

Friday, 29th March, 1935

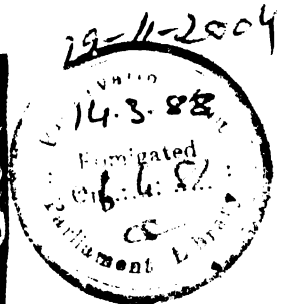
THE  
COUNCIL OF STATE DEBATES

VOLUME I, 1935

*(11th February to 17th April, 1935)*

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NINTH SESSION  
OF THE  
THIRD COUNCIL OF STATE, 1935



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# COUNCIL OF STATE.

*Friday, 29th March, 1935.*

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The Council met in the Council Chamber of the Council House at Four of the Clock, the Honourable the President in the Chair.

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## MEMBER SWORN :

The Honourable Sir Bertrand Glancy, K.C.I.E., C.S.I. (Political Secretary).

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## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

### METHOD ADOPTED BY THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION AND DEPARTMENTS IN EXAMINING CANDIDATES FOR PARTICULAR POSTS.

88. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether candidates examined either by the Public Service Commission or by departments themselves for recruitment for a particular class of post by a competitive test or qualifying test are given the same question paper or are they given different sets of question papers ?

(b) Are all such candidates given a particular set of questions on a particular subject on a particular date and time fixed or are the candidates for the same class of post examined on the same subject on different dates and with different sets of questions ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. D. G. MITCHELL : (a) and (b). The ordinary practice is to examine simultaneously candidates who are attempting to pass the same test and to give them the same question paper in each subject.

### QUALIFYING TEST FOR APPOINTMENT AS READERS IN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, NEW DELHI.

89. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : (a) Is it a fact that the qualifying test for appointment as Readers in the Government of India Press, New Delhi, was held in November last, and that all the candidates offering themselves were not examined on one particular date ? If so, why ?

(b) Is it a fact that one batch of candidates consisting only of copyholders was examined on the 10th November, 1934 and that another batch was examined two days later ?

(c) Is it a fact that the dictation paper given to the first batch was different from and much easier than the one set for the second batch ? If so, why were different question papers set and why were the candidates examined on separate dates for the same posts ?

(d) Is it a fact that the Controller of Printing and Stationery has declared the examination of the second batch held on the 12th November, 1934, as void and not the examination of the first batch held on 10th November, 1934? If so, why were one batch of examinees penalised by declaring the examination void in which they appeared?

(e) Is it a fact that the question papers leaked out before the candidates of the first batch were examined? If so, why was not the examination of the first batch also declared void?

(f) Will Government be pleased to state the procedure adopted by Government in case of a leakage of examination papers before the actual date of an examination?

(g) Who is the officer responsible for holding the examination and what are his University qualifications? Had he any previous experience of holding any such examination?

(h) Do Government propose to hold an enquiry into the matter and to hold another examination for these posts to be conducted by the Public Service Commission? If not, why not?

THE HONOURABLE MR. D. G. MITCHELL: (a) and (b). Yes. The candidates were examined in two groups because the Manager considered that there was insufficient accommodation to permit of their being examined simultaneously.

(c) I am informed that the dictation papers given to the two batches were of the same standard. As regards the second part it is obviously desirable that candidates examined on different dates should have different papers. I have already given the answer to the last part.

(d) The reply to the first part is in the negative. The latter part does not arise.

(e) There was no leakage of question papers before the examination was held. The second part does not arise.

(f) The ordinary practice is to prepare fresh question papers when those already set leak out before the examination.

(g) The examination was held by the Manager, Government of India Press, New Delhi. He has no university qualifications but is a practical printer and is competent to hold such examinations.

(h) Government see no reason for taking the action suggested by the Honourable Member.

PERIOD FOR WHICH MANAGERS, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESSES, CALCUTTA, NEW DELHI, SIMLA AND ALIGARH CAN BE POSTED AT ONE STATION.

90. THE HONOURABLE MR. V. V. KALIKAR: (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether there is any limit to the period for which the Managers of the Central Government Presses, Calcutta, New Delhi, Simla and Aligarh, can be posted at one station? If not, why not?

(b) Is it a fact that the Calcutta Press is going to be abolished and that a large portion of the staff and machinery has already been transferred to the New Delhi Press?

(c) Is it a fact that the Government of India Press, New Delhi, is now a first class press?

(d) Is it a fact that all the senior Press Managers are placed in charge of smaller presses in Calcutta and Simla and that junior officers are placed in charge of the New Delhi Press? If so, why?

(e) Is it a fact that an Overseer has been appointed as Assistant Manager in the New Delhi Press in supersession of senior Assistant Managers, Messrs. Wilkins, S. C. Sen, Jawahar Khan and Khan Sahib Nuruddin? If so, why has a permanent and senior Assistant Manager not been appointed to hold charge of the duties of Assistant Manager, New Delhi Press?

(f) Is it the policy of Government to make postings according to seniority and the responsible nature of the charge?

(g) Is it a fact that serious complaints of delay and wrong printing in the New Delhi Press are being received daily?

THE HONOURABLE MR. D. G. MITCHELL: (a) No, because there is ordinarily nothing to be gained by transfers which do not involve promotion.

(b) The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the replies given in the Legislative Assembly on the 20th September and 22nd December, 1933 to unstarred questions Nos. 122 and 372, respectively. Further staff and machinery have since been transferred from the Calcutta to the New Delhi Press.

(c) I am not sure what the Honourable Member means by a first class press.

(d) The answer to the first part is in the negative. Of the Managers of the presses in Calcutta, one is senior and the other is junior to the Manager of the New Delhi Press.

(e) No. Of the four officers mentioned, the last is not borne on the cadre of the Stationery and Printing Department; and there has been no supersession of other Assistant Managers as they would not have gained promotion by being selected for New Delhi.

(f) The most suitable officers are selected.

(g) No such complaints have been received by Government.

THE HONOURABLE MR. SATYENDRA CHANDRA GHOSH MAULIK: On a point of order, Sir. The reply to a question given in the Assembly is put forward as the reply to a question put here. Without having those answers before us, it is not possible for Members of this House to put any supplementary questions.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: You are not supposed to put any supplementary question with regard to questions asked in the other House. Supplementary questions can only arise out of the replies given to questions in this House. No point of order therefore can arise.

THE HONOURABLE MR. SATYENDRA CHANDRA GHOSH MAULIK: The reply was given in the other House.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: I have already given my ruling.

