

MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Held in the Council Chamber, Lagos, on
28th January, 1931, at 10 a.m.

Pursuant to notice the Honourable the Members of
the Legislative Council met in the Council Chamber,
Lagos, at 10 A.M. on Wednesday the 28th January,
1931.

PRESENT.

- His Excellency The Officer Administering the Government,
Mr. G. Hemmant, C.M.G.
- The Acting Chief Secretary to the Government,
The Honourable Mr. A. C. Burns, C.M.G.
- The Lieutenant-Governor, Northern Provinces,
His Honour Mr. C. W. Alexander, C.M.G.
- The Lieutenant-Governor, Southern Provinces,
His Honour Captain W. Buchanan Smith, C.M.G., M.C.
- The Attorney-General,
The Honourable Mr. A. C. V. Prior.
- The Treasurer,
The Honourable Mr. C. W. Leese.
- The Commandant,
The Honourable Colonel A. J. Ellis, D.S.O.
- The Director of Medical and Sanitary Service,
The Honourable Dr. W. B. Johnson.
- The Comptroller of Customs,
The Honourable Mr. W. K. Duncombe.
- The Honourable Mr. E. R. J. Hussey,
The Director of Education.
- The Administrator of the Colony,
The Honourable Major C. T. Lawrence, O.B.E.
- The Director of Marine,
The Honourable Captain L. J. Hall, O.B.E., R.D., R.N.R.
- The Senior Resident, Oyo Province,
The Honourable Captain W. A. Ross, C.M.G.
- The Senior Resident, Zaria Province,
The Honourable Mr. G. S. Browne, C.M.G.
- The Secretary, Northern Provinces,
The Honourable Mr. G. J. Lethem.
- The Senior Resident, Calabar Province,
The Honourable Mr. E. M. Falk.
- The Senior Resident, Ilorin Province,
The Honourable Mr. H. B. Hermon-Hodge.
- The Resident, Onitsha Province,
The Honourable Mr. F. H. Ingles.
- The Acting Deputy Chief Secretary,
The Honourable Mr. G. C. Whiteley.
- The General Manager of the Railway,
The Honourable Mr. E. M. Bland, C.M.G.

THE TIN (EXPORT FROM NIGERIA) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Secretary, Northern Provinces, a Bill entitled "The Tin (Export from Nigeria) Ordinance, 1931" was read a second time and the Council went into Committee thereon.

The Bill having passed through Committee without amendment, the Council resumed, and on the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Secretary, Northern Provinces, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

THE ESHUGBAYI (INDEMNITY FOR DEPORTATION) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Acting Administrator of the Colony, a Bill entitled "The Eshugbayi (Indemnity for Deportation) Ordinance, 1931" was read a second time and the Council went into Committee thereon.

The Bill having passed through Committee without amendment, the Council resumed, and on the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Acting Administrator of the Colony, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council adjourned at 12.30 p.m., sine die.

THE TOWNSHIPS (AMENDMENT No. 2) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Secretary, Southern Provinces, a Bill entitled "The Townships (Amendment No. 2) Ordinance, 1931" was read a second time and the Council went into Committee thereon.

The Bill having passed through Committee without amendment, the Council resumed, and on the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Secretary, Southern Provinces, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

THE CRIMINAL CODE (AMENDMENT No. 2) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. Rowe, a Bill entitled "The Criminal Code (Amendment No. 2) Ordinance, 1931" was read a second time and the Council went into Committee thereon.

The Bill having passed through Committee without amendment, the Council resumed, and on the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. Rowe, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

THE WEST AFRICAN CURRENCY NOTES (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Treasurer, a Bill entitled "The West African Currency Notes (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931" was read a second time and the Council went into Committee thereon.

The Bill having passed through Committee without amendment, the Council resumed, and on the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Treasurer, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

THE STAMP (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Treasurer, a Bill entitled "The Stamp (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931" was read a second time and the Council went into Committee thereon.

The Bill having passed through Committee without amendment, the Council resumed, and on the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Treasurer, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

THE TELEGRAPHS (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable Mr. L. Bettesworth, a Bill entitled "The Telegraphs (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931" was read a second time and the Council went into Committee thereon.

The Bill having passed through Committee without amendment, the Council resumed, and on the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable Mr. L. Bettesworth, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

THE EUROPEAN RESERVE FORCE (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Senior Resident, Oyo Province, a Bill entitled "The European Reserve Force (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931" was read a second time and the Council went into Committee thereon.

The Bill having passed through Committee without amendment, the Council resumed, and on the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Senior Resident, Oyo Province, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

PRAYERS.

His Excellency the Governor opened the proceedings of the Council with prayers.

MINUTES.

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 20th July, 1931 having been printed and circulated to Honourable Members were taken as read and confirmed.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

The Banking Member (the Honourable Mr. L. M. Herapath), asked leave to correct a statement made by him at the previous meeting.

BILLS.**THE NON-NATIVES INCOME TAX (PROTECTORATE) ORDINANCE, 1931.**

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Secretary, Southern Provinces, a Bill entitled "The Non-Natives Income Tax (Protectorate) Ordinance, 1931" was read a second time and the Council went into Committee thereon.

The Bill having passed through Committee with eight amendments, the Council resumed, and on the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Secretary, Southern Provinces, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

THE INCOME TAX (COLONY) (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Acting Administrator of the Colony, a Bill entitled "The Income Tax (Colony) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931" was read a second time and the Council went into Committee thereon.

The Bill having passed through Committee with four amendments, the Council resumed, and on the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Acting Administrator of the Colony, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

The Honourable the Banking Member, seconded by the Honourable the First Lagos Member, moved a resolution that the question of income tax in the Colony be referred to a Committee. The resolution was adopted. His Excellency the Governor appointed a special Committee to consider existing legislation in regard to the levying of Income Tax in the Colony.

THE SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION (AMENDMENT No. 2) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Director of Marine, a Bill entitled "The Shipping and Navigation (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931" was read a second time and the Council went into Committee thereon.

The Bill having passed through Committee with two amendments, the Council resumed, and on the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Director of Marine, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Director of Medical and Sanitary Service, a Bill entitled "The Public Health (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931" was read a second time and the Council went into Committee thereon.

The Bill having passed through Committee without amendment, the Council resumed, and on the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Director of Medical and Sanitary Service, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

- The Mining Member,
The Honourable Mr. A. L. Butler, O.B.E.
- The Second Lagos Member,
The Honourable Mr. E. O. Moore.
- The Member Representing the Niger African Traders
The Honourable Mr. S. C. Obuanwu.
- The Member for the Egba Division,
The Honourable Mr. S. H. Pearce.
- The Member for the Rivers Division,
The Honourable Mr. Mark Pepple Jaja.
- The Member for Shipping,
The Honourable Mr. H. S. Feggetter.
- The Member for the Warri-Benin Division,
The Honourable Mr. I. T. Palmer.
- The Member for Calabar,
The Honourable Mr. C. W. Clinton.
- The Third Lagos Member,
The Honourable Mr. T. A. Doherty.
- The Banking Member,
The Honourable Mr. L. M. Herapath.
- The Member for the Oyo Division,
The Honourable Mr. A. S. Agbaje.
- The Commercial Member for Kano,
The Honourable Mr. T. Hepburn.
- The Commercial Member for Lagos, (Provisional),
The Honourable Mr. H. R. Routledge.

ABSENT.

- The Lieutenant-Governor, Northern Provinces,
His Honour Mr. C. W. Alexander, C.M.G.
- The Acting Lieutenant-Governor, Southern Provinces,
His Honour Major C. T. Lawrence, C.B.E.
- The Commandant,
The Honourable Colonel A. J. Ellis, D.S.O.
- The Senior Resident, Cameroons Province,
The Honourable Mr. E. J. Arnett, C.M.G.
- The Senior Resident, Adamawa Province,
The Honourable Mr. G. W. Webster, M.B.E.
- The Senior Resident, Plateau Province,
The Honourable Mr. H. H. Middleton.
- The Senior Resident, Niger Province,
The Honourable Mr. C. A. Woodhouse.
- The Resident, Onitsha Province,
The Honourable Mr. F. H. Ingles.
- The Resident, Owerri Province,
The Honourable Mr. O. W. Firth.
- The Resident, Calabar Province,
The Honourable Mr. G. H. Findlay.
- The Resident, Warri Province,
The Honourable Mr. J. W. C. Rutherford.
- The Member for the Ibo Division,
The Venerable Archdeacon G. T. Basden.
- The Commercial Member for Port Harcourt (Provisional)
The Honourable Mr. C. E. Hartley.
- The Commercial Member for Calabar, (Provisional),
The Honourable Mr. G. H. Avezathe.

MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Held in the Council Chamber, Lagos, on
21st July, 1931 at 10 a.m.

Pursuant to notice the Honourable Members of the Legislative Council met in the Council Chamber, Lagos, at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, the 21st July, 1931.

PRESENT:—

- The Governor,
His Excellency Sir Donald Cameron, K.C.M.G., K.B.E.
- The Chief Secretary to the Government,
The Honourable Mr. G. Hemmant, C.M.G.
- The Acting Attorney-General,
The Honourable Mr. J. C. Howard.
- The Treasurer,
The Honourable Mr. C. W. Leese.
- The Director of Medical and Sanitary Service,
The Honourable Dr. W. B. Johnson.
- The Comptroller of Customs,
The Honourable Mr. W. K. Duncombe.
- The Honourable Mr. E. R. J. Hussey,
The Director of Education,
- The Acting Administrator of the Colony,
The Honourable Mr. E. M. Falk.
- The Director of Marine,
The Honourable Captain L. J. Hall, O.B.E., R.D., R.N.R.
- The Senior Resident, Oyo Province,
The Honourable Captain W. A. Ross, C.M.G.
- The Secretary, Northern Provinces,
The Honourable Mr. G. J. Lethem.
- The Secretary, Southern Provinces,
The Honourable Mr. F. P. Lynch.
- The Resident, Benin Province,
The Honourable Mr. H. de B. Bewley.
- The Acting Deputy Chief Secretary,
The Honourable Mr. G. C. Whiteley.
- The Acting General Manager of the Railway,
The Honourable Mr. W. Cramer Bostock.
- The Director of Public Works,
The Honourable Mr. C. L. Cox.
- The Acting Director of Agriculture,
The Honourable Mr. A. J. Findlay.
- The Honourable Lt.-Col. R. H. Rowe, D.S.O., M.C.
The Commissioner of Lands.
- The Honourable Mr. L. Bettesworth,
The Acting Postmaster-General.
- The First Lagos Member,
The Honourable Dr. C. C. Adeniyi-Jones.
- The Member for the Colony Division,
The Honourable Sir Kitoyi Ajasa, Kt., O.B.E.

