the Government and the police during the Civil Disobedience movement. They imbibed that spirit through no encouragement from the speeches of the leaders.

I know some of these leaders whose speeches have been quoted. I read occasionally some of the vernacular papers, and I don't think the articles contained in those papers excite me or incite me to violence. If you contend that those articles excite me, then I would draw the attention of the Honourable the Home Member to the articles the *Statesman*—the paper of my Honourable friend Mr. Arthur Moore—wrote during the period of delicate negotiations that were going on last month when Mahatma Gandhi did not sail in the “Mooltan” and had to sail by a subsequent boat. Did the Honourable the Home Member or his Deputy—my friend Mr. S. N. Roy whom I am so glad to meet again on the floor of this House—did they ever take note of those articles that created incitement throughout the period of those delicate negotiations ? Those of us who read those articles felt that nothing roused hatred against British Government, nothing undermined the British influence as those articles.....

**Mr. Amar Nath Dutt :** Who is the Editor of that paper please ?

**Mr. B. Das :** I think my friend Mr. Arthur Moore is now the acting Editor, and I was happy to know he became the Editor, but I was not happy to read those articles in his paper published in those days. Did the Government prosecute the *Statesman* ? Sir, the Government have got ample powers to prosecute those who write seditious articles. Only the other day I read in a paper that the Editor of a certain paper had been prosecuted and punished. Why are the Government so anxious to create bad blood between those who have stood by them and helped them to come nearer to a peaceful solution of India's future unless it is for what the *Statesman* thinks and dictates. The *Statesman* does not want peace ; the *Statesman* does not want the evolution of Dominion Status in India. What the *Statesman* has advised the rulers of India, is that they should go back to the prehistoric days and rule India again with mailed fist and with iron hand. If that is the policy of the Government of India, then I congratulate the Honourable the Home Member to have persuaded the Governor General in Council to come to a decision to introduce such a measure as this.

Sir, I oppose the withdrawal of that Bill, because if it was a mere motion for withdrawal, I for one would have blessed it with all my heart. But it is going to create blood ; it is going to rouse the nation to anger and impress upon them the state of their helplessness. And to-day, Sir, we saw what happened on the floor of this House this morning ? My old friend Mr. K. C. Roy, who may rightly be called the father of Indian journalism, was not in a position to sit here to-day, I knew he was ill, but still he stuck on to the House to hear what his journalist friends in this House and what those friends on this side of the House who sympathise with Indian journalism would say on this repressive measure which the Government have in view. Sir, I oppose the withdrawal of this Press Bill.

**Sir Hari Singh Gour** (Central Provinces Hindi Divisions : Non-Muhammadan) : Sir, I should like to say a few words in connection with

the motion of withdrawal of the Honourable the Home Member. I don't see the relevancy of dragging in a discussion on an independent motion which the Honourable Member is likely to make and which stands in his name as item No. 2 in the Agenda of today. For the present we are merely concerned with the motion of the Honourable the Home Member that the Bill which he had introduced in January last should be allowed to be withdrawn, and I have heard absolutely nothing from Honourable Members who have spoken from this side of the House to justify the opposition to the motion of withdrawal. When the next motion is made, it will be then time for the Honourable Members of the opposition to criticise that motion, but I think to couple the two together....

**Mr. Amar Nath Dutt :** Who has coupled it ? It is he who has done it.

**Sir Hari Singh Gour :** He has done nothing of the kind ; to couple the two together and to treat this withdrawal as if it were leave to introduce another Bill is, I submit, wide of the mark. I would therefore request Honourable Members to refrain from commenting upon a measure which is not before the House so far and to allow the Honourable the Home Member leave to withdraw.

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** Sir, the remarks which have fallen from the Honourable and learned gentleman opposite have absolved me from a great deal of the responsibility that might otherwise have fallen on me to reply to the observations that have been made in the course of the discussion. I only want to make one point perfectly clear, and that is, that if the House accepts this motion, as the House will I trust accept it, then neither the House nor any individual Member of it will be in any way prejudiced or compromised in any opinion he may hold or may hereafter desire to express on a measure which is not now before the House on this motion.

**Mr. President :** The question is :

“ That leave be granted to withdraw the Bill to provide for the better control of the Press which was introduced on the 15th January, 1931.”