**SUPERSESSION OF READERS IN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, NEW DELHI, BY THEIR JUNIORS.**

91. **THE HONOURABLE MR. V. V. KALIKAR :** (a) Is it a fact that several readers were tested by the Manager of the Government of India Press, New Delhi, for higher grade appointments and found unfit for promotion and were superseded by their juniors ?

(b) Is it also a fact that those readers who were condemned are being promoted again to the higher posts ?

**THE HONOURABLE MR. D. G. MITCHELL :** (a) and (b). The facts are that in October, 1934 a vacancy in a higher grade of readers occurred in the Reading Branch. The Manager was doubtful about the suitability of the seniormost reader in the next lower grade and tested him. The reader having failed to qualify, the next man in the grade was tested. He passed the test satisfactorily and was appointed to the vacant post. Subsequently a second vacancy occurred in the higher grade. The Manager again considered the suitability of the seniormost reader who was superseded in October, 1934. On this occasion he was not subjected to any test, but, as his work was reported to be satisfactory, he was promoted to the higher grade.

**APPOINTMENT OF AN APPRENTICE IN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, NEW DELHI, IN THE RS. 200—10—250 GRADE.**

92. **THE HONOURABLE MR. V. V. KALIKAR :** (a) Is it a fact that an apprentice has been appointed in the grade of Rs. 200—10—250 in the Government of India Press, New Delhi ?

(b) If the answer to part (a) is in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state :

(i) What opportunity he had to acquire sufficient practical and theoretical knowledge to be a senior proof reader ?

(ii) Why an apprentice was appointed in preference to the junior readers ?

(c) Do Government propose to hold qualifying test examinations for promoting junior readers to higher posts in future ? If not, why not ?

**THE HONOURABLE MR. D. G. MITCHELL :** (a) and (b). An apprentice who is a graduate and successfully completed his course of training for five years in the Government of India Press, Calcutta, has been appointed as a senior reader as he was better qualified than readers in the lower grades to hold that post.

(c) The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the reply given by the Honourable Sir Frank Noyce on the 14th March, 1934 to Mr. S. G. Jog's unstarred question No. 198 in the Legislative Assembly.

**RESULT OF THE DEPARTMENTAL ENQUIRY HELD BY THE INSPECTOR OF POST OFFICES, JAIPUR, INTO THE COMPLAINTS MADE AGAINST THE SUB-POSTMASTER, KOTPUTLI.**

93. **THE HONOURABLE MR. V. V. KALIKAR :** (a) Is it a fact that a departmental enquiry was held by the Inspector of Post Offices in Jaipur into complaints made by the Hindu and Muhammadan population of Kotputli against the Sub-Postmaster, Kotputli ?



(b) If the answer to part (a) is in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state the result of the enquiry and steps taken on it ?

**THE HONOURABLE MR. D. G. MITCHELL :** (a) In August, 1934 some Muhammadans only of Kotputli complained of certain irregularities on the part of the sub-postmaster and a departmental enquiry was held by the Inspector of Post Offices, Jaipur.

(b) The allegations brought forward against the sub-postmaster were found to be groundless and the complainants were informed accordingly.

**DUTIES OF THE ARMY IN INDIA IN CASE OF ATTACK.**

**94. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM :** Will Government kindly state the following facts about the Army in India :

(a) What are the duties of the army if a first class power attacks India alone, or if it helps a third class power to attack ?

(b) For what length of time will the army have to fight alone and when can India expect reinforcements from the Empire ?

(c) Who has laid down the duties of the army in case of different types of attacks, and when were they last revised ?

**HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF :** (a) To resist such attacks until the arrival of imperial reinforcements.

(b) It would obviously not be in the public interest to give this information.

(c) As Commander-in-Chief I am responsible for allotting to the various parts of the army their duties in the event of war ; and, in accordance with my orders, the plans of operations to meet different contingencies are kept under constant review.

**PERIOD OF SERVICE IN THE VARIOUS ARMS OF THE INDIAN ARMY.**

**95. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM :** Will Government kindly state the period of service in different arms of the Indian Army ?

**HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF :** The great majority of the personnel of all the combatant arms enlist for a minimum period of service of seven years with the colours and for a combined period of colour and reserve service of 15 years. Details of the periods for which other personnel enlist are given in paragraph 128 of Regulations for the Army in India, a copy of which the Honourable Member will find in the Library.

**RECRUITING AREAS AND CASTES WHO JOINED THE INDIAN ARMY IN 1932.**

**96. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM :** Will Government kindly lay on the table a statement showing the recruitment areas and the castes of the men who joined the Indian Army in 1932 ?

**HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF :** I lay on the table a statement containing the required information.

Statement showing the numbers by classes recruited in various provinces for the period 1st April, 1932 to 31st March, 1933.

Classes.	North-West Frontier Province.	Punjab and Delhi.	United Provinces.	Rajputana and Central India.	Bombay Presidency.	Madras Presidency.	Burma.	Nepal.	Total.
Pathans	1,208	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,208
Punjabi Musalmans	..	5,593	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,593
Sikhs	..	2,877	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,877
Dogras	..	1,804	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,804
Hindu Rajputs	..	244	234	405	..	..	..	..	883
Kumaonis	..	..	374	..	..	..	..	..	374
Hindu Jats	..	827	..	441	..	..	..	..	1,268
Gujars, Hindu	..	101	..	70	..	..	..	..	171
Ahirs	..	205	22	23	..	..	..	..	250
Ranghars	..	195	..	9	..	..	..	..	204
Hindustani Musalmans	..	84	97	..	..	..	..	..	181
Hindus	..	475	57	11	281	..	..	..	824
Rajputana Musalmans	..	20	..	116	..	..	..	..	136
Brahmans	..	10	66	..	..	..	..	..	76
Christians	..	1	1	1	..	136	..	..	139
Mahrattas	..	..	..	..	775	..	..	..	775
Deccani Musalmans	..	..	..	..	26	..	..	..	26
Madressi Musalmans	..	..	..	..	26	44	..	..	70
Madressi classes	..	..	..	..	..	352	..	..	352
Gurkhas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,968	1,968
Garhwalis	..	..	462	..	..	..	..	..	462
Burmese classes	..	..	..	..	..	..	263	..	263

**BASIS OF CALCULATION ADOPTED BY HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT IN FIXING THE CONTRIBUTION OF RS. 2 CRORES TOWARDS THE COST OF THE DEFENCE OF INDIA.**

97. **THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM:** Will Government kindly state how the contribution of Rs. 2,00,00,000 by His Majesty's Government was fixed? What was the basis of calculation in fixing this sum? Did the Government of India accept this sum in full settlement of all their demands? If so, on what date?

**HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF:** Rs. 2 crores was the figure at which His Majesty's Government at the time assessed the value of the two grounds on which the Capitation Rate Tribunal recommended that a contribution should be paid towards the cost of the Defence of India, namely:

- (1) The preparedness of the Army in India to take the field, and
- (2) The uniqueness of India as a training ground.

The Tribunal left it to His Majesty's Government to fix the amount of the contribution, and the Government of India's agreement to accept the recommendations of the Tribunal carried with it their acceptance of the decision of His Majesty's Government as to the amount of the contribution.

**EXCISE DUTY COLLECTED ON SUGAR, MATCHES, AND STEEL.**

98. **THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM:** Will Government kindly state the amount of excise duty collected in the third quarter of this year from sugar, matches and steel?

**THE HONOURABLE MR. P. C. TALLENTS:** Sugar Rs. 17,27,000, matches Rs. 58,78,000 (approximately), and steel ingots Rs. 2,84,000.

**CUSTOMS DUTY COLLECTED ON GOODS CHARGEABLE UNDER ITEM NO. 63 IN THE FIRST SCHEDULE TO ACT XXXII OF 1934 DURING THE THIRD QUARTER OF THE LAST THREE YEARS.**

99. **THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM:** What was the amount of customs duty collected on goods chargeable under Item No. 63 in the First Schedule to Act XXXII of 1934 during the third quarter of the last three years?

**THE HONOURABLE MR. P. C. TALLENTS:** The duty collected during the third quarter of the financial year was Rs. 1,304 in 1932, Rs. 1,486 in 1933 and Rs. 1,122 in 1934.

**AMOUNT DEBITED TO THE HEAD "REDUCTION AND AVOIDANCE OF DEBT" AND NET EXCESS EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME DURING THE 1ST APRIL, 1927 TO 31ST MARCH, 1934.**

100. **THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM:** Will Government kindly give the following information:

(a) The amount debited to the head "Reduction and Avoidance of Debt" and the net excess of expenditure over income (revenue account) during the period 1st April, 1927 to 31st March, 1934?

(b) The amount of liabilities of Government uncovered by assets on the 31st March, 1927 and 31st March, 1934.

(c) How is the discrepancy, if any, accounted for ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. C. TALLENTS : (a) and (b). I would invite the attention of the Honourable Member to paragraph 1 and Appendix II of my Explanatory Memorandum on the Budget for 1935-36.

(c) I regret I do not understand this part. If the Honourable Member will explain to me outside the House what is the exact information he requires I shall be pleased to furnish it to him.

PROPORTION FIXED FOR MUSLIMS AND OTHER MINORITIES IN EACH PROVINCE  
IN CERTAIN DEPARTMENTS.

101. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : Will Government kindly lay on the table a statement giving the following information :

(a) The proportion fixed for Muslim recruitment in different provinces for railways, posts and telegraphs, income-tax, customs, salt and excise, and the army.

(b) The proportion fixed for the minorities in each province for every department.

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : As regards railways, I would refer the Honourable Member to the Railway Department (Railway Board letters Nos. E.-34-C. M.-113, dated the 12th December, 1934, copies of which will be found in the Library of the House. As to the other locally recruited civil services, Government are preparing the necessary schemes in accordance with the principles laid down in section IV of their Resolution of the 4th July, 1934 regarding communal representation, but are not yet in a position to lay any statement on the table.

There is no fixed proportion for Muslim, or for any other recruitment on a communal basis, in the army.

The class composition of the army is decided solely in the interest of efficiency and in an endeavour to make the best possible use of the best available material.

NUMBER OF POSTAL DIVISIONS AND HEAD OFFICES IN ASSAM.

102. THE HONOURABLE SRIJUT HERAMBA PROSAD BARUA : (a) Is it a fact that Assam has got three postal divisions with nine head offices ?

(b) Is it also a fact that Sind and Baluchistan with three postal divisions and four head offices have got a separate circle ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state whether the Pasricha Committee have recommended a separate circle for Assam also ?

(d) Do Government propose to create a separate circle for Assam on the lines of Sind and Baluchistan ? If not, why not ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. D. G. MITCHELL : (a), (b) and (c). The replies are in the affirmative.

(d) The recommendation made by the Postal Enquiry Committee will be considered with its other recommendations in due course.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL EXCAVATION IN ASSAM.

103. THE HONOURABLE SRIJUT HERAMBA PROSAD BARUA : (a) Was it revealed in the Indian Archæological Department's Annual Report for 1928-29 that Assam has not received as much of the Department's attention as she actually deserves ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether any archæological excavation has ever been made in the province ? And if so, when ?

(c) Is it a fact that there have been found many valuable and interesting materials year after year under the auspices of the Assam Historical and Antiquarian Society ?

(d) Is it a fact that the Assam Historical and Antiquarian Society has been greatly handicapped for want of funds ?

(e) Does the Indian Archæological Department now propose to do some exploration and excavation work in Assam ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN :

(a) No.

(b) Archæological excavations were undertaken at Dah Parbatia near Tezpur in 1924-25.

(c) and (d). Government have no information.

(e) Government regret that in the present financial conditions it is not possible for the Archæological Department to extend its activities.

PURCHASES OF QUININE BY PROVINCES AND STOCKS OF QUININE AND CHINCHONA BARK.

104. THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR DR. SIR NASARVANJI CHOKSY : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the amount of quinine purchased by provincial Governments during 1933-34 ?

(b) Is it a fact that one provincial Government obtained its supply from other than Government sources ?

(c) Was any quinine disposed of to a foreign agency ? If so, in what quantity and at what rate ?

(d) What was the quantity of quinine and cinchona bark in stock on the 31st March, 1934, as compared with the same date in 1933 ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN :

(a) 12,437 lbs. were sold to provinces from the Government of India stock.

(b) Yes, under a misapprehension of the standing orders ; but it appears that the supply was not delivered until after the close of the year 1933-34.

(c) The answer to the first part is in the negative. The second does not arise.

(d) Quinine 249,284 lbs. and cinchona bark 622,317 lbs. as against 282,758 lbs. and 735,071 lbs. respectively on the 31st March, 1933.

