

Tuesday, 20th September, 1932

THE
COUNCIL OF STATE DEBATES

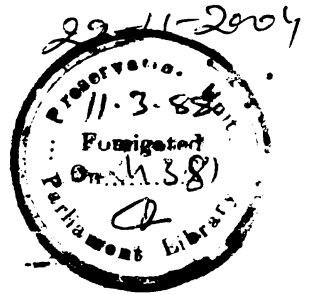
VOLUME II, 1932

(20th September to 19th December, 1932)

FOURTH SESSION

OF THE

THIRD COUNCIL OF STATE, 1932



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1933

M79CS

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Council of State.

President :

THE HONOURABLE SIR HENRY MONCRIEFF SMITH, KT., C.I.E.

Panel of Chairmen :

THE HONOURABLE SIR MANECKJI DADABHOY, K.C.I.E.

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THE HONOURABLE NAWAB MALIK MOHAMMAD HAYAT KHAN NOON, C.S.I.

Secretary :

MR. G. H. SPENCE, C.I.E., I.C.S.

Assistants of the Secretary :

MR. C. H. F. PEREIRA. (Up to 17th October, 1932.)

RAI BAHADUR A. L. BANERJEE.

MR. A. W. CHICK. (From 18th October, 1932.)

Committee on Petitions :

THE HONOURABLE MR. G. A. NATESAN, Chairman.

THE HONOURABLE RAJA CHARANJIT SINGH.

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR SYED ABDUL HAFEEZ.

THE HONOURABLE SIR DAVID DEVADOSS, KT.

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} *Members.*

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THE
COUNCIL OF STATE DEBATES
(OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE
THIRD COUNCIL OF STATE.)

VOLUME II—1932.

COUNCIL OF STATE.

Tuesday, 20th September, 1932.

The Council met in the Council Chamber at Viceregal Lodge at Eleven of the Clock, being the first day of the Fourth Session of the Third Council of State, pursuant to section 63D (2) of the Government of India Act. The Honourable the President (the Honourable Sir Henry Moncrieff Smith, Kt., C.I.E.) was in the Chair.

MEMBERS SWORN :

- The Honourable Chaudhri Zafrulla Khan (Education, Health and Lands Member).
- The Honourable Major-General John Wallace Dick Megaw, C.I.E., M.B., K.H.P., I.M.S. (Director-General, Indian Medical Service).
- The Honourable Mr. Cecil Bernard Cotterell, C.I.E. (Madras : Nominated Official).
- The Honourable Mr. Guru Saday Dutt (Bengal : Nominated Official).
- The Honourable Rai Bahadur Madan Mohan Sinha, M.B.E. (United Provinces : Nominated Official).
- The Honourable Sardar Buta Singh (Punjab : Sikh).
- The Honourable Mr. John Austen Hubback (Bihar and Orissa : Nominated Official).
- The Honourable Mr. Vinayak Vithal Kalikar (Central Provinces : General).
- The Honourable Mr. James Barrie Glass (Burma Chamber of Commerce).
- The Honourable Mr. Tin Tüt (Government of India : Nominated Official).
- The Honourable Mr. Alan Hubert Lloyd, C.I.E. (Government of India : Nominated Official).
- The Honourable Mr. James Braid Taylor (Finance Secretary).
- The Honourable Mr. Maurice Garnier Hallett, C.I.E. (Home Secretary).
- The Honourable Mr. Edward Charles Benthall (Bengal Chamber of Commerce).

DEATH OF RAJA LAXMANRAO BHONSLE.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: Before we proceed to any business I have to ask the Council to join with me in an expression of regret at the death, since we last met, of one of our Members, Raja Laxmanrao Bhonsle of the Central Provinces. The deceased was a Member of this Council for a very short time, having been elected at the end of 1930. I am sure it is the unanimous desire of the House that I should send a message of our sympathy to the bereaved family.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

TOTAL EXPENDITURE INCURRED ON THE TOUR OF THE INDIAN FRANCHISE COMMITTEE.

1. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE :

(1) Will Government be pleased to state the total cost of the touring of the Indian Franchise Committee otherwise known as the Lothian Committee ?

(2) Have the provinces contributed any sum towards the cost of this Committee ? If so, what are their respective quota ?

(3) (a) What was the daily or monthly allowance of the individual members of the Committee ? (b) Was there any difference in the scale of such allowance between the European and the Indian members ? (c) If so, will Government be pleased to state why this distinction was made ? (d) Did the amount of allowance of the President of the Committee vary from that of the other members ?

(4) Will Government be pleased to state whether in the terms of reference of the Committee there was anything mentioned that they would have to finish their work within a stipulated period of time ? If not, were there any special reasons other than what are found in their report, why the province of Assam and the Central Provinces were not visited by the Committee ?

THE HONOURABLE SIR BROJENDRA MITTER: (1) If by the expression "total cost of touring" the Honourable Member means the total cost of the Committee the amount has been estimated at £17,500.

(2) The cost of the Indian Franchise Committee was shared between the Government of India and His Majesty's Government. The provincial Governments bore the cost only of the local Committees set up by them.

(3) The President and members—European and Indian—were paid at a uniform rate, namely, a compensatory allowance of Rs. 1,500 per mensem and a tour allowance of Rs. 300 per mensem.

(4) The replies to both parts of the question are in the negative.

OPINIONS OF CERTAIN ASSOCIATIONS, ETC., ON THE REPORT OF THE INDIAN FRANCHISE COMMITTEE.

2. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE

(a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have invited the opinions of the European Association, British Indian Association, Calcutta, Indian Association, Calcutta, European Chambers of Commerce of those provinces where

there are such chambers, Western India Liberal Association, Bengal Landholders' Association, Indian Trade Union Congress and the Federation of Indian Merchants' Chambers, on the Report of the Indian Franchise Committee ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the trend of views of each of the above mentioned public bodies ?

(c) If Government have not invited any opinion of the public institutions of India, have they so far received any opinion of any public institution voluntarily submitted to Government by it ?

(d) If so, will Government be pleased to let this House know in brief the gist of such opinion ?

THE HONOURABLE SIR BROJENDRA MITTER : (a), (b) and (c). Government have not invited the opinions of the associations and bodies referred to by the Honourable Member. Several associations have submitted representations voluntarily.

(d) The substance of all these communications is that the particular interests represented should receive consideration in franchise decisions.

TOTAL EXPENDITURE INCURRED ON THE PRINTING OF THE REPORT OF THE INDIAN FRANCHISE COMMITTEE.

3. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Will Government be pleased to state the cost of the printing of the Report of the Indian Franchise Committee and how many copies have been printed ? Have Government made any arrangements to let the non-English-knowing people and, especially, the public in general who will be enfranchised on the recommendations of the Indian Franchise Committee, know the salient features of the Report ?

THE HONOURABLE SIR BROJENDRA MITTER : I lay on the table a statement containing the information asked for by the Honourable Member in the first part of his question.

As regards the second part of the question, I may mention that copies of a summary of the Report were supplied at the time of publication by the Committee's Secretariat to all local Governments, with the suggestion that translations might be issued to the vernacular press in each province.

Statement showing the number of copies printed and cost of printing the Indian Franchise Committee's Report.

Volume No.	No. of copies printed.	Cost of printing.
I	10,272	7,548
II	3,050	3,735
III	3,050	4,005
IV	2,000	10,200
V	2,000	(approximately).

**NUMBER OF BRANCH AND FEEDER LINES OF THE ASSAM BENGAL RAILWAY
CONSTRUCTED SINCE 1927.**

4. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Will Government be pleased to state the number of branch lines and feeder lines that were constructed to join the main line of the Assam Bengal Railway since 1927 and the approximate annual gross receipts, line by line ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE : I lay on the table a statement which gives the information required in connection with the lines added to the Assam Bengal Railway system and opened for traffic since January, 1927.

Statement showing lines added to the Assam Bengal Railway system and opened for traffic since January, 1927.

Name of line.	Gross receipts for 1931-32.
	Rs.
1. Sibsagar Road—Khowang	1,54,151
2. Furkating-Badulipara-Jorhat	1,85,484
3. Karimganj-Longai Valley	1,15,329
4. Netrakona-Mohanganj	51,872
5. Shaistaganj-Habiganj	42,628
6. Shaistaganj-Balla	41,699
7. Feni-Belonia	38,086
8. Senchoa-Mairabari	55,489
9. Chittagong-Nazirhat	1,05,987
10. Chittagong-Duhazari	86,000

**CONSTRUCTION OF A BRIDGE OVER THE MEGNA RIVER BETWEEN BHAIRAB
AND ASHUGANJ ON THE ASSAM BENGAL RAILWAY.**

5. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Will Government be pleased to state whether there was a scheme to construct a bridge over the Megna river between Bhairab and Ashuganj on the Assam Bengal Railway ? If so, how does that project stand now ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE : Yes. Construction has unfortunately had to be postponed, but the acquisition of land has been sanctioned.

**SPECIAL OR CONCESSIONAL RATES FOR GOODS TRAFFIC, SUCH AS TEA, JUTE,
KEROSENE, PETROLEUM, ETC., ON THE ASSAM BENGAL RAILWAY.**

6. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Will Government be pleased to state whether the Assam Bengal Railway Company gives any special or concession rates for goods traffic, such as tea, jute, kerosene and petroleum, etc. ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE : Presumably the Honourable Member refers to rates which are special or concessional in relation to the ordinary class rates quoted in the Indian Railways General Classification of

Goods. If this is so, the answer is in the affirmative, and particulars of the special rates will be found in the Assam Bengal Railway Company's Goods Tariff and Jute Tariff.

PROGRESS OF INDIANISATION ON THE ASSAM BENGAL RAILWAY.

7. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Will Government kindly lay on the table a statement showing the gradual progress of Indianisation by the Assam Bengal Railway Company by stating particularly the number of Indian officers serving as assistant traffic superintendents, district traffic superintendents, assistant engineers, assistant auditors, assistant medical officers, etc. ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE : The information available as to the progress of Indianisation on the Assam Bengal Railway will be found in Appendix F of Volume I and Appendix C of Volume II of the Report by the Railway Board on Indian Railways for 1930-31 and in these Reports for previous years, which are in the Library of the House.

OWNERSHIP OF COLLIERIES BY INDIAN RAILWAYS AND SUPPLY OF COAL THEREFROM.

8. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Will Government be pleased to state whether any of the Indian Railways own any colliery or collieries for their own coal supply ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE : Yes. Details will be found in pages 228-29 of Volume II of the Railway Board's Report on Indian Railways for 1930-31.

DIVISIONAL SYSTEM OF ADMINISTRATION ON STATE AND COMPANY-MANAGED RAILWAYS.

9. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : (1) Will Government be pleased to state whether any of the Railways, State or Company-managed, have adopted the divisional system or decentralised system of administration ? If so, which of the Railways have done so ? Has the innovation been found more efficient and economical than the previous centralised method ?

(2) Will Government be pleased to state whether the divisional system is still continuing on the East Indian Railway in spite of the economy campaign in that Railway ?

(3) Will Government be pleased to state the actual cost the East Indian Railway incurred for the introduction of this divisional system and in which year this system came into force ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE : (1) A divisional system is in force on the East Indian and North Western Railways, and to a certain extent, on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway. I would invite the Honourable Member's attention to a note written by Major Wagstaff on the subject, a copy of which is in the Library of the House.

(2) Yes.

(3) It was estimated in 1924 that the amalgamation of the Oudh and Rohilkhand with the East Indian Railway and the introduction of the divisional system of management thereon would result in a saving of over Rs. 5 lakhs. The divisional system was actually introduced in 1925. The results achieved have been reviewed on this as well as on other railways in Major Wagstaff's note on the financial and operating effects of divisionalisation on the North Western, East Indian and Great Indian Peninsula Railways, a copy of which is available in the Library of the Legislature.