The Honourable the Acting Attorney-General gave notice that the second reading of the following Bills would be moved at the next meeting of the Council:—

- (1) The Non-Natives Income Tax (Protectorate) Ordinance, 1931.
- (2) The Income Tax (Colony) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931.
- (3) The Shipping and Navigation (Amendment No. 2) Ordinance, 1931.
- (4) The Public Health (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931.
- (5) The Townships (Amendment No. 2) Ordinance, 1931.
- (6) The Criminal Code (Amendment No. 2) Ordinance, 1931.
- (7) The West African Currency Notes (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931.
- (8) The Stamp (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931.
- (9) The Telegraphs (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931.
- (10) The European Reserve Force (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931.
- (11) The Tin (Export from Nigeria) Ordinance, 1931.
- (12) The Eshugbayi (Indemnity for deportation) Ordinance, 1931.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council adjourned at 3.45 p.m. until 10 a.m. on Tuesday.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Director of Medical and Sanitary Service, a Bill entitled "The Public Health (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931" was read a first time.

THE TOWNSHIPS (AMENDMENT No. 2) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Secretary, Southern Provinces, a Bill entitled "The Townships (Amendment No. 2) Ordinance, 1931" was read a first time.

THE CRIMINAL CODE (AMENDMENT No. 2) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable Lieutenant Colonel R. H. Rowe, a Bill entitled "The Criminal Code (Amendment No. 2) Ordinance, 1931" was read a first time.

THE WEST AFRICAN CURRENCY NOTES (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Treasurer, a Bill entitled "The West African Currency Notes (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931" was read a first time.

THE STAMP (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Treasurer, a Bill entitled "The Stamp (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931" was read a first time.

THE TELEGRAPHS (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable Mr. L. Bettsworth, a Bill entitled "The Telegraphs (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931" was read a first time.

THE EUROPEAN RESERVE FORCE (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Senior Resident, Oyo Province, a Bill entitled "The European Reserve Force (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931" was read a first time.

THE TIN (EXPORT FROM NIGERIA) ORDINANCE, 1931.

The Honourable the Acting Attorney-General laid on the table a Certificate of Urgency to enable the introduction of "The Tin (Export from Nigeria) Ordinance, 1931" into the Council without notice as required by Standing Order No. 28.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Secretary, Northern Provinces, the Bill was read a first time.

THE ESHUGBAYI (INDEMNITY FOR DEPORTATION) ORDINANCE, 1931.

The Honourable the Acting Attorney-General laid on the table a Certificate of Urgency to enable the introduction of "The Eshugbayi (Indemnity for deportation) Ordinance, 1931" into the Council without notice as required by Standing Order No. 28.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Secretary, Northern Provinces, the Bill was read a first time.

The First Lagos Member,
The Honourable Dr. C. C. Adeniyi-Jones.

The Third Lagos Member,
The Honourable Mr. T. A. Doherty.

The Member representing the Niger African Traders, the
The Honourable Mr. S. C. Obianwu.

The Commercial Member for Lagos (Provisional),
The Honourable Mr. H. R. Routledge.

The Honourable the Chief Secretary to the Government replied,
and His Excellency summed up the discussion.

The motion was then put to the vote and the Council divided as follows:—

FOR 25.

The Hon. the Member for the Oyo Division.
The Hon. the Third Lagos Member.
The Hon. the Member for Calabar.
The Hon. the Member for the Warri-Benin Division.
The Hon. the Member Representing the Niger African Traders.
The Hon. the Second Lagos Member.
The Hon. the Member for the Colony Division.
The Hon. Mr. L. Bettsworth.
The Hon. Lt.-Col. R. H. Rowe.
The Hon. the Acting Director of Agriculture.
The Hon. the Director of Public Works.
The Hon. the Acting General Manager of the Railway.
The Hon. the Acting Deputy Chief Secretary.
The Hon. the Resident, Benin Province.
The Hon. the Secretary, Southern Provinces.
The Hon. the Secretary, Northern Provinces.
The Hon. the Senior Resident, Oyo Province.
The Hon. the Director of Marine.
The Hon. the Acting Administrator of the Colony.
The Hon. Mr. E. R. J. Hussey.
The Hon. the Comptroller of Customs.
The Hon. the Director of Medical and Sanitary Service.
The Hon. the Treasurer.
The Hon. the Acting Attorney-General.
The Hon. the Chief Secretary to the Government.

AGAINST 7.

The Hon. the Commercial Member for Lagos (Provisional).
The Hon. the Commercial Member for Kano.
The Hon. the Banking Member.
The Hon. the Member for Shipping.
The Hon. the Member for the Rivers Division.
The Hon. the Member for the Egba Division.
The Hon. the Mining Member.

ABSTAINED:—The Hon. the First Lagos Member.

The resolution was therefore declared to be adopted.

BILLS.

THE NON-NATIVES INCOME TAX (PROTECTORATE) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Secretary, Southern Provinces, a Bill entitled "The Non-Natives Income Tax (Protectorate) Ordinance, 1931" was read a first time.

THE INCOME TAX (COLONY) (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General seconded by the Honourable the Acting Administrator of the Colony, a Bill entitled "The Income Tax (Colony) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931" was read a first time.

THE SHIPPING NAVIGATION (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Director of Marine, a Bill entitled "The Shipping and Navigation (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931" was read a first time.

SCHEDULE.

Name.	Service.	Amount of Gratuity.		
		£	s.	d.
Sabon Yaro I ...	15 years as Assistant Lineman, Posts and Telegraphs ...	22	10	0
Maina ...	15 years as Cook, African Hospital ...	22	10	0
Ale Waya ...	25 years as Condenser Attendant, Public Works Department ...	25	0	0
Mohamadu Bauchi	23 years as Courier, Provincial Administration, Northern Provinces ...	39	2	0
Laniyan ...	22 years as Messenger, Political, Southern Provinces ...	33	0	0
H. A. Benjamin ...	7 years as Temporary Clerk, P.W.D. ...	21	0	0
James Sajere ...	18 years as Cook, Medical Department ...	32	8	0
J. Ekwuofu ...	20 years as Engine Driver, Public Works Department ...	76	16	0
Garuba I ...	19 years as Assistant Lineman, Posts and Telegraphs ...	31	18	5
Widow of the late Mr. T. A. Nwashiile	Compassionate gratuity awarded towards the support of the two children of the deceased for his 12 years' service' as Blacksmith, Marine Department ...	12	0	0
Sule Ishola ...	11 years as Messenger, Secretary Southern Provinces' Office ...	12	0	0
I. B. Pereira ...	19 years as Sub-Inspector of Sanitation ...	76	0	0
Salami VII ...	16 years as Assistant Lineman, Posts and Telegraphs ...	26	17	7
A. M. Aigle-Priddy	16 years as Driver, Grade II, Marine Department ...	104	0	0
Samuel Ayo ...	20 years as Messenger, Survey Department ...	18	0	0
Belo II ...	21 years as Fireman, Marine ...	50	8	0
Tanko Kano ...	23½ years as Chief Political Agent, Kano ...	100	0	0
J. A. Clay ...	9 years as Assistant Motor Mechanic, Posts and Telegraphs ...	19	10	0
		£723	0	0

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council adjourned at 12.40 p.m. and resumed at 2.30 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS.

The Honourable the Chief Secretary to the Government, seconded by the Honourable the Comptroller of Customs, moved the following resolution:—

“ Be it resolved: That this Council consents to the Order-in-Council made by the Governor in Council under section 12 of the Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1924, (No. 20 of 1924) on the 18th day of July, 1931, in so far as the said Order relates to the Colony and to the Southern Provinces of Nigeria.”

A discussion ensued in which the following Honourable Members took part:—

The Banking Member,
The Honourable L. M. Herapath.

The Mining Member,
The Honourable Mr. A. L. Butler, O.B.E.

(b) Whether it is also true that in consequence of the exercise of their duties, by these same clerks and Tax Collectors, the clerk of the Bale of Ibeju was arrested, and the Bale himself has had to seek protection outside his village and district? And

(c) Whether Government will kindly give direction for an inquiry in order to determine the true position of affairs at present obtaining in the district, and what steps should be taken in the matter?

Answer:—

No information on the subject has reached the Administrator.

2. The Administrator is causing enquiries to be made.

RESOLUTIONS.

The Honourable the Treasurer, seconded by the Honourable the Acting Deputy Chief Secretary to the Government, moved the following resolution:—

“ Be it resolved: That the Supplementary Estimates,
“ 1930-31 (fourth quarter) which have been laid on the
“ table to-day be referred to the Finance Committee.”

A discussion ensued in which the following Honourable Members took part:—

- The Banking Member,
The Honourable L. M. Herapath.
- The Mining Member,
The Honourable Mr. A. L. Butler, O.B.E.
- The First Lagos Member,
The Honourable Dr. C. C. Adeniyi-Jones.
- The Member for Calabar,
The Honourable Mr. C. W. Clinton.
- The Member for Shipping,
The Honourable Mr. H. S. Feggetter.
- The Commercial Member for Lagos (Provisional),
The Honourable Mr. H. R. Routledge.
- The Second Lagos Member,
The Honourable Mr. E. O. Moore.
- The Third Lagos Member,
The Honourable T. A. Doherty.
- The Member for the Egba Division,
The Honourable Mr. S. H. Pearse.
- The Member for the Rivers Division,
The Honourable Mr. Mark Pepple Jaja.
- The Member for the Warri-Benin Division,
The Honourable Mr. I. T. Palmer.
- The Commercial Member for Kano,
The Honourable Mr. T. Hepburn.
- The Member representing the Niger African Traders,
The Honourable Mr. S. C. Obianwu.

His Excellency the Governor summed up the discussion.

The resolution was adopted.

On the motion of the Honourable the Treasurer, seconded by the Honourable the Acting General Manager of the Railway, the following resolution was adopted:—

“ Be it resolved: That this Council approves the grant of
“ a gratuity of £332 16s. 4d. to Mr. E. J. Howard,
“ formerly Office Assistant, Nigerian Railway Con-
“ struction on his retirement from the service.”