SALE OF QUININE.

105. THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR DR. SIR NASARVANJI CHOKSY : Will Government be pleased to state whether the sale of quinine through post offices has been continued during the current year ? Were any further measures adopted to popularise its sale ?

**THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN :**  
The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. The matter referred to in the second part is a provincial matter as Public Health is a transferred subject.

**SUPPLY OF FREE QUININE TO THE RURAL POPULATION.**

**106. THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR DR. SIR NASARVANJI CHOKSY :** Will Government be pleased to state whether it is proposed to allocate any sum from the provision of rupees one crore made in the budget for rural development, for the supply of free quinine to the rural population ?

**THE HONOURABLE MR. P. C. TALLENTS :** Apart from the very general conditions referred to in the budget speech the Government of India do not wish to fetter the discretion of provincial Governments in submitting schemes for approval.

**UTILITY OF TOTAQUINA AND OTHER DERIVATIVES IN THE TREATMENT OF MALARIA.**

**107. THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR DR. SIR NASARVANJI CHOKSY :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the investigations upon the utility of totaquina in the treatment of malaria conducted by the Department of Malarial Survey have been completed ?

(b) When will the report be released for the information of the medical profession ?

(c) Have similar investigations been undertaken to test the value of plasmochin, atebirin and other derivatives in relation to the rational treatment of malaria under Indian conditions ?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state whether the use of totaquina has been popularised in the Madras Presidency ?

**THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN :**

(a) Yes.

(b) The report will be published in the Records of the Malaria Survey of India within the next few weeks.

(c) (i) Investigations into the value of plasmaquine were carried out by the Quinine and Malaria enquiry under the Indian Research Fund Association from 1927 to 1930. The results of this work were published in the Indian Journal of Medical Research, Volume XVI, pages 159—177 and Volume XVII, pages 793—814, and summarised in the Indian Medical Gazette Volume LXV, No. 11. The results of these investigations have since been adapted to the routine treatment of malaria among both British and Indian troops, and various papers and notes on the efficacy of such treatment have appeared in the Journal of the Royal Army Medical Corps and in the annual reports on the health of the Army in India in recent years. The volumes of the Indian Journal of Medical Research to which reference has been made and the annual reports on the health of the Army in India (published as Volume II of the annual reports of the Public Health Commissioner with the Government of India) are available in the Imperial Secretariat Library. A copy of the Indian Medical Gazette, Volume LXV, No. 11 has been placed in the Library of the House. The Journal of the Royal Army Medical Corps can be obtained on loan from the Office of the Director General, Indian Medical Service.

(c) (ii) Atebrin has been used at the Malarial Treatment Centre of the Indian Research Fund Association and is being given an extensive trial by the medical officers of the Army Department.

(d) Totaquina is being manufactured and tried in the Madras presidency.

INTEREST ACCRUING TO MUHAMMADANS ON THE WAR LOAN AND OTHER BONDS ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT.

108. THE HONOURABLE MR. MOHAMMAD YAMIN KHAN: (a) Is it a fact that the Mussalmans did not charge any interest on the War Loan and different Bonds issued by Government?

(b) If the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, what is the amount of such interest not paid by Government?

(c) To what sum has it now accumulated?

(d) Is Government calculating any interest on the sum so accumulated?

(e) Has any demand ever been made by the Muslim community to spend this amount for Muslim purposes?

(f) If so, what reply did Government give?

(g) What does Government propose to do with this money?

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. C. TALLENTS: (a) to (d). The Honourable Member is referred to the reply given by Mr. Taylor to the Honourable Mr. Hossain Imam's question No. 44 on the 18th February, 1933.

(e) Yes.

(f) and (g). The Honourable Member is referred to the reply given by Mr. Brayne to the Honourable Sir Ebrahim Haroon Jaffar's question No. 118 on the 12th September, 1927, and to the reply given by Sir George Schuster to question No. 69 by Khan Bahadur H. M. Wilayatullah in the Legislative Assembly on the 27th January, 1932.

NEW ELECTIONS TO THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

109. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA: Will Government be pleased to state whether Council of State elections will be held this year or there will be an extension in the life of the present Council.

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN: The Honourable Member is referred to my reply to the Honourable Mr. Hossain Imam's question No. 29 asked on the 11th February, 1935.

PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT ACCORDED TO ANGLO-INDIANS IN THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION.

110. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA: (a) Is it a fact that preferential treatment has been accorded to Anglo-Indians in the matter of recruitment to the ministerial staff in the Office of the Director of Civil Aviation in India?

(b) Is it a fact that all high paid appointments are at present held by Anglo-Indians and that applications are being entertained from Anglo-Indians for the post of a gazetted superintendent?

**THE HONOURABLE MR. D. G. MITCHELL:** (a) No.

(b) No. Applications for the additional post of Gazetted Superintendent are being entertained from members of all communities.

**PERCENTAGE OF HINDUS IN THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION.**

**111. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state the percentage of Hindus in the Civil Aviation Office ministerial staff on 1st March, 1932, 1st March, 1933, 1st March, 1934 and 1st March, 1935? If there has been a decrease in the percentage of that community what, besides the reservation of 33 per cent. posts for minority communities, are the reasons for the decrease?

(b) Is it a fact that Government intend to recruit a few more secretariat men in the Civil Aviation Office? If so, do Government propose to abstain from further reductions in the percentage of Hindus in the Office?

**THE HONOURABLE MR. D. G. MITCHELL:** (a) The information asked for by the Honourable Member is as follows:

1st March, 1932.	. . . . .	60 per cent.
1st March, 1933.	. . . . .	64·3 ,,
1st March, 1934.	. . . . .	60·6 ,,
1st March, 1935.	. . . . .	67·3 ,,

There has been, therefore, no decrease in the percentage of Hindus. These figures refer to permanent staff only.

(b) The answer to the first part is in the affirmative. The second part does not arise.

**COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE MINISTERIAL STAFF EMPLOYED IN THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION.**

**112. THE HONOURABLE RAJA GHAZANFAR ALI KHAN:** (a) Will Government please state the communal composition of the ministerial staff employed in the Civil Aviation Office on 1st March, 1935, including permanent and temporary posts?

(b) Is it a fact that the percentage and number of Muslims is far lower than that of Anglo-Indians?

(c) Is it a fact that the Civil Aviation Office was constituted in 1927 and has recently been expanded?