The motion was adopted.

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** Sir, I withdraw the Bill.

**Mr. President :** The Bill is withdrawn.

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** Sir, I move for leave to introduce another Bill to provide for the better control of the Press. At this stage I do not think it will be necessary for me to add anything to the presentment of the case contained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons.

**Mr. President :** Motion moved :

“ That leave be granted to introduce another Bill to provide for the better control of the Press.”

**Diwan Bahadur T. Rangachariar** (South Arcot *cum* Chingleput : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : Sir, I do not want to make any speech just at this stage. I am rather disappointed with the Honourable the Home Member because he said that he did not consider it necessary to make any speech in support of his motion, but I am bound to say this that, if he is going to make the later motion with the Bill as it stands, I am afraid he will get no help from this side of the House and unless he is prepared to show a change of heart and a readiness to alter the measure he cannot expect any help though we are prepared to face the facts with him.

[Diwan Bahadur T. Rangachariar.]

But he should not take advantage of the excitement created by these successive murders to enact a law in the way in which it is proposed to be done. I should like the Honourable the Home Member to give an assurance to the House, so that we may come prepared next time for a discussion, whether the Government is going to take the attitude which they have shown today in respect of this Bill, or whether they are going to adopt some other attitude.

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** I find some difficulty, Sir, I must confess in understanding precisely the nature of the assurance which the Honourable and learned gentleman opposite desires to obtain from me. If it is an assurance that Government do not desire to take advantage of any excitement in the state of public opinion, that they do not wish to invite from the House, anything else than a calm and temperate judgment of the facts and of the remedies that have to be applied to those facts, then I can give him that assurance. But so far as the contents of the Bill are concerned, my purpose is to submit them, at a later stage when the principles and details of the Bill will come under consideration, to the House, so that they may be fairly and fully considered. At the present stage, as my friend is aware, if the House passes this motion, it will be in no way committed to the principles or details of the Bill. I am afraid, therefore, that though I am perfectly willing to give the first assurance, as regards the second, I can only say that the Bill will in due course, both in its principles and details, come before the full scrutiny and judgment of the House.

**Sir Hari Singh Gour :** May I ask the Honourable Member one question? Is it the intention of the Government to move for reference to a Select Committee?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** Yes, that is the intention.

**Mr. President :** The question is :

“That leave be given to introduce another Bill to provide for the better control of the Press.”

The motion was adopted.

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** Sir, I introduce the Bill.

#### THE INDIAN MINES (AMENDMENT) BILL.

**Mr. J. A. Shillidy** (Secretary, Industries and Labour Department) : Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Mines Act, 1923, for a certain purpose.

It is a very short Bill and it has been fully explained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. Sir, I move.

The motion was adopted.

**Mr. J. A. Shillidy :** Sir, I introduce the Bill.

#### THE INDIAN SUCCESSION (AMENDMENT) BILL.

**Sir Lancelot Graham** (Secretary, Legislative Department) : Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Succession Act, 1925, for a certain purpose.

That purpose, Sir, is an extremely limited purpose, and is fully set out in the Statement of Objects and Reasons attached to the Bill to which I have nothing to add. Sir, I move.

The motion was adopted.

**Sir Lancelot Graham** : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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#### THE SHERIFF OF CALCUTTA (POWERS OF CUSTODY) BILL.

**Sir Lancelot Graham** (Secretary, Legislative Department) : I move for leave to introduce a Bill to extend the powers of the Sheriff of Calcutta to hold persons in lawful custody.

I may inform the House that the Bill is not so alarming as it sounds. The Bill is really a very small Bill, the necessity of which was brought to our notice by the High Court of Calcutta arising, out of a temporary dislocation in traffic in Calcutta due to the reconstruction of the Alipore Bridge, as a result of which persons taken to and fro between the High Court and the Presidency Jail are actually taken outside the limits of the ordinary original jurisdiction of the Calcutta High Court. To prevent any ill consequences following from such an act of apparent technical illegality, it is proposed to give these special powers to the Sheriff. Sir, I move.

The motion was adopted.

**Sir Lancelot Graham** : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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#### THE ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY (AMENDMENT) BILL.