On the motion of the Honourable the Treasurer, seconded by the Honourable the Acting Deputy Chief Secretary to the Government, the following resolution was adopted:—

“ Be it resolved: That this Council approves the sum of
“ £723 in respect of the amount of *ex-gratia* and
“ compassionate gratuities awarded to non-pensionable
“ employees and dependents of non-pensionable
“ employees during the period from 2nd February, 1931,
“ to date, for long and faithful service, as per schedule
“ below.”

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

93. In the alternative will the Government consider the question of furnishing African clerk quarters, as in European quarters, with such heavy furniture as a bed, a couple of tables and a few chairs to obviate the necessity of African clerks on transfer having to take with them their own heavy furniture as mentioned and thus avoid exceeding the limit over which they have to pay for excess luggage?

Answer:—

The Government regrets that it is not prepared to consider the question of the supply of furnished quarters to African officials.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR THE OYO DIVISION (MR. A. S. AGBAJE):—

94. To call the attention of the Government to the fact that long delay results from the present arrangement for the leasing of land, by first having to pass through the Resident to Enugu and thence to Lagos and then back to the Resident. Cannot the Government obviate this difficulty by putting the matter under the management of a resident official so as to deal with the matter promptly?

Answer:—

Measures to avoid unnecessary delay have already been initiated. It is doubtful if the delay saved by delegation of power to a resident official would be commensurate with the disadvantages.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR THE OYO DIVISION (MR. A. S. AGBAJE):—

95. In view of the increasing demand for one-tenth pennies in Ibadan and elsewhere, will the Government extend to the Southern Provinces the same facilities for obtaining them as exist in the Northern Provinces in view of the fall in values?

Answer:—

At present there are surplus stocks of nickel pence and halfpence in Ibadan and elsewhere and no application has been received from any station in the Southern Provinces for a supply of one-tenth pennies. Government would of course supply the coin if a demand existed.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR THE OYO DIVISION (MR. A. S. AGBAJE):—

96. When will the Ijebu-Ode road be dealt with?

Answer:—

If the Honourable Member refers to the reconstruction of the Ibadan-Ijebu-Ode-Ejinrin road, which has been under Departmental consideration, the reply is that the work must await provision of funds and that in the present financial stringency the date these will be available cannot be stated.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR THE OYO DIVISION (MR. A. S. AGBAJE):—

97. Would it not be advisable for a gate or gates to be fixed on every motor-road crossing Railway Lines in order to prevent motor accidents?

Answer:—

Gates are not considered necessary at roads where there is a good view of the level crossing, from each direction. The initial cost of installing gates and gatemen's huts at all level crossings implies considerable expenditure, and the annual charges for wages and maintenance cannot be justified.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

98. (a) To ask whether there is truth in the allegation that one Emanuel Okunowo, together with one or two others, clerks and tax collectors, Epe, severely assaulted the Bale of Magbon, in the Epe District, under pretext of the exercise of their duties in connection with the collection of tax due from that village, and that the Bale is at the present time seeking protection outside his home and village?

consequent retrenchment, cutting down of salaries and scarcity of money consider the question of reducing these Court fees to what they were before 1922?

Answer:—

In all cases where persons have applied for free process and good grounds are shown, the Courts have granted free process to the applicant. The Government does not consider that the present is a suitable time for considering the question of reducing Court fees.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

87. In the various Councils of Chiefs connected with the Native Administrations in the Eastern Provinces are there included among its members young educated or literate men, not clerks or officials, who can explain to and satisfy their illiterate brethren that the Native Administration funds are being wisely expended for their benefit?

Answer:—

Some members of Councils are literate and many young and literate men have been present at meetings of Councils held by District Officers to explain estimates and finances.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

88. Have Native Chiefs, members of these Councils, the right of access to the books of accounts kept by the Native Administration clerks of expenditure of Native Administration funds?

Answer:—

The answer is in the affirmative.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

89. Have native members of the Council without the authority and consent of the District Officers of the District or Province the right to authorise any expenditure out of Native Administration funds for any purpose however proper or legitimate?

Answer:—

The answer is in the negative.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

90. Is it a fact that in accordance with Government Regulations, while European Government officials in the Protectorate, enjoying high salaries, when on transfer, have free transport by train, lorry, ship or otherwise of all their furniture and personal belongings the African officials who receive much lower salaries do not enjoy the same advantage but have free transport on a strictly limited scale and have to pay transport on luggage in excess of such limit?

Answer:—

Scales are laid down in each case.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

91. If the above is true what, if any, are the Government reasons for giving the European highly paid officials these advantages and denying same to the much lower paid African officials?

Answer:—

Does not arise.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

92. Will the Government consider the question of granting the African officials the same advantages as regards transport of luggage when on transfer in order to relieve Africans of the heavy expenses now incurred by them when they have to change their station of residence?

Answer:—

Scales are already laid down and are considered to be reasonable.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

80. What are the Government's reasons, if any, for removing the Police Magistrate from Calabar and substituting a Station Magistrate in his stead?

Answer:—

The Police Magistrate was removed from Calabar because the amount of work there did not justify his retention.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

81. Is it a fact that the Station Magistrate, Calabar, is not a member of any of the legal professions and is Local Authority, President of the Advisory Board and member of the Liquor Board?

Answer:—

The answer is in the affirmative.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

82. Are these latter offices held by him compatible with his position of a Judge sitting in a Court of Law?

Answer:—

The answer is in the affirmative.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

83. Is it a fact that due to his numerous duties in connection with these other offices the Station Magistrate often finds it impossible to sit in his Court until after 10 and sometimes after 11 a.m.?

Answer:—

It is a fact that the Magistrate occasionally does not sit till 10 a.m.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

84. Is it a fact that due to want of time on the part of the Station Magistrate to deal with the summonses taken out in his Court the predecessor of the present Station Magistrate refused to sign summonses for his Court and sent applicants away with direction to take out these writs in the Native Court?

Answer:—

The Deputy Registrar states that he has no recollection of the Station Magistrate's predecessor refusing to sign summonses as suggested.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

85. Is it a fact that the Police Magistracy in Calabar was established in 1901 and instead of there being a decrease in the number of cases in that Court there has been a steady increase of work in proportion to the increased trade and revenue derived from Calabar?

Answer:—

The Police Magistracy at Calabar was established in 1901. A gradual increase in the number of cases appearing before the Court took place until 1928, since which year there has been a marked decrease.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

86. In view of the fact that in 1922 Court fees for writ of summonses, motions and other process in the Supreme Court and Provincial Court were raised more than double the rate then in force thereby making it difficult and often impossible for many who desired to have their controversies adjudicated upon by these Courts, will Government in this time of serious trade depression with

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR THE WARRI-BENIN DIVISION
(MR. I. T. PALMER):—

75. To ask how many European Engineers, Inspectors of Works, Foremen of Works and Native Artisans are employed at work in the Warri Division, and how many buildings have been put up by them during the past twelve months?

Answer:—

Two engineers, one European Inspector and twenty-three artisans (including mechanics and motor drivers) were employed in the Warri Division at the end of May, and one Foreman of Works seconded for Native Administration work.

Four new buildings have been built during the past twelve months and two are under construction.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR THE WARRI-BENIN DIVISION (MR. I. T. PALMER):—

76. To ask why a special Road Engineer was employed to raise the Warri-Sapele road three feet above the original ground level for a distance of about 2½ miles, when the European Engineers at Warri had no other work on hand?

Answer:—

There has been no time when the European Engineers stationed at Warri have had no work on hand other than the Warri-Sapele road, and the question, therefore, does not arise.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR WARRI-BENIN DIVISION (MR. I. T. PALMER):—

77. To ask how many Government buildings were put up at Warri and Burutu respectively during 1927-28, and how many European Engineers were at work?

Answer:—

As far as can be ascertained at short notice, the only buildings erected in the Warri Division, including Burutu, during 1927-28 were thirteen buildings for African staff quarters and one European quarter. One European engineer was stationed in the Division for two months.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR THE WARRI-BENIN DIVISION
(MR. I. T. PALMER):—

78. To ask if it has come to the knowledge of the Director of Public Works that on the 24th April, 1931, a European Inspector of Works did assault one Hamartey, a native of the Gold Coast, in the employ of the Public Works Department for the past twenty years, causing serious damages to the man's eye, and if so, to ask if any investigation has been made, and what action taken?

Answer:—

A letter of complaint dated May 1st, 1931, was received from Amartey.

A senior officer was specially sent to investigate the matter and reported that at a preliminary enquiry held at Sapele Amartey wished to withdraw his letter and consider the incident as closed.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR THE WARRI-BENIN DIVISION (MR. I. T. PALMER):—

79. To ask the Lieutenant-Governor, Southern Provinces, whether the time has not come, when Government would declare Asaba and districts a non-prohibitive area for liquor traffic?

Answer:—

This matter received consideration in 1929 but it was not thought advisable to alter the line of prohibition.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

72. (a) Were there any discrepancies, or thefts, discovered in any of the stores functioning at Ijora and Apapa by the last Annual Board of Survey? If so,

(b) Will Government kindly make a statement giving indications of (1) the store or stores in which discrepancies, or thefts, were discovered; (2) the value of the loss incurred thereby; (3) the name, rank, and pay, of the official directly responsible; and (4) the action taken to make good the loss to Government?

Answer:—

(a) Small discrepancies were discovered by the last annual Board of Survey.

(b) (1) The Timber stores at Ijora, the Marine and Harbour stores.

(2), (3) and (4) The deficiencies were largely of an accounting nature and more than set-off by the excesses.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

73. (a) To ask whether it is not a fact that a good deal of the official time of the Assistant Chief Accountant, Public Works Department, was or is being devoted almost entirely to the business of the Public Works Department club and the Public Works Department Mess, thereby keeping this official practically constantly away from the seat of his official duty?

(b) Is it not also a fact that the office time of some of the junior clerks and typists, as also Government stationery, Public Works Department are being used for the same purpose?

(c) And in view of the unsatisfactory state of the Colony's finance; the absolute necessity for strict economy in every branch of the service; and of the fact that the conditions upon which the necessity for the creation of that post was based (as set forth in the printed Memorandum covering the Draft Estimates for the Financial Year, 1927-28, under Head 35, item 29) do not now, and from existing outlook will not for some years to come, exist, to ask whether Government will not give its serious attention to the question of abolishing the post of *Assistant Chief Accountant*, and splitting up the official duties appertaining thereto amongst other and less paid Accountants in the Public Works Departments, and in every other Department in which such a post exists?