NUMBER OF AMERICAN TOURISTS IN INDIA DURING THE WINTER OF 1931-32 AND TOTAL EARNINGS BY INDIAN RAILWAYS FROM THEIR TRAVELS.

10. THE HONOURABLE KUMAR NRIPENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of American tourists that travelled in this country during the winter of 1931-32 ;
- (b) the total earnings made by Indian Railways from their travels ;
- (c) how many of them were introduced to this country through the Publicity Bureau of the Railway Board at New York ;
- (d) the expenditure incurred on the Publicity Bureau of Indian Railways at New York in 1930-31 ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE : (a), (b) and (c). Records are not available at all ports particularly Bombay, showing the nationality of people entering India, and as to whether they come as tourists or are returning to India after a visit abroad. No accurate figures can therefore be given either of numbers or earnings, but certain estimates will be found in the Annual Report of the Central Publicity Bureau for 1931-32 which might interest the Honourable Member. Copies of the Report will be found in the Library of the House.

(d) Rs. 2,34,051.

PUBLICATION OF THE CORRESPONDENCE OF THE FEDERAL FINANCE COMMITTEE AND DISCUSSION OF ITS RECOMMENDATIONS.

11. THE HONOURABLE KUMAR NRIPENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) whether they will publish the reports and communications made by the different provincial Governments to the Federal Finance Committee of the Round Table Conference ;
- (b) whether the Indian Legislature will be afforded an opportunity to discuss the recommendations of the Federal Finance Committee of the Round Table Conference ?

THE HONOURABLE SIR BROJENDRA MITTER : (a) The Committee did not make available for public use the material supplied to it by provincial Government. Publication is not contemplated.

(b) It is of course open to the Honourable Member to put down a Resolution on the subject.

NUMBER OF BENGALI AND PUNJABI HINDUS AND MUSALMANS EMPLOYED ON THE NORTH WESTERN AND EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAYS, RESPECTIVELY.

12. THE HONOURABLE KUMAR NRIPENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of Bengalis (1) Hindus (2) Musalmans employed at present in the upper and lower subordinate services on the North Western Railway ;
- (b) the number of Punjabis (1) Hindus (2) Musalmans that are working at present in the upper and lower subordinate services on the Eastern Bengal Railway ;
- (c) the number of Bengalis (1) Hindus (2) Musalmans posted in the officer's grade on the North Western Railway at present ;
- (d) the number of Punjabis (1) Hindus (2) Musalmans posted in the officer's grade on the Eastern Bengal Railway at present ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE : All the information available is contained in the classified lists of subordinates of the railways concerned and the classified list of officers which is published in one volume for all Indian Railways. Copies of these are in the Library of the House. Government regret that they are unable to initiate inquiries to supplement the information contained therein.

HIGHER RATES FOR PASSENGER, PARCELS AND GOODS TRAFFIC ON THE EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY AS COMPARED WITH THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

13. THE HONOURABLE KUMAR NRIPENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) the particular reasons for which the Eastern Bengal Railway have fixed higher rates for passenger, parcels and goods traffic than the East Indian Railway ;
- (b) the particular reasons for which usual goods and train services are being cut down on that system ;
- (c) the number of high posts that have been abolished on that system as a result of economy of late ;
- (d) the number of offices that have been amalgamated recently on that system for the sake of economy ;
- (e) the number of offices that have of late been altogether abolished on that system for economy's sake ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE : (a) The rates for parcels and goods traffic over the Eastern Bengal Railway are generally the same as over the East Indian Railway. Special rates are, however, quoted on both railways which, in some cases, may be higher and in others lower than on the other railway. Such differences are due to local conditions obtaining on each of these railways. Passenger fares on the Eastern Bengal Railway are generally on a higher basis than on the East Indian Railway for purely revenue reasons.

(b) The curtailment of passenger train services has been necessitated by a decrease in the number of passengers travelling, and the need under present conditions for cutting out services that do not fully justify themselves. The number of goods trains run is regulated entirely by the volume of traffic offering.

(c) Six gazetted posts have been abolished out of which three were in the Traffic Department. Fifteen posts in the subordinate grades of the Traffic Department on a pay of Rs. 250 and over have also been abolished.

(d) The offices of the Transportation Manager and the Commercial Manager have been amalgamated into the office of the Traffic Manager and the office of the Assistant Traffic Superintendent, Santahar, has been amalgamated with the office of the District Traffic Superintendent, Paksey.

(e) No offices have been entirely abolished.

NUMBER OF BENGALI PILGRIMS THAT PASS THROUGH MUGHALSERAI TO
BENARES ANNUALLY.

14. THE HONOURABLE KUMAR NRIPENDRA NARAYAN SINHA :
Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) whether they have an idea of the number of Bengali pilgrims that pass through Mughalserai to Benares annually ;
- (b) whether they have statistics of the Bengali pilgrims that pass through either Agra City or Delhi Junction every year to Ajmere, Pushkar and Dwarka ;
- (c) whether they know how many Bengali pilgrims resort annually to Muttra for Brindaban ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE : (a), (b) and (c). No.

EXTENSION OF THE BENGAL AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY SYSTEM TO
ALLAHABAD JUNCTION.

15. THE HONOURABLE KUMAR NRIPENDRA NARAYAN SINHA :
Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) what prevents the Bengal and North-Western Railway line being extended to Allahabad Junction station ;
- (b) whether representations on behalf of the public have been made several times to the Railway Board to have the Bengal and North-Western Railway lines extended to Allahabad Junction station ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE : The question was discussed at length in September, 1929 on a Resolution recommending the construction of a new central station at Allahabad moved in this House by the Honourable Mr. Narayan Prasad Asthana, and I would refer my Honourable friend to the speech made on that occasion by the Honourable Mr. Woodhead. I might add that the Resolution was negatived, and that the times are even less propitious now for incurring the considerable expenditure involved.

FUNCTIONS OF THE INDIAN TRADE COMMISSIONER AT HAMBURG.

16. **THE HONOURABLE KUMAR NRIPENDRA NARAYAN SINHA :** Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) the specific functions of the Indian Trade Commissioner posted at Hamburg ;
- (b) the name of that official ;
- (c) his pay and emoluments ;
- (d) whether his pay and emoluments are paid out of Indian revenues ;
- (e) the normal amount of the value of purchases made through him for India ;
- (f) whether he assists Indian students seeking admission into workshops and laboratories in Germany ;
- (g) what sort of control has he over Indian students in general residing in Germany ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE : (a) A statement giving the information required is laid on the table.

(b) Mr. S. N. Gupta, I.C.S.

(c) Pay—£1,400 per annum in the scale of £1,000—50—1,500.

Representation allowance—£250 per annum.

Rent allowance—£150 per annum.

(d) Yes.

(e) The Trade Commissioner's duties do not include the purchase of foreign goods for India.

(f) No.

(g) None.

Statement showing the principal duties of the Indian Trade Commissioner, Hamburg.

The principal duties of the Indian Trade Commissioner, Hamburg, are :

- (1) to answer trade enquiries which are directed to the development of markets for Indian goods in the area for which he is responsible, namely, Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Germany, Holland, Norway, Poland, Sweden and Switzerland ;
- (2) to compile an index of firms of good standing in his area dealing in goods such as India produces or is capable of producing for export ;
- (3) to furnish commercial information directed to the development of Indian export trade required by departments of the Government of India or by local Governments, by Indian States, by the High Commissioner for India or by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics ;
- (4) to report spontaneously to the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics any local developments, official or unofficial, likely to affect Indian trades ;
- (5) to visit local firms and represent to them the means of securing Indian goods suitable to their requirements ;

- (6) to test the local markets for Indian goods by means of trial consignments if so desired ;
- (7) to assist, by means of letters of introduction and advice, visitors to his area engaged in the development of the Indian export trade ;
- (8) to take such steps as are possible to settle trade disputes arising in his area involving claims by merchants in India ;
- (9) to maintain a library of Indian trade publications available for consultation by interested local enquirers ;
- (10) to organise exhibits of Indian goods at local exhibitions or fairs on lines approved, and within the scope of funds allotted for the purpose, by the High Commissioner ; and
- (11) to represent the possibilities of Indian trade by means of lectures, the display of films and other suitable methods.

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QUANTITY OF PUNJAB WHEAT SHIPPED FROM KARACHI TO CALCUTTA AND BOMBAY.

17. THE HONOURABLE SARDAR BUTA SINGH : (1) Will Government be pleased to state the quantity of Punjab wheat shipped from Karachi to Calcutta and Bombay ?

(2) Why was not this wheat carried by Railway ?

(3) Has the freight on wheat flour been raised on the ground that the mills in Bengal will have to compete with the mills in Upper India ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE : (1) The total quantity of wheat shipped from Karachi is as follows :

Periods.	To Calcutta.	To Bombay.
	Tons.	Tons.
1930-31 	3,062	55,150
1931-32 	94,397	95,380
April to July, 1932 	28,794	19,213

(2) Traders presumably found it both cheaper and more convenient to import their wheat by sea through Karachi.

(3) The railway freight on wheat flour was enhanced over the East Indian Railway on representations submitted to that Administration by flour mills situated on the East Indian Railway system, who were adversely affected by the stoppage of imports of cheap Australian wheat. The serious decline in railway earnings, in the opinion of that Administration, justified the enhancement in the freight rates and incidentally a reversion to the position prior to 1920 when the freight rates on the East Indian Railway for flour were higher than those for wheat.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BANKING ENQUIRY COMMITTEE.

18. THE HONOURABLE SARDAR BUTA SINGH : What action do Government propose to take on the recommendations of the Banking Enquiry Committee ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR : A summary is being prepared and will be laid on the table during the current session.

FALL IN COMMODITY PRICES.

19. THE HONOURABLE SARDAR BUTA SINGH : Has the attention of Government been drawn to the finding of the Controller of Currency given in his Report for the year 1931-32, "That fall in commodity prices had increased the real burden of indebtedness by more than 50 per cent. and such an increase would be beyond the capacity of most debtors to pay". If so, what action do Government propose to take ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR : Yes. The fall in commodity prices is due to world causes and is not confined to India. The steps to be taken to raise prices are engaging the serious attention of all Governments.

EASTERN COMMAND.

20. THE HONOURABLE SIR DAVID DEVADOSS : Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) when the Eastern Command was constituted ;
- (b) what was the cost of the former staff ;
- (c) what is the cost of the present staff ;
- (d) what is the present necessity for this expenditure in view of the need for economy ?

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF : (a) The Eastern Command was constituted on the 1st November, 1920.

(b) I am afraid it is not possible to furnish the information as to the cost of the staff which exercised the functions now performed by the staff of the Eastern Command. It was formerly merged in the total cost of the staffs at Army Headquarters and the Headquarters of the Northern Command.

(c) The pay and allowances of the staff amount to about Rs. 9½ lakhs a year.

(d) I am satisfied that the retention of the Eastern Command is essential in the interests of efficiency and economical administration. If the Command were abolished, it would be necessary either to bring the three districts and one independent brigade, of which it is composed, under the direct control of Army Headquarters, or else to allocate these formations to other Commands. The former would involve a partial return to the old system of centralised administration and increased staffs at Army Headquarters, which experience proved to be unsatisfactory. The latter, by increasing the size of commands, would prevent the close personal relations between commands, staffs and troops, which are essential to any satisfactory system of military organisation.

ASSESSMENT UNDER THE INDIAN INCOME-TAX ACT OF PENSIONS AND ALLOWANCES PAID OUTSIDE INDIA FROM INDIAN REVENUES.