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain** (Member for Education, Health and Lands) : I move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Aligarh Muslim University Act, 1920, for certain purposes.

I believe, Sir, that the Bill is of a non-controversial nature. I move.

The motion was adopted.

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain** : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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#### THE LAND CUSTOMS (AMENDMENT) BILL.

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** (Finance Member) : I move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Land Customs Act, 1924, for a certain purpose.

That purpose is clearly explained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. Sir, I move.

The motion was adopted.

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

## THE FOREIGN RELATIONS BILL.

**Mr. E. B. Howell** (Foreign Secretary) : I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide against the publication of statements likely to promote unfriendly relations between His Majesty's Government and the Governments of foreign States.

This Bill, if it becomes law, will have the effect of bringing our Indian legal system into conformity with that of the United Kingdom, the Dominions, and I may add, practically all civilized countries. It is not intended to give protection to any particular person or to meet the demands of any particular country. It is a matter of principle. I do not propose to anticipate at present what I may have to say at a later stage, but I think that the House is entitled to some preliminary explanation and I propose to give that now.

As things are, until the Foreign Relations Ordinance was promulgated in April last, the Government of India had no means of dealing with persons responsible for attacks on the rulers of foreign States. No matter how malicious, how gratuitous, or how false those attacks might be, or how disastrous the consequences of them might be to the country concerned, the Government of India was impotent. Not all India's neighbours are very advanced politically, and some are in such a condition that the dissemination of a wild rumour or a mere whisper that a rival candidate for power is about to enter the field may easily cause movements of armed men, destruction of property and loss of life. Against such consequences the rulers of these States have a right to be protected, and the inability of the Government of India to give that protection constitutes a lacuna in our system. It is the fulfilment of India's international obligations that requires that the Government of India should possess powers, the exercise of which, under necessary safeguards of course, will enable them to deal with such a situation. The Foreign Relations Ordinance was promulgated on the 6th April last. It expires on the 6th October next; and in view of the determined efforts made by one or two organs of the Press in this country to take sides in what is, after all, none of their business, but a purely domestic affair of one of our neighbours, the Government of India cannot afford to be without a weapon which that Ordinance afforded. It is therefore proposed that the Ordinance should be replaced by a permanent measure on the Statute-book. Sir, I move.

The motion was adopted.

**Mr. E. B. Howell** : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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## THE HEAVY CHEMICAL INDUSTRY (PROTECTION) BILL.

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy** (Member for Commerce and Railways) : I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the protection of the heavy chemical industry.

The object of this Bill is to give effect to the decisions of the Government to impose certain protective duties on magnesium chloride and certain other heavy chemicals. I do not think it is necessary for me to say anything more at present. Sir, I move.

The motion was adopted.

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy** : Sir, I introduce the Bill.



## THE PROVISIONAL COLLECTION OF TAXES BILL.

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** (Finance Member) : I move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the law providing for the immediate effect for a limited period of provisions in Bills relating to the imposition or increase of duties of customs or excise.

3 P.M.

This, Sir, is a simple measure which deals with a matter which was brought very vividly before the attention of this House during the last session. Honourable Members will recollect that not only last session but in preceding sessions, in dealing with the Finance Bill, this House has been subjected to considerable embarrassment by the fact that the term of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act only lasts for 30 days. We have often had the experience of being brought, in the discussion of the Finance Bill, to a stage when the time available has been very short, and the last stages have had to be rushed through unless Government was to be put to serious embarrassment and a considerable amount of revenue were to be lost by a failure to pass the Bill within 30 days from the date of its introduction. The present Bill proposes to extend the period to 60 days, which should give ample time for the most elaborate discussion of the provisions of the Finance Bill. I trust that when it comes to taking this Bill into consideration, it will prove to be a non-controversial measure. Sir, I move.

The motion was adopted.

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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## THE ANCIENT MONUMENTS PRESERVATION (AMENDMENT) BILL.

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain** (Member for Education, Health and Lands) : Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904, for certain purposes. The said purposes are mentioned in the Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill and the particular measures are given under the heading "Notes on Clauses". Sir, I move.

The motion was adopted.

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain** : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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The Assembly then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, the 8th September, 1931.