Answer:—

(a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) The agenda and minutes of the Public Works Department Athletic Club for the last two months have been typed during office hours on Government paper. No work is being done, or Government stationery used, in connection with the affairs of the Public Works Department Mess.

(c) The establishments of Nigerian Departments are being considered with a view to effecting economy.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

74. (a) To ask whether the degree of success which has attended the advancement of West African Natives to Higher (or European) posts in the service is not sufficiently encouraging to make such advancements of a more general application? And

(b) Whether Government will not give its serious attention to such advancements particularly in connection with the post of Assistant Accountant in the various Departments in which such posts exist?

Answer:—

(a) The Government is always prepared to consider the claims of suitable Africans.

(b) This will be considered.

(b) (1) Selection for specialised work which debars the officer from accepting private practice.

(2) An African Officer draws staff pay.

(3) Does not therefore arise.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

70. (a) To ask for the value of the stock of *Unallocated Stores* held on charge at each of the following stations; namely, *Lagos, Warri, Lokoja, Port Harcourt and Kaduna*, in the years 1922-23, 1923-24, 1924-25 and 1930-31 respectively?

(b) What is the name, the rank, and the salary including all allowances, of the European, or African, in charge of the stores and actually or directly responsible for their safe custody in each of the above-named stations and periods?

(c) What has been the cost of European Supervision as against African Clerical Service in connection with the custody of those stores in each of those stations and periods? And

(d) What has been the cost to Government, if any, arising out of thefts, or loss, of those stores or other Government property, in each of those stations and periods?

Answer:—

It is regretted that there has not been time to obtain full particulars from all Departments. The information when available will be communicated to the Council.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

71. (a) What was the value of the stock of *Unallocated Stores* on the 30th of June, 1931, in each of the various stores functioning at (1) Ijora, and (2) Apapa?

(b) Are the storekeepers in direct charge of them Europeans or Africans; and what are their rates of pay including all allowances?

(c) What clerical or other assistants are provided the European, or African, in direct charge of each of the stores?

(d) What pay do these assistants get; and are their appointments permanent and/or pensionable?

Answer:—

(a) (1) Ijora.
Public Works Department, £58,880.

(2) Apapa.
(i) Marine, £49,347 17s. 10d.
(ii) Harbour Works, £5,272.

(b) Europeans.

(1) Two Storekeepers on the scale £400 or £450 rising to £600, one of these drawing transport allowance at £3 14s. 3d. per month.

(2) (i) Two Storekeepers with total annual emoluments respectively of £690 and £415.

(ii) One Storekeeper at £872 *per annum*.

(c) (1) Eight clerks, twenty-seven daily paid storemen, checkers, etc.

(2) (i) Thirteen clerks.
(ii) Three clerks.

(d) (1) The aggregate annual pay of the eight clerks was £1,082 8s. The daily paid storemen, etc., were paid at rates varying from 1s. to 3s. 6d. per diem. The majority of the clerks were on the permanent and pensionable staff.

(2) (i) Total annual pay, £1,616, all except one clerk being pensionable.

(ii) Total annual pay, £338, all appointments being pensionable.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

67. (a) Referring to the reply given to Question No. 1, Legislative Council Debates, September 28 and 29, 1930, page 5, to ask whether it is not a fact that the Chief Inspector of Mines and his Deputy are confined in the Mines Office at Jos almost throughout the whole period of their tour; and that the actual inspections of mines are done by the Inspecting Officers stationed at *Ropp*, *Bukuru*, *Toro* and *Leruei-n-Kano*? And

(b) If it is impossible to give figures of the mileage covered by the other officials indicated in the question, is it also impossible to give particulars as to the number of days the Chief Inspector of Mines and his Deputy did go on inspection and the mileage covered, during the financial year 1928-29 or 1929-30, to justify, as an economic measure, the expenditure from the public revenue of their Transport Allowances of £11 16s. 0d. and £10 5s. 0d., respectively, every month?

Answer:—

(a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) The average monthly mileages covered on duty by officers of the Mines Department during 1928-29 and 1929-30 were as follows:—

Chief Inspector of Mines, 610. Deputy Chief Inspector of Mines, 400. Inspectors, *Ropp*, 500; *Bukuru*, 400; *Toro*, 500 in 1928-29, 300 in 1929-30; Northern Area, 400.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

68. (a) Will Government kindly make a statement of *Transport Allowances* granted in the Colony and Southern Provinces during the last financial year? (*Vide* reply (a) to Question No. 1, Legislative Council Debates, September 28 and 29, 1930, page 4).

(b) If it is a fact that officials drawing the above allowances are also given refunds of whatever payments they make in respect of their drivers' licences, licences for their motor cars and motor bicycles, and fees for the registration of their cars and bicycles, to ask why should that be the case?

Answer:—

It is regretted that there has not been time to prepare a comprehensive answer to this question. The information when available will be communicated to the Council.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

69. (a) Will Government kindly state whether it is its intention that *Seniority Pay* and *Staff Pay* should continue? If so,

(b) Will Government kindly give an indication of (1) the qualifications which make a European official eligible for those payments; (2) why African officials have in the past not been included amongst those so eligible; and (3) whether there are any objections, and if any what those objections may be, against African officials being now included amongst those so eligible?

Answer:—

(i) *Seniority Pay*.

(a) The reply is in the affirmative.

(b) The Honourable Member is invited to refer to pages 78-79 of the Debates of the First Session of this Council in 1924, where the origin of duty pay in the West African Civil Service is fully explained. On revision of the salaries of European Officers in 1920, seniority pay was substituted for the duty pay previously drawn by a number of European Officers.

(ii) *Staff Pay*.

(a) The question is under consideration.

Marine Department.	3.	1 month's notice.
Harbour	2.	3 month's notice.
R.W.A.F.F.	1.	1 month's notice.

In the general retrenchment scheme of the Posts and Telegraphs Department it has become necessary to curtail activities with the result that 167 African officials will be retrenched, 20 will be retrenched in the Survey Department, and 3 in the Forestry Department. The conditions of notice of retrenchment have not yet been decided by Government. All rights that may exist under the Pension Laws and Regulations will of course be strictly respected.

Further retrenchment of officials, African and European, will probably be unavoidable.

(c) The retrenchment of African officials was not contemplated in January last. The increasing severity of the financial depression and the reduction in expenditure rightly demanded by Honourable Members have forced economies with their inevitable effects upon the whole staff of the Government Service.

(d) The change has been gradual and inevitable.

(e) The possibility of the change was indicated to Honourable Members in the announcement of the President at the meeting of this Council on the 2nd of February, 1931.

(f) Does not therefore arise.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

64. To ask whether without embarrassing itself, or its own activities in the matter, Government is in the position to make a statement giving an indication of the extent to which it has effected retrenchment, in the Estimates of Expenditure for the current financial year, promised at the time by the President during the meeting of this honourable Council last January?

Answer:—

I would refer the Honourable Member to His Excellency's opening address. A schedule of the economies effected up to the middle of June has been laid on the table.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

65. (a) To ask for a statement of the amount estimated for Educational Scholarships for the year 1931-32?

(b) How does that estimate compare with those for each of the past six financial years? And in view of the general economic depression,

(c) Whether Government will not seriously consider the desirability of lowering its fees in connection with secondary educational institutions?

Answer:—

(a) £3,026.

(b) The estimate is lower than those for the years 1928-30 and higher than those for 1925-27.

(c) It is not considered that the fees are high.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

66. To ask whether the whole question of telephones in Government residential quarters has been reconsidered by Government as promised in the reply to Question No. 38, Legislative Council Debates, January, 28, 1931, page 16, and whether their installation and maintenance at public expense in the residences of the officials indicated in the question are still considered necessary?

Answer:—

The reply to the first part of the question is in the affirmative.

2. The number has been reduced and further reductions are under consideration.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

{2. To ask for a statement of the number of "deserters" from the Royal West African Frontier Force (Nigeria Regiment), and the Nigeria Police Force, respectively, during the last three years?

(b) What has been the cause, or have been the causes, of each such desertion?

(c) How were the cases dealt with? And

(d) What steps, if any, has it been found necessary to take in order to prevent recurrences as far as possible?

Answer:—

(1) Royal West African Frontier Force.

(a) 157.

(b) Full particulars are not available. Of the 157 deserters, 101 were Recruits with only a few days' service and were apparently not amenable to discipline. Of the remaining 56 only 24 had over 2 years' service. The average desertions from units by trained soldiers is only 2.6 desertions per year.

(c) 10 deserters rejoined of their own accord and 27 were apprehended. Of these 26 were prosecuted and dismissed the Regiment, 8 were dismissed the Regiment with no other punishment, and 3 were prosecuted and allowed to continue in the service.

(d) No special steps have been found necessary. Recruit deserters are not likely to make good soldiers.

(2) Nigeria Police Force.

(a) 16.

(b) In 9 cases, dislike of work: in 2, debt: in 1, insanity: in 1, fraudulent enlistment: in 2, cause unknown.

(c) 13 deserters were not found. Two were prosecuted: one committed suicide while in custody.

(d) None. The supply of recruits is plentiful.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

{3. (a) To ask for a statement of the number of African officials who have been served with retrenchment notices, and have been or are being retrenched from the service on the grounds of economy?

(b) In which Departments are these retrenchments being made, and what is the time limit of the notices?

(c) Whether the assurance given in open Council last January by the Honourable the Chief Secretary to Government (*vide* reply to Question No. 39, Legislative Council Debates, January 28, 1931, page 16), that "Government is not contemplating *any form of* retrenchment amongst African officials in the service", has ceased to hold good? (The italics are mine). If so,

(d) When did that take place? And

(e) How was it that no announcement of same was made, nor an indication of Government intention and the reason for the change given, before pursuing a course which appears the direct opposite of a publicly expressed assurance on a matter of such vital importance to the country and the governed? If, on the other hand, the assurance still holds good,

(f) How is it that African officials have been, and are being served, with retrenchment notices in what appears a wholesale manner?

Answer:—

(a) and (b). The following African officials have been served with retrenchment notices:—

Railway Department. 140. 3 months' notice to those of 10 years' service or over, 1 month to the remainder.