21. THE HONOURABLE SIR DAVID DEVADOSS : Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) what steps have been taken to assess, under the Indian Income-tax Act, pensions and allowances paid outside India out of Indian revenues ;

(b) if no steps have been taken, the reasons therefor ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR : (a) None.

(b) I would refer the Honourable Member to the answer given by Sir George Schuster to question No. 1222 asked by Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh on the 7th November, 1931 (Legislative Assembly debates, Volume VII, page 1723).

NUMBER OF BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS PROSCRIBED IN THE YEARS 1930 AND 1931.

22. THE HONOURABLE KUMAR NRIPENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of books in English with their names that have been proscribed by them, or under their orders, or at their instance, in 1930 and 1931 ;
- (b) the number of books in the Indian vernaculars with their names that have been proscribed by them, or under their orders, or at their instance, in 1930 and 1931 ;
- (c) the number of books with their names that were prevented from coming into the country under the special provisions of the Sea Customs Act, in 1930 and 1931 ;
- (d) the number of books and publications with their names that were forfeited under the special provisions of the Indian Post Office Act, in 1930 and 1931.

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : (a) and (b). All orders of proscription whether under the Criminal Procedure Code or the Press (Emergency Powers) Act are issued by local Governments and I do not know of any instance in which the Government of India have suggested that this action should be taken by a local Government. The total number of publications proscribed by local Governments in 1930 was over 500 while the number proscribed in 1931 was nearly 400.

(c) The number of books in respect of which orders have been issued under the Sea Customs Act was five in 1930 and three in 1931. All notifications issued under this Act are published in the Gazette of India and Government do not see any necessity to publish a list of such books.

(d) The information is not readily available and its collection from local Governments or Postal Circles would involve considerable time and labour, which would be out of proportion to the value of the result.

COMMUNAL RIOTS IN BOMBAY.

23. THE HONOURABLE KUMAR NRIPENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) Whether they have had official correspondence with the Government of Bombay on the subject of the recent communal riots in Bombay ?

- (b) If the answer to (a) is in the affirmative—to what causes have the Bombay Government apportioned the blame for the origin of the riots ?
- (c) To what causes have that Government ascribed the recrudescence of the riots and their long duration ?
- (d) What steps have the Bombay Government adopted to guard against such communal outbursts in other places in the province in future ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : (a) Yes.

(b) The communiqué issued by the Government of Bombay on the 20th May deals with the first phase of the riots and shows that various comparatively trivial incidents in Nagdevi Street were suggested as the immediate cause of this unfortunate communal outbreak ; but the fact is that feelings between the two communities had been strained for some time and had been further embittered by the interference of Congress with Muhammadan traders. The ground was thus prepared for a disturbance and with the approach of Muharram any cause was sufficient to provoke it.

(c) This may be ascribed to the number of stray assaults which aggravated the extreme bitterness of feeling that existed between the two communities.

I may add with reference to both questions (b) and (c) that the Government of Bombay will publish in due course an official report about the riots which will no doubt deal more fully with these points.

(d) As the Honourable Member will no doubt realize, it is not possible to adopt hard and fast measures for preventing the outbreak of communal strife. The methods of dealing with this problem must depend to a considerable extent on local conditions and on the causes of friction but the Honourable Member may rest assured that the local Government are making, and will continue to make, every effort to guard against communal outbreaks in other places in the Presidency.

TOTAL EXPENDITURE INCURRED ON THE CENTRAL RETRENCHMENT COMMITTEE.

24. THE HONOURABLE KUMAR NRIPENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will Government be pleased to state the total amount that has been spent on the Central Retrenchment Committee :

- (i) for personal attendance of members ;
- (ii) for their railway fares, etc. ;
- (iii) for incidental and other expenses of the Committee from its formation up-to-date ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR : (i) Rs. 32,455.

(ii) Rs. 22,429.

(iii) Rs. 9,066.

REPORT BY THE TARIFF BOARD ON THE INDIAN GLASS INDUSTRY.

25. THE HONOURABLE SARDAR SHRI JAGANNATH MAHARAJ PANDIT : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Tariff Board have submitted its Report to Government on the Indian Glass Industry ? If so, when was the Report submitted ?

(b) Will Government place a copy of this Report on the table ?

(c) Has any action been taken by Government on this Report ?

(d) If so, what action ?

(e) If not, what action does Government propose to take and when ?

(f) Will the subject of the Report or the recommendations contained therein come up for discussion before the House in the September session ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE : (a) The Report was submitted towards the end of March, 1932.

(b) It is not usual to lay copies of the Tariff Board's Reports on the table but on publication a copy is sent to each Member of the Legislature.

(c), (d) and (e). The Report is being examined by the Government of India and until this is completed the action that will be taken cannot be indicated.

(f) No, Sir.

LEVY OF A SURCHARGE OF 15 PER CENT. ON COAL FREIGHT.

26. THE HONOURABLE SARDAR SHRI JAGANNATH MAHARAJ PANDIT : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a surcharge of 15 per. cent. on coal freight is being levied ?

(b) Will Government state whether the surcharge is intended for revenue purposes ?

(c) Is the surcharge levied on the amount of railway freight paid by consumers of coal on tonnage weight ?

(d) Did Government consult any commercial body before deciding upon the method of this surcharge ? If so, what were the opinions received ?

(e) Did the Railway Board receive a complaint from any glass manufacturers anywhere about the present method and did they suggest that the surcharge be levied on the tonnage of coal and not on the amount of freight in order to remove the injustice that is at present being felt by industries situated far away from the collieries ? If so, what was the reply ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE : (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) The surcharge is calculated on the freight and the latter is calculated on the weight.

(d) The matter was discussed with representatives of the Indian Mining Association and the Indian Mining Federation in November, 1931. They were not in favour of any increase in the freight rates on coal.

(e) Yes, from the Ogale Glass Works. The reply was that before the basis for charge was fixed, all circumstances had been taken into account.

EXTENSIONS OF SERVICE TO OFFICERS IN THE CUSTOMS AND INCOME-TAX DEPARTMENTS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.

27. THE HONOURABLE SARDAR SHRI JAGANNATH MAHARAJ PANDIT: (a) Will Government be pleased to state how many officers in the Customs and Income-tax Departments in the Bombay Presidency have been given extensions during the last four years and the reasons for such extensions?

(b) How have other officers, who have suffered in consequence of such extensions, been compensated by Government?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR: (a) The number of officers in the Customs and Income-tax Departments (gazetted and non-gazetted non-ministerial) in the Bombay Presidency to whom extensions of service were granted during 1928-29 to 1931-32 was 24 and 7, respectively. The extensions in all cases were granted in the interests of public service.

(b) No claim to compensation arises in such cases.

THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM: Will the Honourable Member give their names and their nationality?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR: I should like to have notice of that question, Sir, as I have not got the names.

NUMBER OF URBAN UNITS FORMED UNDER THE INDIAN TERRITORIAL FORCE ACT IN EACH PROVINCE.

28. THE HONOURABLE SARDAR SHRI JAGANNATH MAHARAJ PANDIT: (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of urban units formed so far under the Indian Territorial Force Act in each province, together with the names of their locality and the strength of men enrolled in them?

(b) Will Government state approximately the amount of initial expenditure required for forming an average urban unit and the annual expenditure for maintaining it?

(c) Will Government state the details of establishment of military officers and equipment required for maintaining an average urban unit together with the amount of expenditure required under each head?

(d) Will Government state whether there has been any case of an urban unit having had to be discontinued for want of necessary strength of enrolment in the unit?

(e) Will Government give similar information for rural units also?

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: A statement is laid on the table.

Statement showing the numbers, etc., of A.—Urban units and B.—Provincial units formed under the Indian Territorial Force Act in each Province.

A.—URBAN UNITS.

(a) Four.

Unit.	Station.	Estab- lish- ment.	Strength.		
			1929.	1930.	1931.
1st (Parsi) Urban Infantry ..	Bombay ..	725	14	13	21
2nd (Bombay Presidency) Urban Infantry.	Bombay ..	346	31	97	191
3rd (Madras Presidency) Urban Infantry.	Madras ..	346	36	64	101
4th (United Provinces) Urban Infantry.	Allahabad and Lucknow.	346	104	166	259

(b) Initial—Rs. 78,000 (2 companies). Recurring—Rs. 44,500, exclusive of the pay and allowances of 1 British officer, *vide* item c(i).

(c) (i) *Regular officers*—1 Administrative Commandant.

Expenditure—Rs. 14,500.

(ii) The scale of equipment, clothing, etc., for individual non-commissioned officers and men of the Indian Territorial Force is laid down in Appendix XXI of the Regulations for the Indian Territorial Forces. The scale for units is given in the Regulations for the Equipment of the Territorial Force (India). A copy of the former is in the Library; and a copy of the latter publication will be sent to the Honourable Member for perusal, if he so desires. The expenditure on equipment, clothing and stores for urban and provincial units is:

Urban units. Initial—Rs. 74,000. Recurring—Rs. 13,000.

Provincial units. Initial—Rs. 1,48,000. Recurring—Rs. 26,000.

(d) Yes. The 1st (Parsi) Urban Infantry was disbanded on the 30th September, 1931 in consequence of the low strength of the unit, and training and recruiting for the 3rd (Madras Presidency) Urban Infantry were suspended from the 1st April, 1932 for the same reason.

B—PROVINCIAL UNITS.

(a) Eighteen.

Name.	Station.	Establishment exclusive of Regular officers.	Strength on 1st July, 1932.
11/1st Punjab Regiment	Jhelum	719	666
11/4th Bombay Grenadiers	Ajmer	719	716
11/5th Mahratta Light Infantry	Belgaum	719	684
11/6th Rajputana Rifles	Agra	719	620
11/7th Rajput Regiment	Fyzabad	719	662
11/9th Jat Regiment	Meerut	719	546
11/12th Frontier Force Regiment	Nowshera	719	704
11/13th Frontier Force Rifles	Campbellpore	719	719
11/14th Punjab Regiment	Delhi	719	684
11/15th Punjab Regiment	Ambala	719	627
11/17th Dogra Regiment	Jullundur	719	682
11/18th Royal Garhwal Rifles	Landsdowne	719	529
11/19th Hyderabad Regiment— (B. and O. Wing)	Dinapore	} 719	} 398
(Bengal Wing)	Calcutta		
11/20th Burma Rifles	Mandalay	719	598
11th Battalion, Madras Pioneers	Bangalore	719	500
12th Malabar Battalion	Cannanore	719	602
13th Malabar Battalion	Cannanore	719	578
14th Coorg Battalion	Mercara	346*	260

* Recruitment restricted to 2 companies.

(b) Initial—Rs. 1,54,000. Recurring—Rs. 71,000, exclusive of the pay and allowances of British officers, *vide* paragraph c (i) below.

(c) (i) *Regular officers*.—6 per battalion.

4 British officers—Rs. 50,000.

2 Indian officers—Rs. 3,000.

(ii) Equipment, clothing and stores, *vide* the remarks against paragraph c (ii) of the statement regarding urban units.

(d) No.

INSTITUTION OF CONTRIBUTORY PROVIDENT FUNDS IN LIEU OF PENSIONS.

29. THE HONOURABLE SARDAR BUTA SINGH: What is the present position with reference to the assurances given on behalf of Government during the debates on the Resolutions moved in this Council on the 18th February, 1924, 18th February, 1931 and 3rd March, 1932, on the subject of the institution of Contributory Provident Funds in lieu of pensions?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR: The Government of India have recently consulted provincial Governments on the acceptability of the tentative scheme referred to in the debate which took place in this House on the 3rd March, 1932. Their replies are awaited and until they have been received and considered, I am afraid that I cannot express any opinion whether the scheme will be adopted or as to the date on which it might come into force.