(d) Is it a fact that Government orders are to the effect that Muslims should form the majority amongst the minority communities and that 25 per cent. posts should be reserved for Muslims in connection with recruitment?

(e) Is it a fact that the Anglo-Indian community has received preferential treatment in the matter of recruitment in that Office over Muslims?

(f) Is it a fact that there is no Muslim in the senior ranks of the Civil Aviation Office?

(g) How many Anglo-Indian lady clerks are employed in the office?

(h) Is it a fact that there are three gazetted ministerial posts in the Civil Aviation Office and that two thereof are held by Anglo-Indians?



(i) Is it a fact that it is proposed to recruit a man to fill up the third gazetted post and that applications are being entertained from Anglo-Indians for this post ?

(j) Do Government propose to consider the possibility of recruiting a Muslim for this post ?

(k) Is it a fact that Mr. A. G. Clow, the then Secretary, ordered on a previous occasion that claims of all minority communities should be given due weight and that recruitment of members of the Anglo-Indian community should be suspended ? Do these orders still hold good ?

**THE HONOURABLE MR. D. G. MITCHELL :** (a) The communal composition of the ministerial staff (including permanent and temporary) employed in the Civil Aviation Office on the 1st March, 1935 was as follows :

Hindus . . . . .	31
Muslims . . . . .	8
Europeans and Anglo-Indians . . . . .	7
Sikhs . . . . .	2
Indian Christians . . . . .	2

(b) No. It is higher.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes.

(e) No.

(f) No. There is at present one Muslim Assistant in that office. Another Muslim who held a senior position, would have now been holding the post of a permanent Superintendent if he had not sought employment elsewhere. The appointment of members of the Muslim community to certain other senior posts of Assistant recently sanctioned for that office is under consideration by the Director of Civil Aviation.

(g) Three, of whom two are temporary.

(h) to (j). There are two gazetted posts of Secretariat Superintendent in the Civil Aviation Office one of which is held by an Anglo-Indian. Applications to fill the second post have been invited from members of all communities.

(k) No such order can be traced.

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**VALEDICTORY SPEECHES IN CONNECTION WITH THE RETIREMENT OF THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN.**

**THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT :** The Honourable Sir Fazl-i-Husain, I have specially called today's meeting in order to bid you an affectionate farewell on the eve of your retirement from this Council. I assure you that it is with feelings of regret and sorrow that the Honourable Members of my Council part from you on this occasion. Many of the Honourable Members of this Council have known you for several years, first when you had the good fortune to serve in your own province in the Punjab Legislative Council and later on when you were appointed a temporary Member of the Governor General's Executive Council and to this House. You came to this House

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well equipped with the knowledge and experience you had gained in your province where you for the first time had the occasion to enter the Council in 1920 and later on on two distinct occasions you were elected unopposed to that Council. You had the good fortune to serve twice as a Minister in the Punjab and later on as the Revenue Member of the Executive Council of that province. We came in contact for the first time with you in a more concrete manner when you joined on two occasions this Council as a temporary Member and then the opinion and expectation we entertained that you will soon prove a very useful Member of this Council has been amply justified and more than fulfilled. (Applause.) You have been since your appointment in this House the Leader of this Council. The duties and responsibilities now-a-days of the Leader of a House in the Indian Legislature certainly is no bed of roses. A Leader has to confront many a disagreeable task; he has to incur displeasure and incur obloquy at times and the disapproval of Honourable Members is so frequent who on occasions disagree with him. But in your case it may be safely said that in the execution and in the performance of your duties you have brought to bear rare tact, skill, persuasive powers and manners and masterly ability. (Applause.) Often in this House most acrimonious discussions have taken place and we have seen you ultimately winding up the debates with a grace and with a conciliatory manner which has commanded the respect and attention of this House.

You were also in your official capacity as Education and Revenue Member called upon to go to South Africa to lead the Indo-South African Conference of 1932. Your acumen there and the success which you attained there are now matters of history and common knowledge. I have no doubt that everyone in this Council hopes that in your retirement you will always bear in mind the five happy years that you have spent in this Council, and you may take it from me that this House will also remember with gratitude the services rendered by you in this Council. (Applause.) On behalf of my Council and myself I wish you in your retirement well-earned rest and all manner of happiness and hope that you may yet be spared for many years to do good work in other walks of life and in other spheres of activities and to continue to give to this country the services which you have so long vigorously and faithfully rendered.

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS (Punjab : Non-Muhammadan) : Sir, on the occasion of farewell it is but right that I on behalf of my party should say how sorry we are to have to bid farewell to the Honourable Sir Fazl-i-Husain the Leader of our House. If during the five years that he has been with us the Council has not been able to achieve much in the popular sense the fault lies with the Constitution rather than with those who influence its working. Whether one agrees with Sir Fazl-i-Husain or not—and we on this side have several times differed from him—the fact remains that the Leader of our House possesses political gifts of a high order and have used them for the promotion of whatever ideals he believed in. His departure will be a definite loss to the Government of India, where his experience has been of great value. I hope Sir Fazl-i-Husain enjoys a well deserved eminence. It may be permissible to express the hope that his five years' association with the central Legislature will enable him to bring to bear on public problems the all-India outlook, which alone would conduce to a better development of national life. His recent speech in the other House proves how well he has fought for the Indians overseas though without success. But where there is a will there is a way. His efforts will not be wasted. He has given a great impetus to agricultural research.

The portfolio of the Member in Charge of Education, Health and Lands is a crowded one and Agriculture is the most important of the many subjects included in it. Sir Fazl-i-Husain's tenure of office has been marked by a period of renewed activity in agricultural matters by the Government of India—a welcome change—for this House has never agreed to the view that because agriculture is a transferred subject in the provinces, the responsibilities of the central Government were in consequence unimportant. Sir Fazli has been Chairman of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research throughout the greater part of its existence and even during a period of great financial stringency was able to secure quite a substantial allotment of funds for agricultural research. This new organisation provided machinery by which work on problems of all-India importance could be assisted at other centres than the Government of India's own Central Research Institute. To Sir Fazli must also go most of the credit for the wise decision to establish the new Imperial Institute of Agricultural Research at New Delhi.