Answer:—

- (a) The answer is in the negative.
- (b) The question is under consideration.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

60. (a) A propos of Question No. 27, Legislative Council Debates, January 28, 1931, page 11, and Government reply thereto, to ask whether it is not a routine procedure for estimates to be made of the value of all building material, furniture, etc., etc., in connection with any Government building before, or after, that building is dismantled, or during the time it is being dismantled?

(b) Why were no such estimates made in this instance of the old African Hospital building?

(c) Under what *Government Regulation*, or paragraph of the *General Orders*, is it provided that Government material, furniture, etc., etc., can be declared useless and broken, be used for firewood, or be disposed of under the authority of engineers, or any of the other officials of a Department, without a Board of Survey having previously sat over them?

(d) On the supposition that estimates are invariably prepared, submitted, and approved before the construction or erection of, or before any repairs are done to, any building whatsoever, to ask for a statement of the savings effected from the approved estimates for the construction, or erection of the various items set forth in Government Reply (c) (Question No. 27), by the use of some of the material from the old African Hospital building, and how those savings have been allocated?

(e) What are the *utilisable furniture and fittings* which have been reconditioned; and for what purpose, or purposes, have they been reissued?

(f) What was the existing stock, and the value thereof, of the surplus material and furniture, fittings, etc., etc., which at the time the reply was given was either *on the site* or *had been removed to the yards in Lagos or Ijora*; and how has it since been disposed of?

(g) What is the present stock, and the value thereof, that is either on the site or in the yards in Lagos or Ijora; and how is it proposed to dispose of it?

Answer:—

- (a) The reply is in the negative.
- (b) It was considered to be unnecessary.
- (c) Under no regulation.
- (d) The savings from the use of salvaged material were not assessed or allocated.
- (e) Separate accounts of reconditioned articles are not kept.
- (f) Details have not been kept.
- (g) Furniture and miscellaneous articles which have not been valued.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

61. With the serious economic depression still obtaining in the country, to ask whether the question of the reduction of Railway freight on cattle is not one which calls for the earnest consideration of the Honourable the General Manager of the Railway and of his recommendation of same for the favourable consideration of Government?

Answer:—

It is not considered that the present freight rates on cattle are too high.

(c) Certain repairs to the motor were necessary which could only be carried out in England.

(d) The dismantled parts are in the charge of the Public Works Department and are available for use if required.

(e) It is not considered that there has been a waste of public money.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

57. To ask whether the Postmaster-General entertains any serious objections against meeting the convenience of the public (1) by opening a branch Post and Telegraph Office somewhere in the neighbourhood of the northern end of Victoria Road, and (2) by making provision in the office at Catholic Mission Street, for the discharge of general postal and telegraph duties, including the sale of Postal Orders and the issue of Money Orders?

Answer:—

(1) Funds do not permit of this project.

(2) Postal Orders are already on sale and Money Order and Savings Bank work, but not telegraph business, will shortly be undertaken in the office in question.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

58. (a) To ask who are the officials of the Marine Department drawing motor car allowances, and at what annual cost to the Revenue?

(b) How many motor pinnaces are being maintained by the Department and are in use by any or all of these officials, and at what cost *per annum*? And

(c) Will the Honourable the Director of Marine kindly give an indication of the duties of these officials in their respective stations for the efficient performance of which motor allowance, in addition to the free use of motor pinnaces, is considered so absolutely necessary?

Answer:—

(a) The Director of Marine, Deputy Director of Marine, Superintendent Engineer, Chief Accountant and Reclamation Officer, at Lagos, and the Harbour Master and Engineer-in-Chief at Port Harcourt draw car allowances at the combined rate of £351 9s. *per annum* until the 30th of June, 1931. It was decided in February to revise these and other allowances with a view to their reduction from the 1st of April but reduction was unavoidably deferred until the 1st of July. The total amount is now largely reduced.

(b) Two, namely:—

	<i>Annual Cost.</i>
<i>Josephine</i>	£ 578
<i>Dawn</i>	420

These launches are not used exclusively by officers drawing motor car allowances.

(c) Visits of inspection to offices and works at Lagos and Apapa. Interviews at Government offices and at the offices of shipping firms. At Port Harcourt the Harbour offices are two miles from the Dockyard by road and over four miles by water.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

59. (a) To ask whether European officials on transfer from another Colony to Nigeria draw Outfit Allowance as they do on their first appointment? And

(b) Whether this question of Outfit Allowance will not be enquired into by Government with a view of recommending, for the consideration of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, that the payments be in the nature of an advance to be refunded within twelve months, or less, and not in the nature of an absolute presentation?

(b) What are the various areas that have been acquired, and the cost of acquisition, since the Board began to function?

(c) What have been, and/or are likely to be, the acquisitions in the neighbourhood of the Lagos end of the new bridge, and the cost thereof, which it is calculated will provide safe facilities for traffic at that end when the bridge is open for public traffic?

(d) Who are the expert advisers of the Lagos Executive Development Board in connection with the whole scheme for the development of the township? And

(e) To what extent are their opinions being consulted and acted upon or otherwise?

Answer:—

A report on the activities of the Lagos Executive Development Board up to 31st March, 1930, has already been laid on the table as Sessional Paper No. 33 of 1930. A similar report for the year ending 31st March, 1931, is being prepared and will be published shortly.

(b) It is impossible to give a complete description of all areas acquired in the answer to a question. If any Honourable Member, after having read the reports referred to, requires further information plans are available for inspection at the offices of the Board.

(c) Acquisition of the land required for the Lagos Approach to the New Carter Bridge was made by Government under Chapter 88 of the Laws of Nigeria and paid for out of Loan Funds. £20,827 8s. 8d. was paid, and no further acquisition is expected to be necessary.

(d) The Lagos Executive Development Board is advised generally upon the re-planning and development of Lagos by the Town Planning Officer. The Administrator of the Colony, who is Chairman of the Town Council, the Deputy Director of Health Service, who is a member of the Town Council, the Surveyor-General, and an Assistant Director of Public Works attend all meetings of the Board, and the Engineer to the Board consults the Town Engineer concerning all proposals. In addition, there are various departments and persons affected.

(e) The opinions of those mentioned in the answer to (d) are freely taken and acted upon by the Board.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

56. (a) To ask for a statement of the inclusive cost of the electric lift that was once installed in the General Post Office but has now been dismantled?

(b) When was the lift installed; what was the cost of installation; when and why was it dismantled; what did it cost to have it dismantled; and for how many hours, days, weeks, or months, did the lift actually serve the purpose, or purposes, for which it was installed?

(c) With the large and presumably competent staff of the Electrical Department employed in the service of the Colony what explanations may be forthcoming for the aggregate length of time the lift, an electric one, remained useless as it was out of working order?

(d) Where are the dismantled parts kept; what will be done with them? And

(e) Who is responsible for what appears, to the taxpayers, a culpable waste of public money?

Answer:—

(a) The cost of the lift, including installation, was £800.

(b) The lift was installed in December, 1925. It was dismantled in November, 1930, at a cost of £20, office re-organisation having rendered it unnecessary. It served its purpose throughout the period between these two dates, with the exception of a period of about ten months in 1928-29.

Government as it permits a reduction of the timber stocks held and a more extensive utilisation of local timbers. The substitution of these local timbers for imported pitch pine will effect a saving, foster local industry and keep money in the country. Had the arrangement not been made Government was under an obligation to purchase from the company—on orders either placed or due to be placed—£24,800 worth of timber during the financial year ending 31st March, 1932, and about £51,000 worth between that date and the date of expiration of the agreement.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

53. (a) To ask whether the British Nigerian Timber Company holds any land on lease anywhere in the Ijebu Province, or in any of the other Southern Provinces? If so,

(b) In which province; and where?

(c) What is the area of land thus alienated, and what are the terms of the lease?

(d) Was the alienation done with the expressed consent and approval of the Native Community through their accredited spokesmen? If not,

(e) With whose consent and approval was the area alienated; and why?

(f) What benefits, pecuniary or otherwise, has the native community derived, or is deriving, thereby?

Answer:—

(a) Yes.

(b) At Artijere in the Ondo Province.

(c) No land was alienated, but an area of 2½ acres has been leased for twenty-five years.

(d) Yes.

(e) Does not therefore arise.

(f) The benefit of the annual rent of £20.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

54. (a) To ask for a statement of the number of (1) cases of shooting of Africans by Europeans, and (2) of Europeans by Africans, in the Colony, Southern Provinces, and Northern Provinces, respectively, which have been reported to Government since the last meeting of this honourable Council?

(b) What have been the circumstances connected with each case? And in view of the provisions of the Criminal Code, wherever the Code applies in such cases,

(c) What action has Government taken in respect of each case?

Answer:—

(a) (1) One case of injury accidentally occasioned to an African by a European from the use of an airgun has been reported. (2) None.

(b) In this case a native of Abeokuta was very slightly wounded in the arm by a pellet from an airgun which ricocheted from the object aimed at, the airgun being fired by a Foreman of the Public Works Department who was practising shooting at glass bottles.

(c) The circumstances were not such as to call for any action by Government.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

55. (a) To ask for a statement of the activities, to date, of the Lagos Executive Development Board, in connection with the town planning and the development of the township of Lagos?

Answer:—

(a) The greater number of the houses on the Yaba Estate have been built by private enterprise and only one has so far been sold by a private owner. Of the houses built by the Town Council seventy-one have been disposed of.

(b) The sale price of the Town Council houses at Yaba was £200 including the freehold. There are 13 unsold but more than sufficient applications to cover these have been received.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

50. (a) To ask whether any firm in Lagos, or elsewhere, has secured land, or lands, in the area recently acquired by Government at Idumagbo, for the construction of a garage, or garages, as a private enterprise? If so,

(b) What area has, or areas have, been so alienated, and at what price per square yard? Or if leased,

(c) What are the terms of the lease, or leases? And

(d) Will Government give the name of the firm, or firms to whom land has, or lands have, been so alienated?

Answer:—

(a) The answer is in the negative.

(b), (c) and (d) do not therefore arise.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

51. (a) To ask whether Government will make a statement of the cases of murder, in the police records of the Colony, the Southern, and the Northern Provinces, during the five years ended December, 1930, in which the crime has been reported to the police but the perpetrators thereof have not been brought to justice? And

(b) Whether Government will also state in which of those cases active enquiries are still being made?