NUMBER OF EUROPEAN AND INDIAN TRUSTEES IN EACH OF THE PORT TRUSTS ON 1ST JANUARY, 1922 AND ON 1ST JANUARY, 1932.

30. THE HONOURABLE SIR PHIROZE SETHNA : Will Government lay on the table a tabular statement giving the number of European and Indian Trustees in each of the Port Trusts on 1st January, 1922 and on 1st January, 1932 ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE : A statement is laid on the table.

Statement showing the number of European and Indian Trustees in each of the Port Trusts.

Port Trusts.	1st January, 1922.			1st January, 1932.		
	Euro-peans.	Indians.	Total.	Euro-peans.	Indians.	Total.
Chittagong ..	7	2	9	8	4	12
Calcutta ..	14	2	16	14	5	19
Madras ..	11	4	15	11	4	15
Bombay ..	12	5	17	13	9	22
Rangoon ..	12	1*	13	12	5†	17
Karachi ..	9	2	11	8	6	14
Aden	6	3‡	9	8	3§	11

* 1 Burman.

† 2 Burmans and 1 Chinese.

‡ 2 Arabs and 1 Indian.

§ 1 Arab and 2 Indians.

NUMBER OF EUROPEANS, ANGLO-INDIANS AND INDIANS IN THE DIFFERENT PORT TRUSTS ON SALARIES OF Rs. 500 AND OVER ON 31ST MARCH, 1932.

31. THE HONOURABLE SIR PHIROZE SETHNA : Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a tabular statement giving the number of Europeans, Anglo-Indians and Indians as at 31st March, 1932, in the different Port Trusts whose salaries are between (1) Rs. 500 to Rs. 999, (2) Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,999, and (3) Rs. 2,000 and over but excluding in class (1) those whose initial salaries are below Rs. 500 ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE : The information asked for is being obtained and will, when received, be laid on the table.

NUMBER OF NEW APPOINTMENTS CREATED IN THE DIFFERENT PORT TRUSTS ON SALARIES OF Rs. 500 AND OVER SINCE JANUARY, 1922.

32. THE HONOURABLE SIR PHIROZE SETHNA : Will Government lay on the table a statement showing how many new appointments have been made by the different Port Trusts since January, 1922, in positions with initial salaries of (1) Rs. 500 and over, (2) of Rs. 1,000 and over, (3) of Rs. 2,000 and over of persons who at the time of such appointments were not already in Port Trust

employ, giving the number of Europeans, Anglo-Indians and Indians in each of the three classes in each Port Trust ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE : A statement is laid on the table.

Statement showing the number of appointments made by different Port Trusts since January, 1922.

Port Trusts.	Rs. 500 and over.			Rs. 1,000 and over.			Rs. 2,000 and over.		
	Europeans.	Anglo-Indians.	Indians.	Europeans.	Anglo-Indians.	Indians.	Europeans.	Anglo-Indians.	Indians.
Chittagong	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Madras	5	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..
Rangoon	36	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
Karachi	11	1	3	..	..	..	1	..	..
Aden	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bombay	33	1	8	2	..	..	1	..	..
Calcutta	29	2	2	5	..	1	..	..	..

REVENUE DERIVED FROM INCOME-TAX IN THE PROVINCES OF BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA, THE UNITED PROVINCES AND THE CENTRAL PROVINCES, RESPECTIVELY.

33. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA JAGDISH PRASAD : Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) what is the revenue derived from income-tax from the provinces of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, the United Provinces and the Central Provinces, respectively ;
- (b) what is the number of income-tax assesses in the above-named provinces, respectively ;
- (c) if it is a fact that the United Provinces and the Central Provinces have been recently combined for the purposes of income-tax administration and placed under one and the same Income-tax Commissioner ;
- (d) if it is a fact that the provinces of Bihar and Orissa and Bengal are still under separate Income-tax Commissioners ;
- (e) what are the reasons for amalgamating the United Provinces and the Central Provinces so far as income-tax administration is concerned and leaving the provinces of Bihar and Orissa and Bengal under separate Income-tax Commissioners ;
- (f) whether any other provinces have also been combined for income-tax administration, and if so, which, and for what reasons ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR : (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the table.

(c) and (d). Yes.

(e) The reason for placing the administration of income-tax in the United Provinces and the Central Provinces under a single Commissioner was the desire to secure economy. The reason for not placing the administration of income-tax in the provinces of Bihar and Orissa and Bengal under a single Commissioner is that the work would be too heavy for a single officer. By any test the volume of work in such a combined charge would be twice as great as in the combined charge of the United Provinces and the Central Provinces.

(f) The North-West Frontier Province and the province of Delhi have been combined with the province of the Punjab for income-tax administration. The reason is that any other arrangement would either have been more expensive or have involved the employment of *ex-officio* Commissioners, who could not possess the same expert knowledge as a whole-time Commissioner.

Statement showing income-tax and super-tax collections in 1931-32 and the total number of assesses.

	Income-tax and super-tax collections 1931-32 (net).	Total number of assessee.
	Rs.	
Bengal	4,49,21,930	75,607
Bihar and Orissa	66,51,878	27,150
United Provinces	1,05,36,572	35,174
Central Provinces	50,68,001	17,591

TRANSFER OF CONVICTED TERRORIST PRISONERS FROM BENGAL TO THE ANDAMANS.

34. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA JAGDISH PRASAD :
(a) Have any prisoners been recently removed from India to the Andaman Islands ?

(b) If so, what is the number of such prisoners provincewise and when have they been transferred ?

(c) Of what offences were the prisoners so transferred guilty ?

(d) For what reasons have they been so deported out of India ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : Presumably the Honourable Member is referring to the recent announcement that persons convicted of offences in connection with terrorist outrages would be deported to the

Andamans and my answers to the various parts of his question are on that assumption :

- (a) Yes.
- (b) 25 prisoners were transferred from the jails in Bengal to the Andamans on the 15th August, 1932.
- (c) Offences connected with terrorist crime in Bengal.
- (d) In the public interest.

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE FOR MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL LEGISLATURE IN NEW DELHI.

35. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA JAGDISH PRASAD : (a) Is it not a fact that the Legislative Assembly appointed a Committee in the last winter session to go into the question of house accommodation (official quarters) available for Members of the Central Legislature in New Delhi ?

(b) Has that Committee submitted its Report to the Government ?

(c) If so, has the Committee recommended the construction of more quarters for Members of the Indian Legislature at New Delhi or Simla ?

(d) If yes, does the proposed increased accommodation include a provision for Members of the Council of State also or for Members of the Legislative Assembly alone ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. TIN TÛT : (a) The Honourable Member is referred to the Legislative Assembly debates, dated the 22nd February, 1932 (pages 1017-18), which show that the Honourable the President of the Legislative Assembly constituted a House Committee to look after the comforts and conveniences of Members of the Legislative Assembly.

(b) The Committee did not submit any Report to Government ; but Government have received a copy of the minutes of meetings of the Committee held in March and April, 1932.

(c) At a meeting held on the 3rd March, 1932, a resolution was passed to the effect that Government be addressed to provide ten additional orthodox quarters for the next Delhi session.

(d) The Committee was appointed by the Honourable the President of the Legislative Assembly and it follows, therefore, that its proposals relate to accommodation for Members of the Assembly only.

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA JAGDISH PRASAD : Is it the intention of the Government to get the question of house accommodation available for the Members of this House examined ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. TIN TÛT : That is for the Honourable the President of the Council, Sir.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : If a desire is generally expressed by Members of this House that I should appoint a Committee similar to that appointed by the Honourable the President of the other-House I shall be glad to meet their wishes.

THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM :
We wish to associate ourselves with this request.

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS : I also wish to associate myself with what the Honourable Rai Bahadur Jagdish Prasad has observed.

**PAYMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE :
FOR BRITISH PERSONNEL OF THE INDIAN ARMY.**

36. THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM :
(I) Will Government lay on the table the following information :

- (a) Since what year have the Government of India been paying National Health Insurance and Unemployment Insurance for the British personnel of the Indian Army ?
- (b) Under what section of the National Health Insurance Act and the Unemployment Insurance Act is India liable for this payment ?
- (c) Will Government quote *in extenso* the aforesaid sections ?
- (d) The copies of communications if any between His Majesty's and the Indian Governments on this subject ?

(II) Is the British Government liable to make arrangements for the welfare and to look after the health of the persons insured under the aforesaid Act ? Will Government state what *quid pro quo* does the British Army in India get for the aforesaid payments ?

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF : (I) I lay on the table, as requested, the information asked for in the first part of the question, except with regard to part (I) (d). It would not be in the public interest to publish the correspondence on the subject between the Government of India and His Majesty's Government.

(II) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. In virtue of the payments made by the Army Council and the Government of India on account of National Health Insurances, soldiers' wives are entitled to maternity benefits while their husbands are in service and soldiers on discharge together with their families become entitled to all the benefits admissible to persons in respect of whom the contributions prescribed by the Act have been paid. In virtue of the payments made on account of Unemployment Insurance, soldiers on discharge enter civil life as fully insured persons entitled to the benefits admissible under the Act.

THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM : May I ask that a ruling might be given that the statements to be laid on the table should be placed on the table before the meeting begins so that we may have the chance of asking supplementary questions on those statements. We do not get any opportunity now.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : I should like to consider the point raised by the Honourable Member. It would, so far as the practice of this Council is concerned, be entirely revolutionary and it therefore requires careful examination.

Statement regarding payment of National Health Insurance and Unemployment Insurance in respect of British troops on the Indian establishment.

(1) (a) 1912 and 1920, respectively.

(b) There is no section in either Act which provides that contributions in respect of British troops on the Indian establishment shall form a charge against Indian revenues: the payment of contributions by India is one of the conditions on which British troops serve in this country.

(c) Copies of the National Insurance Act, 1924, which consolidates earlier legislation on the subject, and of the Unemployment Insurance Act of 1920, are in the Library. Attention is invited to section 57 of the former and section 41 of the latter as amended by section 13 of the Amending Act of 1927.

FORMATION OF AN ARBITRATION BOARD TO SETTLE CHARGES MADE BY HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT UNDER THE HEAD "DEFENCE."

37. THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM : Has any Arbitration Board been formed to settle up the charges made by His Majesty's Government on the Government of India under the head of Defence ? Will Government give the following information about the same :

(a) The terms of reference.

(b) The names of arbitrators.

(c) The name of India's nominee and the selecting authority.

If no Board has been formed yet, will Government state when they intend to form it ? Have Government considered the advisability of appointing some one conversant with this controversy ?

CAPITATION CHARGES FOR UNITS OF THE BRITISH ARMY EMPLOYED IN INDIA, ETC.

38. THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM : With reference to my question No. 34 of the 27th February, 1932, will Government now reply in detail to parts 8 to 12 of the same ?

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF : With you permission, Sir, I will answer questions Nos. 37 and 38 together.

The Honourable Member will find all the information he asks for in the Press Communiqué on this subject, which was issued on the 1st September, 1932, a copy of which is laid on the table.

The Honourable Member's attention is also invited to the answers given by the Honourable Sir George Schuster to Sir Hari Singh Gour's supplementary questions to starred question No. 1155 asked in the Legislative Assembly on the 4th November, 1931.

Press Communiqué, dated 1st September, 1932.

As already announced in Parliament, His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, in agreement with the Government of India, have decided to set up a Tribunal with the following terms of reference :

- (1) To consider and report whether there should continue to be contributions by India towards the recruiting and training expenses at home of the British Army in India ; and to report the basis on which the contributions if continued, should be calculated.