Of administrative action for the benefit of the agriculturist may be mentioned the decision to grant fiscal protection to the sugar industry in 1931, which has led to the establishment of 120 additional sugar factories in India and to our becoming almost self-supporting in regard to sugar; the Sugarcane Act, 1934, which by enabling the local Governments to fix minimum prices for sugarcane, provides a means of bringing to the agriculturist a fuller share of the benefit of the protection granted to the industry. The Wheat Import Duty Act is fresh in our minds. At a critical time it prevented wheat prices from being yet further depressed by uneconomic imports and secured the Indian market for Indian wheat. The reduction in railway freight for wheat consigned to Karachi for export was of some assistance last year when world prices rose a little for a short time and India again became an exporter. In 1935 it may be of considerable importance both to Sind and the Punjab. Sir Fazli was one of the representatives of India in the Indo-Japanese Trade negotiation, the result of which has been a trade pact of distinct advantage to Indian cotton-growers and we know that he also took part in the discussions which led to the present organised efforts by Lancashire to purchase more Indian cotton—efforts which have met with success and have been appreciated by the Punjab cotton-growers. These few examples must suffice. We know that the decision in these matters is the decision of the Government of India as a whole but we know quite well that in these and many other matters Sir Fazl-i-Husain has kept the agriculturists' point of view constantly before himself and his colleagues.

I must also pay him a tribute in that through his efforts there has been steady progress in the Indianisation of district civil surgeoncies, the number of Indian medical officers holding charge of civil surgeoncies in the various provinces having risen from 52 in March, 1930 to 65 in March, 1935.

Sir, we are also grateful to him for having maintained the progress of Indianisation in his Department at a time when other departments, such as the Finance Department, have gone back on this policy.

Sir, I wish Sir Fazl-i-Husain all success in his future career, long life and peace of mind.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. MAHMOOD SUHRAWARDY** (West Bengal : Muhammadan) : Sir, on behalf of the Independent Party and also as an elected Muslim representative from Bengal, I beg to convey to the Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain, the Leader of the House, who is now leaving us, our sense of loss at his departure, which will deprive us of his valuable advice which, while

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he was with us, was always freely given and which, on many an occasion, helped to restore the balance of sanity in the House.

Sir, this House is under a deep obligation to Sir Fazl-i-Husain. He always struck the right note in debate, and even when we differed from him, we did not fail to recognise the fact that mere difference of opinion did not lessen either our regard, or our respect, for Sir Fazl-i-Husain, to whom the dignity of the House was a matter of as great a moment as to any one of us. Sir Fazl-i-Husain always raised the level of any debate in this House, and it is to his credit that although he has been scrupulously mindful of the cause of the Government which he has so ably represented, he has, at the same time, never lost sight of the best interests of his people. He has always represented all that is best in India and among the Indians.

Finally, Sir, I may add that he has also proved himself a great Muslim, fair, impartial and an upholder of the truth. Needless to say, I wish him many more years of useful public service in his own province of the Punjab.

THE HONOURABLE SARDAR SHRI JAGANNATH MAHARAJ PANDIT (Bombay : Non-Muhammadan) : Sir, I also wish to associate myself with every word that has fallen from previous speakers. In him this House will lose one of the best specimens of Indian culture. As far as I am concerned, I can speak from my personal experience, as a member of the Emigration Committee, of which, the Honourable Sir Fazl-i-Husain was Chairman, that he was very vigilant in safeguarding the interest of Indians abroad and took special care to take every effective step possible by which the status of Indians abroad could be raised.

I wish him long life so that he may enjoy his well earned rest.

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR SYED ABDUL HAFEEZ (East Bengal : Muhammadan) : Sir, I rise to associate myself with what has been said by the Honourable Member in eulogising the services of Sir Fazl-i-Husain, who is going to leave us by the 31st of March. It will be an irreparable loss to the House to miss a great statesman like him, who had all along displayed the highest acme of intellectual greatness and political sagacity. His witticism, ingenuousness, erudition and discretion always marked his history-making speeches in the House. Notwithstanding the great part that he has played in the evolution of the future of India, he has also most bravely steered the course of the House in a manner worthy of a great leader. I would now conclude with my best wishes for his health, happiness and ever more prosperity in life.

THE HONOURABLE MR. E. MILLER (Bombay Chamber of Commerce) : Mr. President, on behalf of the non-official European Members of this House, I beg to associate myself with what you have said, Sir, and other Honourable Members of this House in regard to our Leader, Sir Fazl-i-Husain.

We know him in this House as being a most able administrator, and we admire his courage during those periods when he has not been enjoying the best of health, but has stuck to his post, I am sure very frequently at great inconvenience to himself. His quick grasp of a situation is a quality we must all admire, and this together with his keen sense of humour has proved to be the deciding factor in many a debate. Sir Fazli has shewn great ability in dealing with the difficult problems of Indians overseas, and only during the past few days in another place, his handling of the question of the position of Indians in East Africa was responsible for a debate on this subject ending in a most

happy way and in a complete understanding between Government and the Congress Party.

We part with Sir Fazli with the greatest possible regret, and when he finally leaves Delhi he will take with him our very best wishes for the future and our hope that he may enjoy a better measure of health than he has done during the past year or two.

**THE HONOURABLE LIEUTENANT-COLONEL NAWAB SIR MAHOMED AKBAR KAHN** (North-West Frontier Province : Nominated Non-Official) : Sir, it is for me a matter of great pleasure and privilege to have known the Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain for a very long time and there can be no gainsaying the fact that my associations with the Mian Sahib are of such a long duration that no Honourable Member of this House can claim priority over that. I feel proud to inform Honourable Members that the birthplace of the Mian Sahib belongs to my province where his late revered father had served the whole of his term of employment in Government service. His late father was a great and intimate friend of my father and as their great friendship developed into brotherly relations with each other, I have also looked upon the Mian Sahib as my brother and an elder brother on account of his being older than me in the matter of age. I know full well the days when the Mian Sahib was getting his education at Lahore, the time when he went to England to get his degree at the Bar and the days of his return from England when he started his practice at Sialkot. Later on he finally settled at Lahore where he had the good fortune to establish his reputation as a very good and capable lawyer and at one time the best man of his profession. I used to meet him there very frequently and in those days I found his views to be more or less those of a Congressman. Later on, he changed his angle of vision in political matters and decided upon working out the Montford Reforms. The result was that he was the first Minister in the Punjab and since then up till the present moment he has always had the good fortune to hold a ministerial portfolio either in the Punjab or in the Government of India. He has been the Honourable Leader of this House for the last five years with a short break of six months during which period he had to go on leave owing to ill-health and during all this time we have always found him friendly, cordial and greatly amicable to all the Members. We are really sorry to miss him in future but had it not been for reasons of his health I am sure the Government of India would not have allowed him to retire at such a critical juncture when the next instalment of reforms, for the provision of which the Mian Sahib has exerted his utmost, are in the course of introduction very shortly. However, we hope to find him soon once again at the helm of affairs in the Punjab and within the time of his coming to that office, I earnestly hope that he will be in a position to recoup his health by a complete rest and thus renew his energies for the discharge of those responsible duties which are awaiting him in the Punjab.

**THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR DR. SIR NASARVANJI CHOKSY** (Bombay : Nominated Non-Official) : Sir, as the only medical member of this House, I take this opportunity to tender to the Honourable Sir Fazl-i-Husain the sincere gratitude of the medical profession for the great interest that he has evinced in the progress of medical science and medical education in India. It was his successful piloting of the Indian Medical Council Act that laid at rest a controversy that had been agitating the profession for a considerable time, and it was his zeal, sagacity and foresight that led to the happy termination of the most vexed question of the day. Further, Sir, if I am not mistaken, the recent concession that we received from the Secretary of State in regard to the

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recruitment of the Indian Medical Service is due to his great interest and solicitude for the Indian profession. I believe that the work which he has achieved in the fields of public health and medicine will stand as a monument of his successful administration of these departments.

With these few words, Sir, I cordially associate myself with the sentiments of other Honourable Members of this House.

THE HONOURABLE RAJA GHAZANFAR ALI KHAN (West Punjab : Muhammadan) : Sir, it is with mixed feelings of joy and sorrow that I rise to take part in the remarks which are being made on this occasion. Although my association with the Honourable the Leader of the House in the Council of State spreads only over a period of two months, I had the privilege of knowing him most intimately since 1918 when he was the greatest political leader in the Punjab. Sir, I agree with all those friends who have already spoken that we shall be very sorry to lose him from this House, particularly when, as it was remarked by a speaker in the lower House the other day, he is the only Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council who has been always responsive to the opinions of the popular parties. Nevertheless, I am very glad that he is going back to the Punjab, which very badly needs an eminent and experienced statesman like him. Sir, since Sir Fazli left political life in 1920 and joined the Punjab Government as Minister the Punjab has been badly in need of a real political leader. At present India is passing through most critical stages of political advance, and the greatest problem facing us at present is the question of Hindu-Muslim unity. No progress is possible unless that question is satisfactorily solved, and I am firmly convinced that it will be only through the Honourable Sir Fazl-i-Husain that this question will be ultimately solved. I am sure, Sir, that when after his well-earned rest he goes back and takes an active part in the political life of the Punjab this most thorny question of the communal problem will be solved at once to the entire satisfaction of all communities. Sir, I may be permitted to say that the Honourable Sir Fazl-i-Husain's activities outside the House will be of much more importance than they have been hitherto. All the progress and educational advance which we see in the Punjab are entirely due to the Honourable Sir Fazl-i-Husain's policy which he laid down as Education Minister, and I have no doubt that in the progress of the Punjab lies the progress of India and that Sir Fazl-i-Husain will be spared for a long time to take a very prominent and active part in contributing towards the progress of his own province.

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT (Home Secretary) : Sir, it would have been inappropriate if the Government back benches were entirely silent on this occasion. I therefore merely rise to say on behalf of myself and my colleagues on those benches how fully we associate ourselves with all that you, Sir, and other Honourable Members have said in expressing their appreciation of all that Sir Fazl-i-Husain has done during his tenure of office in the Government of India. We who are in the position of Secretaries perhaps see more of an Honourable Member's work than those of you who merely see him in this House. We who have worked with him have learnt to appreciate his great ability, his invariable courtesy and his untiring devotion to duty. We say farewell with regret but I think many of us feel assured that those of us who continue to work in Delhi and Simla will certainly in the latter place in a few short years meet him again holding an even more important position in the Punjab Government than that which he has held so ably during the last five years.

**THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR CHAUDRI MUHAMMAD DIN** (East Punjab : Muhammadan) : Sir, we are today bidding farewell to the Leader of the House who is returning to his own province after a successful career as a Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council. The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain originally started practice as a barrister in my home district, Sialkot, more than 30 years ago. His courtesy, his tact, his high character and capacity for work endeared him to the people of my district in a very short time. A high-minded patriot and an illustrious son of the Punjab, his qualities are well known all over India now and we Punjabis are proud of his achievements. We offer our sincerest good wishes to him and we hope that with the wider experience gained by him in the Government of India he will be able to serve his own province even more successfully, especially in the cause of Punjab agriculture.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE** (East Bengal : Non-Muhammadan) : Mr. President, coming as I do from the province of Bengal I crave your indulgence and the indulgence of this Honourable House to afford me an opportunity in a rather melancholy strain to give vent to our feelings in an hour when we are just on the eve of bidding our respectful and parting farewell to our much esteemed friend the retiring Leader of our House, Sir Fazl-i-Husain. When it was my privilege, Sir, to come to this House by the latter part of the year 1930, we saw our esteemed friend occupying the seat in the other House. We used to see him like a "star from afar" and hardly we knew till then that he would be the "Pole Star" in the upper Chamber to guide and steer it in the right direction whenever it was found weathering a stormy sea. He, I believe, preferred the rather calmer atmosphere of this House in place of the tumultuous and tiresome one of the other. Sir, the higher regions are always serene and breathe an air of dignified superiority over the vitiated atmosphere of the lower regions and I believe he has derived the fullest extent of what he desired from the upper House which was always cordial and friendly to him. Sir Fazli is too great a personality to be judged by me and many others of my school of thought who are not supposed to know even a fraction of the wide knowledge and experience he possesses through culture and perseverance, a rare gift which many of his generation will envy. His was a life full of useful activities in pursuit of learning knowledge and culture and it was therefore very appropriate that he took his seat as Education Member of the Government of India. Those that had the opportunity of listening to his masterly convocation address as Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Delhi University the other day or those that have gone through his speech in the papers must admit the admirable lucidity and frankness with which he made his statement advocating the spirit of forbearance and tolerance towards his fellow men which was the ultimate goal of success when people are at strife with one another and which formed a conspicuous part of the best advice he could give to the rising generation of the day. During the tenure of his office as Education Member, I think it was for the first time that Sir Fazli visited our part of Eastern Bengal and the people of that province had their first occasion to greet him as one amongst them and it is for him to judge what recollection and idea he treasured up in his mind about the people and the strange land he visited during his eastern sojourn. Whatever he might have cherished in his mind, good, bad or indifferent in his official capacity, is a sealed book to us and which we are not entitled to traverse. We must consider him from our Indian standpoint—an Indian first and an official after. Now, Sir, when he is about to lay down the rein of a successful career of administration in the Department of Education, Health and Lands, what can we offer him

[Mr. Jagadish Chandra Banerjee.]

save and except our hearts' most spontaneous wish for his long, happy and peaceful life in his well-earned retirement and in the midst of his near and dear ones and it is our further wish to let him not forget those familiar faces of this Chamber to whom it is so very painful to forget him.