Answer:—

(a) Colony	...	...	...	...	...	2
Southern Provinces	...	...	...	...	...	26
Northern Provinces	...	...	...	...	...	4
						<hr/>
	Total	...	...	...	...	32
						<hr/>

(b) In eleven cases.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

52. (a) To ask whether the report is correct that the Public Works Department is taking over, or has already taken over, the entire stock, or a portion thereof, of timber, furniture, etc., etc., from the British Nigerian Timber Company and/or Messrs. Thomas & Edge? If so,

(b) What is the stock, and the value thereof, which this Department has taken, or contemplates taking, over? And

(c) What is the necessity for doing so, or the advantages derivable thereby?

Answer:—

(a) The Government has taken over a portion of the British Nigerian Timber Company's stocks of timber, furniture and general stores.

(b) The value of the furniture and general stores taken over was £6,050. The value of the timber taken over was £13,053.

(c) The stocks were taken over as part of an arrangement for cancelling the agreement between the Government and the company for the supply of pitch-pine and local timber; an arrangement that will be of considerable financial advantage to

(b) Whether the new installation will in any way minimise the danger which is often times occasioned by the breaking of live-wires in the streets?

Answer:—

(a) The advantages are an improved, safer and adequate supply both public and private, and provision for increased consumption.

(b) Yes.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

47. To ask whether His Excellency's statement that "the provision of a new Supreme Court building is a matter of pressing necessity" (*vide* Sessional Paper No. 1 of 1931, page 74), is to be regarded as having expressed an executive finality, and that Government is thereby not likely to reconsider whether the necessity is indeed so actually pressing that the expenditure of the enormous amount of money which the construction of such a building must entail cannot be held over during the period of the present financial stringency?

Answer:—

There is no present intention to proceed with the erection of a new Supreme Court building.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

48. (a) To ask for an indication of the benefits which the large and ever increasing staff of the Lands Department in European and African personnel has conferred on the Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria and its people, to compensate for the enormous increase in the Department's Estimate of Recurrent Expenditure in personal emoluments, allowances, and upkeep? And

(b) Whether it is absolutely necessary for the registration of lands, the tabulation of Crown Lands acquired by Government, and the regulation of leaseholds (*vide* Sessional Paper No. 1 of 1931, page 59) that the Department's staff be maintained at its present strength and annually recurrent cost?

(c) Whether the Honourable the Commissioner of Lands is now in the position to give—

- (1) the area and location of Crown Lands within the Colony of Nigeria;
- (2) how they were acquired;
- (3) when they were acquired;
- (4) from and by whom they were acquired?

Answer:—

(a) The Honourable Member is referred to the speech by the Honourable the Commissioner of Lands in the Debate of January 31, 1930.

(b) Reductions are being effected in the staff of the Land Department.

(c) The answer as regards the greater part of the Crown Lands in the Colony is in the affirmative.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

49. (a) To ask for a statement of the number of houses in the great Yaba Estate sold since January, 1931?

(b) At what price were they sold, and how many are there remaining unsold?

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

43. (a) To ask for an indication of the total number of departmental contracts for tailoring, furniture and basket-work, etc., given out to, and executed by, the Prison Department in the Colony and Southern Provinces, respectively, during the last financial year?

(b) How much was the amount realised from each of these contracts, and how were these amounts allocated?

(c) What is the total number, and value, already given out to the same Department this financial year? And

(d) In view of the existing and serious trade depression, to ask whether Government will not consider the desirability and economic expediency of the Prison Department not taking up any contract, public or private, other than the necessities of the Department, so as not to compete unfairly with the public in any trade whatsoever?

Answer:—

(a) As is usual in such cases work is done by the Prisons Department for Government Departments. No charges are made.

(b) and (c) do not therefore arise.

(d) The answer is in the negative as regards work for the Government. As regards private work it is desirable to teach prisoners a trade and the charges are made meet the cost of the material. It is improbable that any serious loss is caused to private enterprise but the question will be considered.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

44.—*Disallowed.*

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

45. (a) To ask if it is true that engineers from the Public Works Department are giving lectures in *Engineering* at King's College? If so,

(b) How many of them are so employed? And what branch of the science forms the subject of the lectures? If it is *surveying*,

(c) What is the object of the provision in view of the fact that there is already a Government Survey School in connection with the Survey Department, at, I believe, Ibadan, for the training of surveyors?

(d) Boys of what standard are eligible to attend these lectures?

(e) How many in King's College form the present class? And

(f) What remuneration are these engineers receiving as allowances for these lectures?

Answer:—

(a), (b) and (c) One Engineering Officer of the Public Works Department is, by arrangement with the Director of Education and the approval of Government, giving lectures on engineering and allied subjects at King's College. Surveying as applied to engineering is but one of the subjects.

(d) and (e). Twelve boys who have passed varying educational standards have been selected by the Director of Education for this class.

(f) No remuneration beyond their ordinary departmental emoluments.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

46. (a) To ask for a statement of the advantages, if any, to be derived by the public in the change which is being effected in the overhead wires in connection with the electric light system in the township of Lagos?

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

40. (a) To ask for a statement of the value of the large quantity of paint, zinc sheets, copper sheets, corrugated iron sheets, etc., etc., belonging to the stores in connection with the new Carter Bridge, and found short, as reported, on or about July last year?

(b) What action was taken when the shortage was discovered, and with what result?

Answer:—

(a) On investigation it was found that only some zinc and copper sheets were missing. These had been stolen and were of a value of about £46.

(b) Police Court proceedings were taken with the result that one man was convicted and fined, having been found with stolen material in his possession.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

41. (a) To ask whether the report is true that several men, women, boys, and girls have been, and others are still being, kept under detention at Ajilete in the Ilaro Division, for failing to pay their tribute money in time, and are being, and have been, flogged until the money is forthcoming?

(b) Whether it is also true that in order to effect the release of these persons and to meet up the assessment levied on individual compounds, many heads of compounds have had to resort to the pawning of their young ones?

(c) and (d).—*Disallowed.*

Answer:—

(a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) No instance of pawning children in order to raise money for payment of tax has been brought to the notice of the Government.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

42. (a) To ask whether there are any indications of any serious infestations of the country by locusts this year? And

(b) What has been, or is likely to be, the result of the intensive and extensive campaign for their destruction, so highly commented upon by His Excellency in Sessional Paper No. 1 of 1931, in so far as this year's crop of food stuff is concerned?

Answer:—

(a) Flying swarms of locusts which invaded the Southern Provinces during the dry season passed to the north without doing any material damage. Only one case of breeding has since been reported, in the Oyo Province, and in this case the hoppers have been destroyed. Further infestation of the Southern Provinces during the wet season is not anticipated. In the Northern Provinces serious infestation has been general, though in the main not so severe as in 1930. Successful results are being obtained from the intensive campaign now in operation in all infested areas, and the situation is reported to be well in hand.

(b) The destruction of innumerable bands of hoppers in 1930 prevented widespread damage to food crops and averted any serious shortages of food. It is anticipated that the present anti-locust campaign will have the same result this year. Crop prospects are generally promising.

Answer:—

- (a) The land is reserved for a public purpose.
 (b) No money was paid.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

37. (a) As it would appear that "Position" Tax (*Owo Ipo*) was levied and collected in Jebu Remo last year in spite of the statement by Government in February of the same year that such imposts were not being levied and collected, to ask what have the Resident and the District Officers, in charge of the Province, to say in the matter?

(b) Whether it is not a fact that as the result of a petition dated December 18, 1930, against the payment of that tax that year by the people of Shagamu, the Assistant District Officer, Mr. Bovell Jones, was able to effect a refund of some of the amount so collected? And

(c) How are the people of the district being protected this year against the collection of that impost?

Answer:—

(a) The Honourable Member is apparently not aware that *Owo Ipo* is a local nickname for income tax.

(b) No income tax was refunded.

(c) Does not arise.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

38. (a) To ask whether there is any truth in the rumour, which has gained ground all over the Ijebu Province and is thereby exercising very adversely the minds of the people of the province, that Government contemplates merging the Ijebu Province in the Oyo Province? If so,

(b) Whether it is permissible for Government, and if so whether Government will be pleased, to make a statement outlining the reason or reasons, why such a merging of one province in another is being contemplated?

Answer:—

(a) There is none.

(b) Does not therefore arise.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

39. (a) To ask for a statement of the findings and recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry into the loss last year at Ijebu Ode of £101 0s. 6d. sent in error by the Native Administration, Shagamu, to Ijebu Ode?

(b) Whether the recommendations were carried to effect? And

(c) If not, why?

Answer:—

(a) The Commission found that two clerks were responsible for the error and recommended that they should be called on to refund the sum in question.

(b) No.

(c) The evidence on which the finding was based was considered unsatisfactory.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

34. (a) To ask whether the new market (at Idumagbo), was completed within contract time? If not,

(b) What was the cause of, or what reason, or reasons, the contractors gave for, the delay? And

(c) What penalty, if any, was imposed therefor?

Answer:—

(a) The market was not completed in the contract time.

(b) The delay was chiefly due to error in shipment of the steel-work, and this is being enquired into by the Crown Agents.

(c) The contract not having been yet completed the question of penalty will be considered when the work is finished.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

35. (a) Directing the attention of Government to a "Public meeting on poll tax and water rate questions" held, as published in the *Nigerian Daily Telegraph* in its issue of the 29th of April last, "at the invitation of the Awujale . . . at which the Resident of the Province, H. T. B. Dew, Esquire, with the District Officer, Major R. L. Bowen, the Awujale and chiefs, and the members of the Advisory Board, were present", to ask whether the request of the tax payers of the Ijebu Ode Province that payment of poll tax (or tribute) and water rate be not collected at the same time because the burden of paying both *at the same time* is much too heavy for them, but that a period of, say, six months be made to intervene between, is one against which His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, Southern Provinces, entertains any serious objections?

If so, and in view of the fact that even in Lagos some concessions have been made in connection with other payments because presumably of the hardness of the times, *i.e.*, Telephone rentals,

(b) Whether His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor will not be disposed to waive those objections and give instructions to the Resident, Ijebu Ode, accordingly?

(c) Whether the complaint at that meeting that Tribute officers carry tables about the quarters of the town to demand the double payments, and that Ijebu Ode Native Administration *Olopas* (police) in attendance on these Tribute officers force these payments at any cost, has any foundation of truth in it? If so, and as it is most unlikely that such a method of collection will make for order and good government in the town,

(d) To ask what does His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, Southern Provinces, propose to do in the matter? And

(e) What is the urgency which necessitates Tribute officers collecting tribute on Sundays, as it is alleged they did on the 3rd of May last?