- (2) To examine India's claim that a contribution should be made from Imperial revenues towards military expenditure from Indian revenues and to report the basis on which any contribution should be assessed.
- (3) To examine the War Office claim that India should pay a direct contribution towards the cost of the regular and supplementary reserves and to report the basis on which any contribution approved should be assessed.
- (4) To consider whether the sea transport contribution paid by the War Office to India should be continued, or modified, after the 31st March, 1932.
- (5) To examine and report *mutatis mutandis* on such of the questions raised in the preceding paragraphs as are relevant to the contribution at present paid from Indian revenues in respect of Royal Air Force personnel in India.

Sir Robert Garran, late Solicitor General to the Commonwealth of Australia, will act as Chairman of the Tribunal. Associated with him will be Lord Tomlin and Lord Dunedin, nominated by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, and Sir Shadi Lal and Sir Muhammad Sulaiman nominated by the Government of India.

The proceedings of the Tribunal will be confidential, and its report, which is to be made to the Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, will be advisory. Its recommendations will therefore not be binding on either Government. Arrangements are being made for the Tribunal to assemble in London early in November.

NON-REDUCTION IN CERTAIN ITEMS OF THE MILITARY SERVICE ESTIMATE, 1932-33.

39. THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM : Will Government explain fully why in the Military Service Estimate, 1932, page 58, under the main head I, there is no reduction in items Nos. 2, 7, 8 and 9 from the revised estimate of 1930-31 consequent on the reduction of 1,800 in the British personnel ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR : I presume that the Honourable Member is making a comparison between the budget estimate of 1932-33 and the revised estimate of 1931-32 ?

Of the items mentioned by the Honourable Member, the figures shown under item No. (2) Discharge gratuity and deferred pay of British troops and item No. (8) Unemployment Insurance, Army, are based on estimates prepared by His Majesty's Government, War Office. The estimate under item (2) has since been reduced by Rs. 72,000 and that under item (8) already shows a reduction of Rs. 5,48,000. The estimates for the current year under item (7) National Health Insurance, Army, and item (9) Contributory Pensions, Accounts, 1925, have since been reduced by Rs. 13,000 and Rs. 40,000, respectively.

THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM : May I know what is the *per capita* rate for items Nos. (7) and (8) ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR : I am afraid I must ask for notice of that question, Sir.

RECIPROCITY BETWEEN THE BRITISH AND INDIAN GOVERNMENTS ON INCOME-TAX RELIEF.

40. THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM :

(a) Is there any agreement or convention of reciprocity between the British Government and the Government of India on income-tax relief ?

(b) If the answer is in the affirmative will Government lay on the table the connected papers ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR : (a) Yes.

(b) Government do not consider it necessary to lay the papers on the table. I may, however, refer the Honourable Member to paragraph 93 on pages 225-26 of the Income-tax Manual, a copy of which is available in the Council Library.

EXEMPTION FROM INDIAN INCOME-TAX ON LEAVE SALARY DRAWN OUT OF INDIA BY SPECIAL NOTIFICATION.

41. THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM :

Is it a fact that leave salary drawn out of India is exempted from Indian income-tax by special Notification of the Government of India ? Will Government lay on the table a copy of the aforesaid Notification ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR : Yes. Copies of the Notifications are laid on the table.

No. 1319-F.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

Simla, the 25th April, 1920.

SEPARATE REVENUE.

Income-tax.

NOTIFICATION.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 44 of the Indian Income-tax Act, 1918 (VII of 1918), the Governor General in Council is pleased to exempt from liability to the tax payable under the said Act the following classes of income, namely :

- (1) any allowance or salary paid in the United Kingdom to officers on leave or duty in that country whether such allowance or salary is paid in sterling in the United Kingdom or by means of negotiable rupee drafts on a bank in India ;
- (2) leave allowance or salary drawn from any Colonial Treasury by an officer on leave or duty in the Colony ;
- (3) pensions of officers drawn from any Colonial Treasury or paid in the United Kingdom whether such pensions are paid in sterling or by means of negotiable rupee drafts on a bank in India.

(Sd.) J. E. C. JUKES,

Joint Secretary to the Government of India.

NOTIFICATION.

C. No. 1205-I. T./25, dated 4th February, 1926, as amended by Notification No. 42-**Income-tax**, dated the 20th November, 1926. In exercise of the powers conferred by section 60 of the Indian Income-tax Act, 1922 (XI of 1922), the Governor General in Council is pleased to direct that the following further amendment shall be made in the Notification of the Government of India in the Finance Department No. 878-F., dated the 21st March, 1922, namely :

In paragraph (a) of the said Notification, after clause 15, the following shall be inserted, namely :

“ 15 (A). Leave salaries or leave allowances paid in the United Kingdom, or in a Colony, to officers of local authorities or to the employees of companies, or of private employers on leave in the United Kingdom or in such colony ”.

(Sd.) A. TOTTENHAM,

Joint Secretary to the Government of India.

EXEMPTION FROM INDIAN INCOME-TAX OF STERLING PENSIONS.

42. **THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM :**
(a) Will Government quote the section of the Government of India Act, or other relevant authority under which sterling pensions are exempted from Indian income-tax ?

(b) Will Government state whether a retired officer in receipt of sterling pension but resident in India is at present liable to Indian income-tax ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR : (a) The Government of India know of no statutory provision exempting sterling pensions from Indian income-tax, nor is any such provision necessary to validate the existing practice because the territorial limitations imposed on the powers of the Indian Legislature by section 65 of the Government of India Act render it impossible for the Indian Legislature to make effective provision for the recovery of Indian income-tax on pensions paid outside India, to persons resident outside India.

(b) Yes.

• **THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM :**
Does sterling pension accrue outside India or does it accrue in India ?

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : The Honourable Member must take legal advice on that point. He cannot ask Members of the Government to give opinions of any sort, least of all legal opinions.

DEDUCTION OF ENGLISH INCOME-TAX FROM PENSIONS OF RETIRED INDIAN OFFICERS IN RECEIPT OF STERLING PENSIONS.

43. **THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM**
Does the Secretary of State for India deduct English income-tax from the pensions of Indian retired officers in receipt of sterling pensions? If the answer is in the affirmative, will Government state if residence outside Great Britain exempts the recipients from English income-tax ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR : British income-tax is deducted by the officer who disburses sterling pensions to retired officers who are liable to such tax. To the best of my belief, pensioners who are resident outside Great Britain or Northern Ireland are not liable to such tax.

LEVY OF INDIAN INCOME-TAX ON INTEREST OF INDIAN SECURITIES PAID OUTSIDE INDIA.

44. THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM : Will Government state what action they have taken, or contemplate to take on the recommendation of the General Purposes Sub-Committee to levy Indian income-tax on interest of Indian securities paid outside India ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR : No such action has been taken or is contemplated.

LIABILITY TO INDIAN AND ENGLISH INCOME-TAX OF INTEREST ON RUPEE AND STERLING LOANS.

45. THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM : Is the interest on Rupee loans payable outside India liable to Indian income-tax ; and is interest on Sterling loans payable in India liable to English income-tax ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR : (a) There is no Rupee Paper on which interest is payable outside India by the terms of its issue. If such Paper is enfaced for payment abroad it remains the case that the right to receive payment of interest is a right to receive it in India, and the interest therefore remains liable to Indian income-tax.

(b) Interest on Sterling loans is in no case payable in India ; the question does not therefore arise.

LIABILITY TO INDIAN INCOME-TAX OF SHIPPING COMPANIES REGISTERED IN ENGLAND BUT CARRYING ON TRADE AT INDIAN PORTS.

46. THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM : Are the shipping companies registered in England but carrying on trade at Indian ports liable to Indian income-tax irrespectively of whether they have branches in India or agents only ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR : The answer is in the affirmative.

PURCHASE OF TENTS BY THE TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT FROM THE CENTRAL JAIL, BUXAR.

47. THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM : (a) Is it a fact that the Telegraph Department used to buy tents from Buxar Central Jail (Bihar and Orissa) up to 1930 ?

(b) Is it a fact that in the year 1931 the jail lost the contract of the Telegraph Department ?

(c) Will Government state fully the reasons for the loss of the contract by the Jail and state to whom the contract was given and on what terms, noting also the Jail offer. Will Government lay on the table all the relevant correspondence or place it in the Library ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. TIN TÛT : (a) Yes, prior to the 28th March, 1930.

(b) and (c). In 1931, demands for tents on behalf of the Posts and Telegraphs Department were advertised but no quotations were received from the Central Jail, Buxar. The successful tenderers were the Delhi Cloth and General Mills Company of Delhi and Messrs. H. Bevis and Company of Cawnpore. The latter firm was also given an additional small item of five tents not included in the tender.

Particulars of the contracts are given on pages 258, 541 and 605 of the Indian Trade Journal for 1931 and page 78 of the Indian Trade Journal for 1932. The answer to the last part of part (c) of the question is in the negative.

THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM : Was it the general practice to advertise and ask for tenders ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. TIN TÛT : It is the general practice.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS ACCOUNTS ENQUIRY COMMITTEE.

48. THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM : Has Government given effect to the recommendations of the Posts and Telegraphs Accounts Enquiry Committee ? Will Government lay on the table a statement giving the action taken on each specific recommendation. Has the amount of interest charged to the Post and Telegraph Department in the Budget, 1932 been made on the principle advocated by the aforesaid Committee ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. TIN TÛT : The provisional conclusions reached by Government on the recommendations of the Posts and Telegraphs Accounts Enquiry Committee are under examination by the Auditor General and will shortly be considered by the Public Accounts Committee.

Final decisions will not be reached until the Public Accounts Committee has expressed its views on those recommendations. A statement showing the action taken on each recommendation will be laid on the table of the House in due course.

EMPLOYMENT OF ARMED GUARDS BY THE EAST INDIAN AND EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAYS.

49. THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM : (a) At what stations of the East Indian Railway and Eastern Bengal Railway are armed guards employed to guard the armoury or treasury ? Since what year has this system been inaugurated ?

(b) What was the expense on this item at each station during the years 1930-31 and 1931-32 ?

(c) Will Government state what is the communal composition of this force giving the numbers of Hindus, Muslims, Anglo-Indians, Europeans and others ?

(d) Is this a permanent service or temporary and what are the rates of pay of the entrants and the requisite qualifications ?

(e) Were these posts advertised ? If so, in what papers and by whom ?

(f) Is it a fact that formerly Government Railway Police were in charge of this duty ? If so, why are they no longer employed to discharge this duty ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE : Information is being collected and will be communicated to the Honourable Member on receipt.

THE HONOURABLE MR. ABU ABDULLAH SYED HUSSAIN IMAM : I asked during the last session also that the statement should be laid on the table.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : If the Honourable Member will wait ten minutes, I shall give him the answer to his question.

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF VOTERS IN THE NEW CONSTITUTION.

50. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS : 1. Will Government be pleased to state the population of the classes and communities whose voters will elect in each province the members shown in the column "General" of the statement of allocation of seats in the provincial Legislatures appended to the Communal Decision ?

2. Will Government be pleased to state the population of the Muslims in Assam and their proportion to the total population ?

3. Will Government kindly give the communal composition of the constitution called "Labour Special" in each province ?

4. Will Government be pleased to state how the constituencies of Commerce, Industry and Mining in Bengal are composed and what is the proportion of European voters in these constituencies in Bengal ?

THE HONOURABLE SIR BROJENDRA MITTER : 1. The Honourable Member is referred to paragraph 7 of the Communal Decision. As regards the population figures of the various classes and communities whose voters will be entitled to vote in a general constituency, I can only refer the Honourable Member to the census tables.

2. I would refer the Honourable Member to the figures given on page 73 of the Indian Franchise Committee's Report.

3. The seats allotted to Labour will be filled from non-communal constituencies, as prescribed in paragraph 14 of the Communal Decision.