With these words, Sir, I wish all the very best of this side of the House and our respectful farewell.

**THE HONOURABLE SAIYED MOHAMED PADSHAH SAHIB BAHADUR (Madras : Muhammadan) :** Sir, I associate myself with all that has been said in grateful appreciation of the admirable manner in which the Honourable Sir Fazli-i-Husain has been discharging the onerous duties which devolved upon him during all these five years that he has been the Leader of this House. Sir, his genial disposition, his winning manners, the invariable courtesy which he extended to every section of this House, have won for him a privileged corner in the hearts of everyone present here. I am sure everyone here will miss him sorely when he retires from his present office. Sir, the perfect mastery of the art of dialectic fencing, the great wealth of knowledge and information, his remarkable capacity for toleration and an almost inexhaustible fund of patience, these were qualities which he displayed in the Leadership of this House. Sir, even the most violent storms of controversy which swept over the floor of this House failed to disturb his equanimity. He always kept himself calm, cool and altogether unruffled. Sir, while he strove to demolish and pull to pieces the case that was made against him, he used always to refrain from indulging in cheap gibes and jeers. He was always ready to appreciate and acknowledge the honesty of motive, even though he refused to approve of the views of his adversary. Sir, the cold logic which characterised his arguments was always relieved by brilliant sallies of wit and humour which made his speeches in this House always interesting. Sir, the consummate tact which he displayed in handling difficult situations, the disposition he had for accommodation, the catholicity of mind which he always had and which always enabled him to tolerate honest difference of opinion and above all, Sir, the charm and splendour of his personality always enabled him to convert defeats into victories and turn those people who were the bitterest of his critics to be the best of his admirers. Sir, Sir Fazli-i-Husain has always been known for his patriotism and public spirit. Long before he assumed office as a Minister of the Punjab Government he had earned for himself a name in the temple of fame. Sir, at the very outset of his career he found himself in the front ranks of public men in the country. Not only was he the President of the Bar Association in the Punjab, but he was also the elected Secretary of a leading educational institution, a Fellow of the Punjab University and a Member of its Syndicate. Sir, it was only in the fitness of things that one who had taken such keen interest in education should have been entrusted with the Education portfolio. I need not enumerate all that he has been able to do as a Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council. Sir, several Honourable friends who have spoken have given instances of the way in which he has left his indelible mark upon those departments over whose activities he has presided. I am sure I am echoing the feelings of everyone here present that we are oppressed with a great sense of loss at parting from him. I wish him long life and every happiness and prosperity.

**THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZLI-I-HUSAIN (Leader of the House) :** You will permit me, Sir, to move from the personal to the



impersonal and from the individual to the association. I wish to say a few words as to the Council of State itself. The first noticeable thing is that it has now full fledged parties in it. Formerly there used to be no such parties. No doubt we on this side find one Party particularly troublesome at times. Still it shows that the House has developed along constitutional lines and is showing the existence of life in it and vitality and all that makes for development in the constitutional sense. Then, Sir, the debates of this House used to be very much to the point and very brief and I remember in 1925 when I officiated I had to be very quick to reach the House; otherwise I ran the risk of meeting Members when they were returning from the meeting if I was a little late. During the five years we have seen the House making its debates more exhaustive, more spirited, perhaps more protracted as well and double sessions have recently been the rule rather than the exception. All that shows that Members take keen interest and work up their subjects and are really getting on very well. It is a great pleasure to know that the atmosphere of the House has invariably been one of cordiality, goodwill and good humour. I think these are the distinctive features of what I may call a good House. These debates are no joke; they provoke people to antagonism, expressions of different views, conflict of interest, and it is really up to us, in spite of the sort of business we have to transact, still to maintain cordiality and goodwill and without these the House soon falls very low. Then, Sir, not only have we got organised parties, real troublesome debates—long ones—but we have now got what we did not possess when I came, a non-official President. (Applause.) That is another advance, constitutional advance, in making this House a real political institution of great importance in India. Then many Members of this House have proceeded to serve on important national committees in India and outside India. That again gives a status and a position to the House in the political life of the country. In virtue of all these things, Sir, which it has been my good fortune to watch coming into being and develop, what do we see in the future? It is very difficult to see anything in the future. You can only make a guess. But if you look hard enough at what is in the India Bill which is under discussion, you will find that when it is actually passed, this House, which has been more or less described as an upper Chamber—meaning thereby not of much consequence—in the new *june*, that is to say in the new incarnation (*june* in Punjabi and in Urdu means the new shape that the body assumes after death according to Hindu belief) it will become a more important partner in the central Legislature perhaps than the other. Now, Sir, I claim that this is really the reward for the good life led by this House during the last five years, and it will be my privilege in my retirement to see this House develop into a full-fledged major partner in the central Legislature of a great country. What a wonderful part this House will be playing at that time I leave it to the imagination of Honourable Members to divine. And no more for them a nominated Member like me. Your Leader will come from amongst you. So that is, Sir, what I trust is in store for this House and if I have done anything to work towards that ideal I am well repaid for all the trouble I may have taken to get it.

It is true, Sir, partings are sad affairs. But I have got more or less habituated to them and take a more optimistic view of them. I would not be parting from my Honourable colleagues now if somebody had not parted from them five years ago, and if there is another place for me to go to I could not be welcomed there unless I left this place. So we ought to take these five-year appointments as a real good thing. In five years time one puts in as much as one has it in him to put into a particular job. There is a healthy principle behind it all.

[Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain.]

I am most grateful to you, Sir, for the very very complimentary things you have said about me : it is not right for a man to hear such nice things said about him. They are apt to turn his head. And I really must do my best to keep my head today for what I want to do is to devote my attention now for some time to come to develop physical force, mental force, and if possible spiritual force to help my country's interests.

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The Council then adjourned to a date and time to be notified by circular.