Answer:—

(a) It has been decided not to insist on simultaneous payment of tribute and water rate.

(b), (c) and (d) do not therefore arise.

(e) Tax was collected on Sunday, May 3rd, because certain Moslem Ijebus intended to leave Ijebu Ode on that day.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

36. (a) With regard to the payment of water rate at Ijebu Ode, to ask for a statement of the terms, or conditions, under which the *Collecting Areas* and *Reservoir Sites* were acquired for the water works of that town?

(b) How much was paid for the land; to whom was the money paid; and what have the owners, who have thereby been disturbed in their possession derived as pecuniary benefits either from the Native Administration or the Nigerian Government?

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

31. (a) To ask for a statement of the actual work done and the amount of money spent to date in connection with the Lagos Sewerage Scheme?

(b) Whether the scheme is being executed departmentally, and if so, what is the department or what are the departments engaged in it; and if by contracts, who are the contractors?

(c) In what section of the town will work commence, or has work been commenced? And

(d) How much does Government propose to spend on the scheme during the current financial year?

Answer:—

The work done in connection with the Lagos Sewerage Scheme consists of:—

(i) Preliminary investigations and the preparation of the Scheme by the Consulting Engineers.

(ii) The part construction of the berm to carry the sewer along the East Mole.

The money spent up to the 31st of March, 1931, amounts to £10,492 8s. 7d.

(b), (c) and (d). It is not proposed to proceed with the scheme in the near future.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

32. (a) To ask for a statement of the cost of the construction of the New Market at Idumagbo

(1) in materials and

(2) the building contract?

In view of the large staff of engineers, foremen of works, architects, artisans, and inspectors, on the staff of the Public Works Department,

(b) Would Government kindly state why the construction of this market, a public building, was not done by the Public Works Department? Or is it considered by Government more economical to build by contract with outside contractors than by the Public Works Department? If so,

(c) What is the necessity for the enormous annual expenditure involved in personal emoluments, allowances, and upkeep, of the large engineering and mechanical staff of the Public Works Department?

Answer:—

(a) (1) £5,200.

(2) £6,643 10s. 0d.

(b) It is the policy of the Government to execute certain works by contract if satisfactory tenders can be obtained.

(c) In reducing the staff of the Public Works Department due regard has been paid to this consideration.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

33. (a) To ask who designed the new market (at Idumagbo), and what firm or firms, supplied the iron work?

(b) How soon will the market be declared open? And

(c) Upon what conditions will the market be tenanted by the public?

Answer:—

(a) The market was designed by Mr. C. B. Watson, Engineer to the Lagos Executive Development Board. The steel-work was provided by Messrs. Edward Wood & Company, Limited, Manchester, through the Crown Agents for the Colonies.

(b) and (c) are still under consideration.

- (2) Whether it is a fact that as much as £40,000 to £50,000 was spent in the construction of one wharf only, and that wharf has never been fit for use, will never be fit for use, and will very likely not even be required for the purposes for which it is being constructed? If so, and in view of the fact that the Colony spends thousands and thousands of pounds of public money annually in personal emoluments and allowances for the services and upkeep of a Town Planner and his staff, a Port Engineer and his staff, a Director of Public Works and his host of Engineers of all grades, etc., etc.

(b) What explanation may be forthcoming from the department, or departments, concerned, and how are the officials of that department, or those departments being held responsible for what appears an unnecessary waste, and loss, of public money?

Answer:—

(1) (a)	Retaining bank	£	11,758
	Dredging and Reclamation ...		75,697
	Total		<u>£87,455</u>

- (b) Expenditure during the last five years on wharf construction including sheds and coaling berth and equipment has been £272,992.

These figures include the second instalment of wharfage, part of which was built previous to the period stated.

- (2) (a) The wharf referred to is presumably the barge wharf on which £9,497 has been spent. After due consideration, the Government decided in 1929 not to proceed further with the construction of the wharf. A few piles had been driven: these were pulled out. Some of the piles already made and materials on site have been used elsewhere.

(b) Does not therefore arise.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

30. (a) To ask how much money was spent in the "upstream reclamation" referred to by His Excellency (*vide* Sessional Paper No. 1 of 1931, page 98) before it was "discontinued as from the 11th of April, 1930" because, as stated by His Excellency, "the revetment has sunk in places and the weight of the soil has forced up the mud outside it".

(b) Who were the technical experts of the Administration responsible for advice on such works?

(c) What explanation have these experts to give, and how are they being made responsible, for what in this case appears to be another culpable waste of public money? Or if the opinions of the technical experts on such works were not consulted, or acted upon,

(d) Who then was responsible? And

(e) How much more money is Government contemplating to spend on these works during the current financial year?

Answer:—

(a) The reclamation was discontinued because owing to the unsuitable nature of the swamp it was advisable to allow time for the reclaimed area to settle. It will be continued when the development of Port Harcourt demands it. The cost of the work was £24,794.

(b) The Consulting Engineers to the Government.

(c) There was no culpable waste.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No expenditure.

(b) Whether Government maintains to-day that since the enactment of the Provincial Courts Ordinances in 1914 there are no areas within the Colony of Nigeria sufficiently developed to justify the replacement in them of Political Officers, sitting in the Provincial Courts, by qualified Judges, and the admission of legal practitioners to practice therein? If not.

(c) Whether Government does not consider that it is time the Supreme Court of Nigeria extends its Jurisdiction over many of the areas now sufficiently advanced, but in which Provincial Courts are still in operation since their introduction under the Ordinances enacted in 1914? And

(d) How soon is it contemplated by Government to make provision for the extension of the Supreme Court Jurisdiction over those areas sufficiently advanced and developed to warrant the extension?

Answer:—

(a) The Honourable Member's first question should be addressed to Sir Ralph Combe.

(b), (c) and (d). The Provincial Court system is under Your Excellency's consideration.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

27.—*Disallowed.*

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

28. (a) To ask how soon do the engineers hope to hand over Carter Bridge, completed and ready, for public traffic?

(b) How many bays have now been put in position on either side, and how many more remain to complete the work?

(c) How much money has been spent on the work to date

(1) on materials,

(2) on European labour, and

(3) on African labour?

(d) How many Europeans and how many Africans, respectively, have been working for the amount spent on labour?

(e) How much more money Government contemplates spending to complete the work? And

(f) Whether Government contemplates demolishing the old bridge or leaving it for cattle, or some other, traffic?

Answer:—

(a) It is expected that Carter Bridge will be open for traffic in October, 1931. There will remain subsidiary work, which will not interfere with traffic.

(b) On the Iddo side, thirty-two. On the Lagos side, sixty-one. There remain two ordinary bays, one on each side, and the two navigable spans, the main girders of which are in position. In addition, the closing length has to be constructed.

(c) On 31st March, 1931, £322,433 had been spent as follows:—

(1) Materials, £286,076; (2) European supervision, £15,593; (3) African labour, £20,764.

(d) Thirteen Europeans, and an average of 450 Africans.

(e) £103,567.

(f) The old bridge will be demolished, and any serviceable material stacked for possible future use. Left *in situ* it would be dangerous to navigation; also, it is becoming increasingly weak, and would not be worth the cost of maintenance. The new bridge will have adequate facilities for all traffic.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

29. (a) Inviting attention of Government to some of Government works in connection with the development of Port Harcourt within the last five years, namely, dredging, reclamation, and the construction of wharves, to ask the following questions:—

(1) How much money has been spent within that period (a) in dredging and reclamation and (b) in wharf construction?

(b) Whether Government maintains to-day that since the enactment of the Provincial Courts Ordinances in 1914 there are no areas within the Colony of Nigeria sufficiently developed to justify the replacement in them of Political Officers, sitting in the Provincial Courts, by qualified Judges, and the admission of legal practitioners to practice therein? If not.

(c) Whether Government does not consider that it is time the Supreme Court of Nigeria extends its Jurisdiction over many of the areas now sufficiently advanced, but in which Provincial Courts are still in operation since their introduction under the Ordinances enacted in 1914? And

(d) How soon is it contemplated by Government to make provision for the extension of the Supreme Court Jurisdiction over those areas sufficiently advanced and developed to warrant the extension?

Answer:—

(a) The Honourable Member's first question should be addressed to Sir Ralph Combe.

(b), (c) and (d). The Provincial Court system is under Your Excellency's consideration.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

27.—*Disallowed.*

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

28. (a) To ask how soon do the engineers hope to hand over Carter Bridge, completed and ready, for public traffic?

(b) How many bays have now been put in position on either side, and how many more remain to complete the work?

(c) How much money has been spent on the work to date

(1) on materials,

(2) on European labour, and

(3) on African labour?

(d) How many Europeans and how many Africans, respectively, have been working for the amount spent on labour?

(e) How much more money Government contemplates spending to complete the work? And

(f) Whether Government contemplates demolishing the old bridge or leaving it for cattle, or some other, traffic?

Answer:—

(a) It is expected that Carter Bridge will be open for traffic in October, 1931. There will remain subsidiary work, which will not interfere with traffic.

(b) On the Iddo side, thirty-two. On the Lagos side, sixty-one. There remain two ordinary bays, one on each side, and the two navigable spans, the main girders of which are in position. In addition, the closing length has to be constructed.

(c) On 31st March, 1931, £322,433 had been spent as follows:—

(1) Materials, £288,076; (2) European supervision, £15,593; (3) African labour, £20,764.

(d) Thirteen Europeans, and an average of 450 Africans.

(e) £103,567.

(f) The old bridge will be demolished, and any serviceable material stacked for possible future use. Left *in situ* it would be dangerous to navigation; also, it is becoming increasingly weak, and would not be worth the cost of maintenance. The new bridge will have adequate facilities for all traffic.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

29. (a) Inviting attention of Government to some of Government works in connection with the development of Port Harcourt within the last five years, namely, dredging, reclamation, and the construction of wharves, to ask the following questions:—

(1) How much money has been spent within that period (a) in dredging and reclamation and (b) in wharf construction?

- (b) Who then is responsible for the appointment?
- (c) What is the customary procedure adopted in making such appointments?
- (d) Why was that procedure not adopted in this case?
- (e) For what special reason, or reasons, has this man Sanni-Baba-Otta been given a seat as a member of the Native Court, he being a Hausa man and not a Native of the district? And
- (f) Whether in view of the strong and solemn protest of the Elerinja and chiefs of Ilaro against this man's appointment it is still considered expedient for him to continue in office?