4. If the Honourable Member is referring to the future composition, I am afraid that it is not possible, in advance of the delimitation of constituencies and the preparation of electoral rolls to supply him with the information he requires. For the existing composition I would refer him to the election returns for 1929-30, a copy of which is available in the Library of the House.

NUMBER OF EMPLOYÉS BEFORE AND AFTER RETRENCHMENT ON THE STATE RAILWAYS.

51. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS : Will Government kindly place a detailed statement on the table of this Council, giving the number of employés (a) officers, (b) subordinates, (c) others, communitywise, so far retrenched on each of the State Railways, and also the total number of employés communitywise employed by these Railways before the retrenchment campaign began ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE : Information is being collected and will, when received, be placed on the table of the Council.

SURCHAGE ON CARRIAGE OF COAL.

52. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS : Will Government kindly state whether they intend to forego the surcharge on carriage of coal? If so, when and from what date?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE : The reply to the first part is in the negative, and the second part does not, therefore, arise.

PAYMENT OF GRATUITIES TO THE FAMILIES OF GOVERNMENT SERVANTS WHO DIE BEFORE RETIREMENT.

53. THE HONOURABLE MR. G. S. KHAPARDE : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the scheme mentioned by the Honourable Mr. A. F. L. Brayne on 3rd March last for relief to Government servants, or in case of their death before the completion of their period of service, to their heirs and dependants, has assumed its final form on approval by provincial Governments?

(b) If the reply to (a) be in the affirmative when will it be introduced?

(c) If the reply to (a) be in the negative, when will the said scheme be ready for introduction?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR : (a) We have not yet received the replies of all the provincial Governments consulted.

(b) and (c). I think that it should be possible to come to a decision fairly soon after the replies of the provincial Governments are received, but I cannot at this stage express any opinion whether the scheme mentioned by the Honourable Mr. Brayne on the 3rd March last will be adopted or as to the date on which it might come into force.

IMPORT OF WHEAT FROM AUSTRALIA AND ELSEWHERE DURING 1931-32.

54. THE HONOURABLE RAJA RAGHUNANDAN PRASAD SINGH : Will Government be pleased to state if there has been any import of wheat from Australia and elsewhere during 1931-32 and during the first quarter of the current year? If so, will Government be pleased to lay on the table a comparative statement showing figures of such imports during the last five years as also percentages of increase or decrease, as the case may be?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE : The Honourable Member is referred to the Accounts relating to the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India for the months of March and June, 1932, and the latest annual statement of the Sea-borne Trade of British India, copies of which are in the Library.

RAISING OF THE LEVEL OF PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS IN THE COUNTRY.

55. THE HONOURABLE RAJA RAGHUNANDAN PRASAD SINGH : What steps have Government already taken or propose to take to raise the level of prices of agricultural products in the country?

THE HONOURABLE CHAUDHRI ZAFRULLA KHAN: I would invite the attention of the Honourable Member to that portion of His Excellency the Vice-roy's speech to the Members of the Legislative Assembly on the 5th September, 1932, which related to the economic situation in India. The problem is an international one and it is not within the power of any single Government to take effective action to raise the level of agricultural prices.

POLICY AND PROCEDURE IN SELECTING AND ACCEPTING TENDERS FOR STEAM COAL AND COKE FOR STATE RAILWAYS.

56. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS: Will Government kindly state its policy and procedure in selecting and accepting the tenders for steam coal and coke for the State Railways, managed and worked by Government?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE: I place on the table a copy of the reply to a question given in another place by the Honourable Member for Railways which explains fully the policy of Government.

Reply given by the Honourable Member for Railways to starred question No, 134 in the Legislative Assembly

THE HONOURABLE SIR C. P. RAMASWAMI AIYAR: As the Honourable Member is aware the question of the coal purchases for State Railways was discussed at length during the Budget debates this year and I would invite his attention to the speeches made by Sir George Rainy on various occasions on the subject. Everyone will, I am sure, recognise that it is impossible for me to deal in detail with the individual instances quoted in replying to questions in this House and I propose therefore to confine myself to a very brief general explanation, at the same time laying on the table of the House a statement explaining in detail the reasons for the action taken in the individual instances mentioned in the publication referred to. In considering these coal tenders the Railway Board cannot pay exclusive attention to the price offered. They have to take into account their previous experience of the tenderers in question, e.g., the quality of the coal supplied by them in the past and their capacity actually to deliver the quantity contracted for of the quality offered. In this connection there are various factors to be considered, viz., the character of the coal, whether the seam is capable of providing, when worked in accordance with the average mining practice, coal of a good average quality, and the presence or absence of bands of shale, inferior carbonaceous matter and igneous intrusions. Another important factor is the preparation and handling of the coal before despatch and the equipment or otherwise of the colliery with mechanical screening plant. During the current year, the Railway Board had moreover to make special efforts to see that the contract should be fairly spread over a number of collieries to prevent a large number from having to close down.

I should also explain that as regards quality, the assumption that the Coal Grading Board classifications or certificates, can be used as an adequate basis for judging the quality of the coal offered is not correct.

Under the Coal Grading Board procedure, when a coal seam is graded the analysis and calorific value are taken as a basis for classification. Colliery owners desirous of obtaining a Grade Certificate state at the time the seam is sampled which section they intend to adhere to and which inferior bands they intend to reject either in underground working or when loading. The certificate is therefore based on a sample which obviously does not give a fair average analysis of the seam as worked in practice but gives the analysis of the best sections of the seam with all inferior matter eliminated. In the case of coal for export, however, the Grading Board Certificate, though based on analysis of the sample originally taken is supplemented by inspection at the time of despatch for shipment and again when the coal

arrives at the docks prior to shipment. This procedure ensures rejection of inferior consignments, whereas in the case of despatches to Railways it is impossible to inspect each wagon when loading or unloading at the many destinations. Moreover, in purchasing coal for railways the classification under the Indian Coal Grading Board cannot be strictly followed because coals used on railways for distinct separate services, viz., Goods or Mail and Passenger are classified under one grade by the Grading Board.

As regards the last part of the question, Government do not consider that their policy has resulted in loss to Railways.

The following statement deals with the eleven points raised in the article printed at pages 5 and 6 of the first number of *Business*, dated 1st July, 1932 :

(1) Victoria Colliery's Ramnagar coal is considered the best quality of this particular class of coal. From practical running tests on Railways it is reported to be an excellent steaming coal and is issued as a first class coal. Immediately on being raised from pits it is mechanically screened and picked on a modern plant and then delivered direct into wagons for despatch. The sizing is also to the requirement of the Railways.

The Bengal Iron Company's Ramnagar coal is raised from inclines and pits and hauled on a narrow gauge tram line over a distance of over one mile to the loading depot. Here it is dumped and loaded by hand as required. It is not mechanically screened. Reports from Railways complaining of excessive slack and dust in the supplies have been received. From practical running tests it is classed as a good steaming coal though issued as second class coal.

The Board considered that the amount accepted during the current year was the maximum that could be taken with any reasonable hope of the quality being up to railway requirements.

Karamchand Thapar's Begonia coal is not mined from the same seam as the Bengal Iron Company's Ramnagar or Balmer Lawrie and Company's Victoria Colliery coals. The Colliery has recently been taken over from Messrs. Gillanders Arbuthnot and Company, who were desirous of sub-leasing the property. The coal is transported over a mile of aerial rope-way to the loading depot and is not mechanically screened. In working and loading there is a tendency to produce small coal. The workings are practically all on pillars and it is doubtful how much recovery can be made in working underground without interruption. Messrs. Gillanders Arbuthnot and Company who for many years worked the Colliery offered 12,000 tons in 1931-32 and this was accepted in full. The purchase of 15,000 tons out of 36,000 tons offered during 1932-33 is considered by the Railway Board as all that could, with safety, be accepted.

(2) At Messrs. H. V. Low and Company's New Sinidih Colliery No. 17 seam is working only a 3'-6½" section and in this section two bands of inferior coal occur. The despatches therefore need careful picking. In underground working there is also a danger of the roof coal being mixed with the good section. The Railways state that the supplies are inferior and cannot be used for goods and passenger service.

The loading is reported as unsatisfactory.

Similar remarks apply to Pularitand Colliery except that the section worked is 4'-3" in thickness. Two inferior coal bands are also present in the working section. No. 17 seam in this locality is considered by the Railways as inferior.

At D. N. Barat's Dharmaband Colliery a section of 3'-9" is worked in No. 17 seam and in 18 seam a section of 4'-4" is worked. Here again there is a danger of inferior roof coal or inferior floor coal being mixed with the good coal. The supplies from this Colliery have many times been adversely reported on by the Railways and the loading is reported as unsatisfactory.

In the purchase of 42,000 tons from Dharmaband and Central Dharmaband 24,000 tons from No. 15 seam is included the balance being purchased from Nos. 17 and 18 seams

No. 15 seam is of very good quality and the sections worked in Nos. 17 and 18 seams contain very clean coal. The supervision and loading are satisfactory.

(3) (a) 15,000 tons of Kajore coal were taken from Messrs. Villiers, Limited, as the Railway Board considered this to be maximum quality which could be taken without the inclusion of an excessive amount of slack coal.

(b) Complaints have been received on the loading of coal at Parascole Colliery both from the Railways and the Inspection Department. At the Managing Agent's own request the order for Parascole coal was, for reasons of quality, transferred to their Madhapore Colliery.

(c) The Railway Board considered that the acceptance of 12,000 tons out of the offer of 36,000 tons from Madhapore Colliery is all that could be taken to ensure that the quality of the coal is in accordance with Railway Department.

(d) The ownership of Madhujore Colliery is comparatively new and the Board preferred to give a comparatively small order as a trial order in order to test the supply.

(4) The class of Kenda coals purchased have proved more satisfactory than many of the Kajore quality coals.

(5) The Desherghur coal taken from Parbelia, Barmondia and Macneills Desherghur Collieries is mined in an area where the best Desherghur coal is found. The seam in this locality is moreover of uniform quality. All these Collieries are equipped with screening plants and consequently there is no difficulty in obtaining coals of excellent quality and size.

The Desherghur seam at Pure Desherghur and Sudi Collieries is inferior to that worked at the three Collieries previously mentioned. Both the Pure Desherghur and Sudi Collieries are riddled with igneous intrusions and in underground working and surface loading much trouble is encountered in separating the rock and burnt coal from the good coal. The coal is raised from pits dumped on the loading depot before loading into wagons and not mechanically screened.

The Railway Board considered that the quantities accepted from these two collieries are all that could be taken to ensure the coal being up to railway requirements.

The Desherghur seam worked at Monoharbahal Colliery is outside the area where the best Desherghur coal is found. The coal is raised from pits and transported over about a mile of narrow gauge tramway where it is dumped on the railway siding depot and loaded as required. It is not mechanically screened. The Monoharbahal seam when worked at this Colliery is also loaded at the same siding.

15,000 tons of this coal were bought last year and railway reports state that supplies were not up to the average quality mail coal and were of a third class nature.

(6) At Patmohna and Bharatchuck Collieries the section worked is only about 5'-5" in thickness so that in driving the main roads it is necessary to take up about 1'-8" of inferior floor coal. At Patmohna this inferior coal is loaded separately underground, brought to the surface and stacked in an isolated dump. Every care is taken that this inferior floor coal is not mixed with the good coal. The Colliery also gives good supervision in working and loading.

At Bharatchuck no satisfactory arrangements are in existence to keep the inferior floor or roof coal separate from the good coal when working underground or when dumped on the loading depot.

(7) At Poriapur Colliery the loading is well supervised and the management adhere strictly to the recognised section.

At Lows Sultanpur Colliery trouble is experienced in adhering to the recognised working section.

The Railways report, from practical tests, that the coal supplied is of inferior quality and are unable to use it for mail, passenger or goods service.

(8) Gaslitan and Jogta coals are, from railway observations, reported as superior to Lakurka coal.

The loading supervision at these Collieries is also satisfactory.

During the last contract with Lakurka the Railways reported adversely on the quality of the coal supplied, and the Inspecting Officers reported that the loading was unsatisfactory, but it was decided to give the Colliery another chance, and an order was placed for 18,000 tons during the current year. The Board considered this as being the limit to which satisfactory supplies could possibly be made in accordance with railway requirements.

At Katras Colliery the coal is mechanically screened and picked and the supervision in loading is satisfactory.

(9) Angrapathra Colliery Company offered 12,000 tons against the 1932-33 requirements all of which was accepted.

(10) 12,000 tons of 12 and 13 seams was considered by the Railway Board as the maximum quantity which could, with safety, be taken from Motiram's Kirkend Colliery. There is a danger at this Colliery of these coals being mixed with the inferior roof coal of No. 12 seam and No. 11 seam when worked.

At the time R. B. Sircar's Kirkend coal was offered Nos. 11 and 12 seams were partially under water and No. 13 seam workings were closed.

Difficulties of dewatering and the risk of underground collapse make supplies from this Colliery very unreliable.

(11) Banadeipur coal is good coal and the loadings are satisfactory.

BASIS ON WHICH THE COMMUNAL PROPORTION OF VARIOUS COMMUNITIES HAS BEEN FIXED FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE STATE RAILWAYS.

57. **THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS:** Will Government kindly state what communal proportion of various communities has been fixed by Government for recruitment of employees (1) superior, (2) subordinate, and (3) others on each of the State-managed Railways? On what basis have such proportions been fixed?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE: No ratio has been fixed for recruitment from the various communities for any of the services on the State-managed Railways but as a rule one-third of the vacancies filled by direct recruitment in India are reserved for the redress of the marked communal inequalities in the case of the superior and the subordinate services. This rule cannot be closely observed in the case of workshop employees and other semi-skilled labourers and persons in inferior service who are recruited in accordance with local conditions and the aptitude of the candidates offering for employment for a particular class of work.

PROGRESS OF INDIANISATION IN THE SUPERIOR AND SUBORDINATE SERVICES ON STATE RAILWAYS UP TO 31ST MARCH, 1932.

58. **THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS:** Will Government kindly lay on the table of this House a detailed statement regarding progress of Indianisation of superior and subordinate services in each branch of service of each of the State-managed Railways up to 31st March, 1932?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE : I would refer my Honourable friend to Appendices F and G of Volume I of the Railway Board's Annual Reports on Indian Railways. The position on the 1st April, 1932 as compared with the 1st April, 1926 is set out in abstract form in statements which I now lay on the table. Another statement showing the annual recruitment made to gazetted services on State-managed Railways since 1926-27 is also laid on the table.

Statement of gazetted officers on State-managed Railways, European and Indian, on 1st April, 1926 and 1st April, 1932, respectively.

Railways.	1st April, 1926.		1st April, 1932.	
	Euro-peans.	Statutory Indians.	Euro-peans.	Statutory Indians.
Burma	94	21	90	21
Eastern Bengal	78	53	70	64
East Indian	219	97	188	131
Great Indian Peninsula	194	53	165	60
North Western	197	121	149	110
Total ..	782	345	662	386

Statement of subordinates on scales of pay rising to Rs. 250 per mensem and over on 1st April, 1926 and 1st April, 1932, respectively.

Railways.	1st April, 1926.		1st April, 1932.	
	Euro-peans.	Statutory Indians.	Euro-peans.	Statutory Indians.
Burma	26	312	27	413
Eastern Bengal	132	287	78	357
East Indian	678	1,538	579	1,465
Great Indian Peninsula	332	984	300	1,126
North Western	313	884	343	1,005
Total ..	1,481	4,005	1,318	4,366

Statement showing the annual recruitment made to permanent appointments in gazetted ranks on State-managed Railways since 1926-27.

Year.				Europeans.	Statutory Indians.
1926-27	..	..	..	18	30
1927-28	..	..	..	23	49
1928-29	..	..	..	19	44
1929-30	..	..	..	12	29
1930-31	..	..	..	12	48
1931-32	..	..	..	6	25
Total				90	225

NOTE.—As recruitment is made by the Railway Board for all State-managed Railways, information for each railway is not given.

PROGRESS OF INDIANISATION IN CERTAIN SUPERIOR SERVICES UP TO 31ST MARCH, 1932.

59. **THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS :** Will Government kindly lay on the table of this House a detailed statement showing the progress every year of Indianisation in superior services of (1) Political, (2) Foreign, (3) Customs, and (4) Army Departments of the Government of India up to 31st March, 1932 ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : The services included under heads (1) and (2) of the Honourable Member's question constitute a single service called the Political Department of the Government of India. A statement showing the progress of Indianisation in the superior civil services is placed annually in the Library, and contains information in respect of the services mentioned under heads (1) to (3). A statement giving information in respect of superior services under the Army Department¹ is placed on the table.

Statement showing the number of Indians employed on the 31st March each year in the superior services under the Army Department.

Year.	Army excluding I. M. S.		R. I. M.		Air Force.	I. M. S.	Civilians.	
	Under training.	Commissioned.	Under training or selected for training.	Commissioned.	Under training.	Commissioned.	Under training.	Confirmed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1924	23	69	Nil	Nil	Nil	146	Nil	Nil
1925	17	80	Nil	Nil	Nil	145	Nil	Nil
1926	12	85	Nil	Nil	Nil	154	1	Nil
1927	19	91	Nil	Nil	Nil	154	1	Nil
1928	18	98	Nil	1	..	156	1	Nil
1929	8	109	Nil	1	..	157	1	Nil
1930	22	112	2	1	..	164	1	Nil
1931	39	114	3	2	6	185	Nil	1
1932	41	132	3	2	10	199	1	1

REDUCED SCALES OF SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES FOR FUTURE ENTRANTS TO THE SUPERIOR CIVIL AND ARMY SERVICES.

60. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS: Will Government kindly state whether they have arrived at any final decision regarding the reduced scales of salaries and allowances for the future entrants to Superior Civil and Army Services? If not, when is such decision to be arrived at?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR: No final decision has yet been reached. The matter is under active consideration.

PROGRESS MADE BY SIR JOHN MARSHALL WITH THE WORK ENTRUSTED TO HIM WHILE ON SPECIAL DUTY.

61. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS: Will Government kindly lay on the table of this House the detailed progress report of the work entrusted to Sir John Marshall while put on special duty after his retirement from the post of Director, Archæological Department?

THE HONOURABLE CHAUDHRI ZAFRULLA KHAN: Sir John Marshall was expected to compile books on the following subjects, during his period of special duty:

A.—The buried cities of (i) Mohenjodaro, (ii) Harappa and (iii) Taxila.

B.—The monuments of (i) Sanchi, (ii) Mandu, (iii) Delhi, (iv) Agra and (v) Multan.

C.—A handbook to the Museum at Taxila.

Of these, the work on the buried cities of Mohenjodaro has already been published in three volumes under the title "Mohenjodaro and the Indus Civilization". The Guidebooks on Taxila and Sanchi and a detailed monograph on the monuments of Sanchi are under preparation and expected to be ready for publication shortly.

REVERSION OF TWO INDIAN I. C. S. OFFICERS HOLDING SUPERIOR APPOINTMENTS IN THE CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT.

62. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS: Will Government kindly state whether it is a fact that two Indian I. C. S. officers holding Superior appointments in the Customs Department were lately reverted to other Departments? If the reply be in the affirmative, will Government state whether their claims were considered for selection to the post of Collector of Customs, Calcutta, which recently fell vacant? If not, why not?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR: No. Two Civilian officers, one European and one Indian, were reverted this year from the Imperial Customs Service as a measure of economy. The vacancy which recently occurred at Calcutta is a very short one and acting arrangements have been made locally.

WITHDRAWAL OF THE LEE CONCESSIONS FROM THE SUPERIOR SERVICES.

63. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS: Will Government kindly state whether in view of continued fall of revenues they are considering the withdrawal of the Lee Concessions to the superior services? If not, why not?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR: No. Government do not consider it equitable to recommend the withdrawal of the Lee Concessions.

DETAILED DECISIONS ON THE LATEST REPORTS OF THE VARIOUS RETRENCHMENT SUB-COMMITTEES.

64. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS: Will Government kindly lay on the table of this House its decisions in detail on the latest reports of the various Retrenchment Sub-Committees?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR: I would refer the Honourable Member to the statements circulated in November, 1931, and to the papers circulated with the current year's budget of the Central Government and Railways. Part III of the Report of the General Purposes Sub-Committee of the Retrenchment Advisory Committee was published at the end of July and its recommendations are still under the consideration of Government.

NUMBER OF PASSENGER COACHES HELD UP FOR WANT OF OVERHAUL OR REPAIRS ON THE STATE RAILWAYS.

65. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS: Will Government kindly state the number of passenger coaches, classwise, which are being held up for want of overhaul or repairs on each of the State-managed Railways for the latest period for which the figures are available? Will they state reasons which led to such accumulation? What is the average monthly output of repairs, etc., of such stock on each of the State-managed Railways? How do these figures compare with pre-retrenchment period?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE: The information asked for by the Honourable Member is being obtained and will, when received, be laid on the table.

STATEMENT LAID ON THE TABLE.

REPORT ON THE DEFENCE OF THE NORTH-WEST FRONTIER.

THE HONOURABLE SIR BROJENDRA MITTER: I lay on the table supplementary answer to question No. 77 asked by the Honourable Mr. Abu Abdullah Syed Hussain Imam on the 7th March, 1932, regarding the Howell Committee's recommendations.

Supplementary answer to question No. 77 asked by the Honourable Mr. Abu Abdullah Syed Hussain Imam on the 7th March, 1932.

The following is the amount of savings which have so far accrued to Government from measures adopted in accordance with the recommendations of the Howell Committee:

			Rs.
Military Budget	..	..	.. 13,50,000
Civil Budget	..	..	.. 1,51,417
Total savings			.. 15,01,417

RULING BY THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT IN RESPECT OF
THE PROCEDURE IN CONNECTION WITH ANSWERS FURNISHED
TO MEMBERS.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : In February last an Honourable Member from Bihar raised a question in this House to which I promised I would let him have a considered answer. I have been reminded of the question again this morning and I would only say that I would have given the Honourable Member an answer much earlier but unfortunately he left Delhi very soon after he raised the point and only returned at the end of the session. The Honourable Member's question related to a practice which has prevailed in this Chamber and, until recently, in the other House also since 1921. When the Reformed Legislatures came into being it was decided that if, in the opinion of the Member of the Government to whom a question was addressed, the answer was not of general interest and, in any case, owing to the time required for collecting information, the answer could not be given on the day on which the question appeared on the paper, then the information should not be laid on the table at a future date but should be communicated direct to the Honourable Member who had asked the question. It is probably superfluous to point out that this procedure was introduced solely in the interests of economy. Possibly all Honourable Members of this House do not realise the cost, direct and indirect, to the country of every question that is asked and answered here. Last February my Honourable Colleague in the other House ruled that the practice hitherto followed should cease and that the Member of the Government instead of promising to let the Honourable Member have the information when it was available, should undertake to lay the information on the table. It is no doubt desirable that the procedure of the two Houses of the Central Legislature should be consistent as far as possible but it cannot be said that this consistency is essential. I have given the matter my careful consideration and I am of the opinion that it is not desirable to make any change in the present practice. The argument in favour of economy is as strong as, if not stronger than, ever. I am aware that every Honourable Member of this House has the right, when replies are given, to ask supplementary questions, but to my mind that has no bearing whatever on the present case, since a supplementary question can only be asked immediately after a reply has been given and therefore cannot be asked when a reply is laid on the table at a future date. It might possibly be argued that when once a question has been admitted by the Chair, the reply to it is of general interest. But I am of opinion that this is not necessarily so. A question may be asked under the Rules for the purpose of obtaining information on a matter of public concern. The conduct or affairs of a person holding a public office, no matter how humble, and the action of any Government Department in any respect, no matter how unimportant, are matters of public concern, but in many cases they would not be matters of general interest. The printing of hundreds of answers to such questions dealing with such matters and the inclusion of such answers in the Council Debates would in my opinion involve unwarranted expense. I therefore see no reason to modify in this respect the procedure which has been in force for the last eleven years.

MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : I have a Message for the Council from His Excellency the Governor General. The Message is as follows :

PANEL OF CHAIRMEN.

“ In pursuance of the provisions of sub-section (2) of section 63A of the Government of India Act, I, Freeman, Earl of Willingdon, hereby nominate the following Members of the Council of State to be on the Panel of Chairmen of the said Council of State :

In the first place, the Honourable Sir Maneckji Dadabhoy ; in the second place, the Honourable Mr. Ernest Miller ; in the third place, the Honourable Diwan Bahadur G. Narayanaswami Chetti ; and lastly, the Honourable Nawab Malik Mohammad Hayat Khan Noon.

*Simla,
The 24th August, 1932.*

*(Sd.) WILLINGDON,
Viceroy and Governor General.”*

(The Message was received by the Council standing.)

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : Under Standing Order 76 of the Council of State Standing Orders, I am required at 12 Noon. the commencement of each Session to constitute a Committee on Petitions consisting of a Chairman and four members. The following Honourable Members have at my request kindly consented to preside over and serve on the Committee. I accordingly have much pleasure in nominating as Chairman of the Committee the Honourable Mr. G. A. Natesan and as members, the Honourable Raja Charanjit Singh, the Honourable Khan Bahadur Syed Abdul Hafeez, the Honourable Sir David Devadoss and the Honourable Mr. S. C. Ghosh Maulik.

STATEMENT RE MR. GANDHI'S RELEASE.

THE HONOURABLE SIR BROJENDRA MITTER (Leader of the House) : Sir, in the statement made in Assembly on 15th September it was announced that Government had decided that as soon as Mr. Gandhi actually begins his fast, he should be removed from the jail to a suitable place of private residence, and that the only restriction that would be imposed upon him would be that he should remain there. The intention was that he should in this way be accorded full facilities for discussing the problem of the Depressed Classes and for endeavouring to effect an agreement with them.

Mr. Gandhi has addressed the following telegram to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy :

“ Have just read with considerable pain announcement of Government's decision to remove me on commencement of contemplated fast to unknown private residence under certain restrictions. To avoid unnecessary trouble and unnecessary public expense also unnecessary worry to myself I would ask Government not to disturb me for I will be unable to conform to any conditions as to movement from place to place or otherwise that may be attached to foreshadowed release ”.

Government, while regretting Mr. Gandhi's decision, have no wish to force upon him arrangements which are distasteful to him. He will, therefore, in accordance with his request, be allowed to remain undisturbed in Yeravada

Jail. At the same time Government are most anxious that this change of plan should not affect the opportunities for discussion of the Depressed Class problem, which they had contemplated should be available for him. They have therefore decided that, unless subsequent developments render any change necessary, he should receive in the jail all reasonable facilities for private interviews with such persons or deputations as he may wish to see, and that there should be no restriction on his correspondence.

BILLS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY LAID ON THE TABLE.

SECRETARY OF THE COUNCIL : Sir, in pursuance of rule 25 of the Indian Legislative Rules, I lay on the table copies of the following Bills which were passed by the Legislative Assembly at its meetings held on the 12th, 14th and 16th September, 1932, namely :

- A Bill further to amend the Indian Emigration Act, 1922, for certain purposes.
- A Bill further to amend the Cantonments Act, 1924, for a certain purpose.
- A Bill to amend the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904, for certain purposes.
- A Bill to amend the Trade Disputes Act, 1929, for certain purposes.
- A Bill to establish Committees in the principal ports of pilgrim traffic to assist Muslim pilgrims to the Hedjaz.

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S ASSENT TO BILLS.

SECRETARY OF THE COUNCIL : Sir, information has been received that His Excellency the Governor General has been pleased to grant his assent to the following Bills which were passed by the two Chambers of the Indian Legislature during the Delhi Session, 1932, namely :

- The Indian Companies (Supplementary Amendment) Act, 1932.
- The Employers and Workmen (Disputes) Repealing Act, 1932.
- The Wheat Import Duty (Extending) Act, 1932.
- The Indian Finance (Supplementary and Extending) Amendment Act, 1932.
- The Wire and Wire Nail Industry (Protection) Act, 1932.
- The Bamboo Paper Industry (Protection) Act, 1932.
- The Salt Additional Import Duty (Extending) Act, 1932.
- The Bengal Criminal Law Amendment (Supplementary) Act, 1932.
- The Indian Partnership Act, 1932.
- The Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Act, 1932.
- The Public Suits Validation Act, 1932.

The Foreign Relations Act, 1932.

The Sugar Industry (Protection) Act, 1932.

The Indian Air Force Act, 1932.

The Indian Tariff (Wireless Broadcasting) Amendment Act, 1932.

MOTION FOR THE ELECTION OF TWO NON-OFFICIAL MEMBERS TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE (Commerce Secretary) :
Sir, I beg to move :

“ That this Council do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Honourable the President may direct, two non-official Members to serve on the Standing Committee to advise on subjects in the Department of Commerce. ”

The motion was adopted.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : With regard to that motion adopted by the Council I direct that nominations shall be received up till 11 o'clock on Friday, the 23rd September.

RESOLUTION RE RATIFICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR LIMITING THE MANUFACTURE AND REGULATING THE DISTRIBUTION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS.

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR (Finance Secretary) : Sir,
I move :

“ That this Council recommends to the Governor General in Council that he do ratify the International Convention for limiting the manufacture and regulating the distribution of Narcotic Drugs. ”

Sir, copies of the Convention have already been circulated to Honourable Members. The necessity of international action to regulate the consumption of the dangerous and habit-forming drugs which are based on opium and the coca leaf has long been recognised. Owing to their potency and the small quantities which are necessary for effective doses they are easy to smuggle, so that if one country were to allow unrestricted manufacture and export, other countries would find it completely beyond the power of their customs staff, however vigilant, to prevent the entry of dangerous quantities of these drugs into their territories with disastrous results to the health and morale of their people. For this reason it has long been recognised that international action is necessary to control the manufacture and distribution of these drugs. India is already a party to two International Conventions, the International Opium Convention of 1912 and the Dangerous Drugs Convention entered into at Geneva in 1925.

These two Conventions dealt with the traffic in opium and other narcotics in their cruder forms. They also attempted to deal with the control of the dangerous drugs which might be derived from these elements by the ingenuity of chemists. Machinery was provided in the 1925 Convention for adding to the list of dangerous drugs to which the provisions of the 1925 Convention

were applied, but it was found that it was a long and tedious process to get such drugs certified, and long before they were certified the ingenuity of chemists and manufacturers had turned to the invention of new derivatives which, though just as dangerous and habit-forming, were still outside the scope of the Convention. The conclusion was obvious. If the 1925 Convention was not to prove abortive, measures would have to be taken to control the manufacture of all the products of opium and the coca leaf so as to avoid abuse of this character. A Resolution to this effect was adopted on the 1st October 1930 by the Assembly of the League of Nations and a Conference was convened to discuss how it should be put into practice. India was represented by Dr. Paranjpye at this Conference which met between the 27th May and the 13th July 1931. The Convention was signed by him on behalf of India on the 13th July 1931, but of course does not become binding until it has been ratified, and this is what I am now asking the Council to approve.

The main result of the Conference is to establish the principle that there will be an agreement among those countries in which opium and cocaine are manufactured to limit such manufacture in accordance with statistical reports from the various nations as to the actual amount of narcotic drugs required to meet their legitimate medical and scientific needs. India is interested in this Convention in three ways. As everybody knows, it produces opium and manufactures it. It is also a country into which narcotic drugs, principally cocaine, find their way from abroad and constitute a dangerous problem. So far as we produce and manufacture opium the present Convention does not affect us adversely at all. Our exports of raw opium and the consumption of raw opium in this country have already been regulated by the Conventions of 1912 and 1925, and this Convention which I am now asking you to ratify does not add in any way to these restrictions. It could only do so if it prevented manufacturers from turning to us for their genuine requirements, and the Convention contains no such provision. As a country manufacturing opium, our interests are decidedly limited. No cocaine is manufactured in India at all and alkaloids of opium are manufactured only at the Government Factory at Ghazipur, where they are under strict Government supervision. Exports have only taken place to the United Kingdom and have always been subject to the strictest control, so as to ensure that they are actually used for medical and scientific purposes. Similarly, alkaloids of opium made in India for Indian use are distributed under equally strict Government control and there is nothing in the Convention which need cause any anxiety as to our right to continue to manufacture drugs for our own legitimate requirements. There is nothing in the Convention to hurt us; on the other hand, we hope to derive very considerable benefits from it. As I have already pointed out, the real problem in India is the large import of cocaine and other drugs such as heroin. Large quantities of these manufactured drugs are known to be smuggled into India and in spite of the vigilance of the preventive staff large quantities do get in to the physical and moral deterioration of drug addicts in this country. We should therefore be grateful for any efforts of those engaged in tightening up the international control of the manufacture of narcotic drugs of all kinds. The Convention does not possibly go so far as some might think it should, but it does mark a definite step forward in international co-operation for the control of this illicit

[Mr. J. B. Taylor.]

traffic and it does outline a method of control which affords reasonable hope of ultimately strangling this dangerous traffic, and for this reason I submit that we should welcome it. Sir, I move.

The motion was adopted.

STATEMENT OF BUSINESS.

THE HONOURABLE SIR BROJENDRA MITTER (Leader of the House) : Sir, the List of Business for tomorrow which is a non-official day is already in Honourable Members' hands. The period of notice for the Bills which have been laid on the table today will not expire till Friday next, and in these circumstances you will perhaps be pleased to direct that the Council should meet on Friday and not on Thursday. In that event, the List of Business for Friday would include the consideration and passing of the Bills laid on the table today and my Resolution on the subject of Honourable Members' allowances.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MEMBERS, THE RECIPIENTS OF HONOURS.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : The next meeting of the Council for official business will be, as the Honourable Leader suggests, on Friday and not on Thursday.

Before I adjourn the Council, I think Honourable Members would like me to refer to those of our colleagues who have received honours since the last Session. I would refer in the first place to the Honourable Raja Charanjit Singh. I am sure it was a great source of satisfaction to all of us to see his name in the Honours List on the King's Birthday. He is an old Member of this Council and I doubt if there has been any Member of the Council who has been more assiduous in his attendance at our meetings. I was going to say that I recollect no occasion of a meeting of the Council of State when the Honourable Member was not in his place. Today is the exception. I hope there is no serious cause for his absence.

The lesser honour conferred upon our friend Syed Abdul Hafeez is one which we all hope is merely the precursor of greater honours to come in the future.

I must refer also to the Knight Commandership of the Order of the Star of India conferred upon Sir Fazl-i-Hussain. Sir Fazl-i-Hussain has been in this House for a long time; he is well known to all Honourable Members. It would be superfluous on my part to attempt to recount the services which he has rendered to this Council, to his province and to his country, India as a whole.

I am sure that it is the wish of all the Honourable Members of this Council that I should tender here from the Chair our most warm congratulations to our three colleagues who have been so honoured.

The Council will now adjourn.

The Council then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, the 21st September, 1932.