Answer:—

(a) Sanni-Baba-Otta is not a Hausa and he has not been made a member of the Ilaro Native Court. He has been a member of the Okeodan Court continuously since 1915, and his appointment was made with the approval of the Elerinja.

(b), (c), (d), (e) and (f) Do not therefore arise.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

24. (a) To ask the Honourable the Chief Secretary to Government whether Civil Service temporary employees are not amenable to General Orders in reference to leave conditions, the receipt of their emoluments when on Government sick list, etc., etc.? If not,

(b) To ask whether the conditions operating in the other British West African Colonies, where temporary Civil Service employees receive their emoluments when on Government sick list, and enjoy vacation leave, just as do the permanent employees, will not be made operative here, in view of the fact that these temporary employees do not qualify for gratuity or pension rights?

Answer:—

(a) It depends upon the nature of the employment and the meaning attached to the words temporary employees.

(b) The application of the conditions in other West African Colonies will be considered.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

25. (a) To ask whether the Regulation by which twenty-five per cent. of the total Native Administration Revenue lapses into the General Revenue is a general one applicable to all Native Administrations? If not,

(b) Will Government kindly give an indication of the exceptions, as well as the percentage which in each such exception lapses into the General Revenue?

Answer:—

(a) and (b) No proportion of the total Native Administration Revenue lapses into the General Revenue. The disposal of tribute and taxes is governed by section 15 of Cap. 74 of the Laws and the proportions retained by various Native Administrations is as follows:—

50% by 79 Native Administrations.
70% by 30 Native Administrations.
75% by 1 Native Administration.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

26. (a) Referring to the article of Sir Ralph Combe, late Chief Justice of Nigeria, published in the May issue of *Elders West Africa Review*, to ask whether any Sessional, or other, Paper was ever laid on the Table of this House containing a declaration by Lord Lugard upon which Sir Ralph may be said to have based his statement that "qualified Judges and the Court in which lawyers have the right of audience would replace the Political Officers sitting as members of the Provincial Courts in those areas which became sufficiently developed to require an improvement in the administration of justice"?

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

19. As Government Gazette is, presumably, intended to contain, for all purposes, a record of the appointments, dismissals, promotions, and all other movements of the permanent employees of the Civil Service, to ask why is it that the movements of African Civil Servants, as for instance when they go and return from leave are not recorded in the Gazette?

Answer:—

The presumption of the Honourable Member is incorrect.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

20. (a) To ask whether there are any Civil Service Employees in the Colony who have drawn Outfit Allowance twice? If so,

(b) Who are they? And

(c) For what special reason, or reasons, was the second payment granted?

Answer:—

As far as can be ascertained the only case where an outfit allowance was drawn twice was that of an officer of the Royal Engineers engaged on special service who was subsequently re-engaged on another term of special service.

The grant of an outfit allowance was provided in his agreement for the second term, but as the result of representations made by this Government last year an outfit allowance will not be made again in similar cases.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

21. (a) To ask for a statement of the cost of construction and equipment of—

(1) the hospital and

(2) the Medical Officer's bungalow, Ilaro? And

(b) What is the accommodation which is provided for in the hospital?

Answer:—

(a) (1) There is no hospital at Ilaro, though there is an Infant Welfare Centre and dressing station maintained by the Ilaro Native Administration.

(2) No Medical Officer is stationed at Ilaro.

(b) No in-patients are accommodated in the Welfare Centre.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

22. (a) To ask whether it is a fact that the Native Administration, Ilaro, was made to vote the sum of £300 as Outfit Allowance for the Administration's Medical Officer? If so,

(b) Under what special regulation has that concession been made instead of the £60 as provided by Government Regulation?

Answer:—

(a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) Does not therefore arise.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

23. (a) To ask whether it is a fact that one Sanni-Baba-Otta, a Hausa man, has been made a member of the Native Court, Ilaro, despite the strong and solemn protest of the Elerinja and chiefs of Ilaro against the appointment? If so,

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

12. (a) To ask for a statement of the full complement of Architects, including reliefs, on the staff of the Public Works Department?

(b) What do they cost the Colony in personal emoluments, allowances, and ocean passages during leave periods, *per annum*?

(c) How many architectural constructions did they design, draw, or for the erection of which their services were required, during the last financial year?

(d) For how many new constructions are their services likely to be required during the current financial year? And

(e) With the prospects of there being a very great reduction in the building programme during the current financial year consequent on the need for economy compatible with efficient administration, what services will these Architects be rendering to the Colony to compensate for their respective costs to the Revenue?

Answer:—

(a) One Senior Architect and five Architects and Assistant Architects are at present on the staff of the Department. One of the Assistant Architects is leaving.

(b) It is estimated that this staff will cost £4,429 13s. during the financial year 1931-32.

(c) About 120 architectural projects were prepared by the architectural branch of the Public Works Department during the financial year 1930-31.

(d) The number is limited but cannot be stated as it depends on the programme and on the proposals for the year 1932-33.

(e) In addition to the preparation of projects, the architectural staff is employed on the compilation of type specifications and other technical data and on the training of Africans.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

13. To ask whether the Honourable the Director of Medical and Sanitary Service entertains any objection against recommending for the consideration of Government the appointment into the service of qualified and registered Dental Surgeons of African descent?

Answer:—

The answer is in the negative.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

14. The newly appointed Police Magistrate (African) starting as he has done with a salary of £600 *per annum*, to ask whether the Honourable the Director of Medical and Sanitary Service will not see his way to recommend for the consideration of Government, that Medical Officers (African), with their longer years of training for their qualifications, incurring as they do grave risks to their lives both as students and as practitioners, and carrying as their duties do equally grave responsibilities, be placed on the same rate of salary, that is to say, to commence at the rate of £600 *per annum* instead of their present rate of salary?

Answer:—

The Police Magistrate referred to had seven years experience as a Barrister before obtaining appointment as Magistrate. A newly qualified African Medical Practitioner who receives a Government appointment draws a salary of £660 *per annum* after seven years service, or £600 *per annum* if he joins the service as a Junior Medical Officer for two years before appointment as Medical Officer. It is not considered advisable to recommend a higher initial rate of salary for Medical Officers (African).

Answer:—

The importation of cyanide of potassium is controlled by Order-in-Council No. 26 of 1926 as amended by No. 13 of 1930, which the Honourable Member has possibly overlooked. A special enquiry is not considered to be necessary.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

9. (a) A propos of the Public Works Department Magazine to ask for an indication of the following:—

- (1) The official duties of the editor;
- (2) The length of time he has been on the staff of the Department;
- (3) His emoluments and allowances *per annum*;
- (4) The time he uses for correspondence with all the advertisers in this Magazine;
- (5) The clerical staff he engages both in the literary and financial sections connected with the publication of the Magazine; and
- (6) The source, or sources, from which the Magazine staff is being remunerated?

(b) What remuneration does the editor himself draw as editor of the magazine?

(c) From whom, or from what source, or sources, does he derive this remuneration?

(d) To what purposes do they devote the proceeds from the sale of this magazine which is priced as high as one shilling a copy? And

(e) How many copies of the first and second issues have been sold?

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

10. (a) To ask whether the publication of the Public Works Department Magazine is in any way connected with any outside commercial enterprise in Lagos, or elsewhere? If so,

(b) What is the connection, what is the name of the firm, and what is the advantage, pecuniary or otherwise, derivable thereby?

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

11. (a) Inviting the attention of Government to page 17 of the Public Works Department Magazine of March, 1931, paragraph 4, column 2, under the headline "Tuesday", written by the editor who is a member of the Public Works Department staff and who undoubtedly possesses an inner knowledge of the merits, or demerits, of every individual member of the staff, to ask—

- (1) Who is the official referred to by the words "Admittedly he is not over-burdened with brains"?
- (2) How long has that official been connected with the Public Works Department?
- (3) What is his remuneration in personal emoluments and allowances *per annum*?
- (4) In what branch of the Department is he engaged? And
- (5) Whether there are to the personal knowledge of the editor of the Public Works Department Magazine, or any other Government official, any more officials in that Department, or in any of the other Departments of the Administration, answering to the description as given by the editor? If so,

(b) How long will such officials be allowed to remain the expensive burdens they are on the Colony's Revenue?

Answer to Questions 9, 10 and 11:—

The Public Works Department Magazine is not an official publication.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

6. As sufficient evidence is in the possession of the Honourable the Administrator of the Colony that tribute and income tax are being demanded and collected from the same persons for one and the same period, to ask—

- (1) How is it that the production of a receipt for the payment of tribute does not in every case exempt the holder from the payment of income tax, and *vice versa*?
- (2) What steps, if any, have been, or are being taken, to effect a refund of the wrong payments in those cases which have been brought to the knowledge of the Honourable the Administrator of the Colony, and with what result? And
- (3) How are these and other unfortunate persons to be saved in future from such double payments?

Answer:—

- (1) Provision is made under section 3 (5) *b* requiring the Administrator in assessing the income of any resident in the Colony to deduct from chargeable income any sum in respect of which tax has already been paid under the Native Revenue Ordinance.
- (3) Refunds are made on application after due investigation in all cases in which excess payments have been made to the Administrator.
- (4) Persons in the Colony are only assessed by the Administrator on such information as he or his officers may be able to obtain of the incomes of such persons accruing in the Colony.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

7. (a) Referring to Government reply to Question No. 89, Legislative Council Debates, January 28, 1931, to ask whether the statement “(b) and (c) do not therefore arise as far as that area is concerned”, is meant to indicate that no case of child-pawning has within the last five years been brought to the knowledge of, or reported to, Government anywhere in the Northern Provinces; and that no child-pawn has been released by Government and set free within the same area and period of time? And

(b) Whether Government is now in a position to give the information asked for in the Question as regards the Southern Provinces?

Answer:—

(a) Since the reply to which the Honourable Member refers was given further investigation has shown that the last case of child-pawning specially reported in the Northern Provinces occurred in February, 1926, while examination of Court records has brought to light three cases which were dealt with in 1928.

(b) Government is not aware that child-pawning exists in the Southern Provinces for the purpose of (a) meeting demands for tax or (b) adoption or religious education. No such cases have been brought to the notice of Government during the last five years. As regards child-pawning for debt fifteen cases have been brought to the notice of Government and six pawns have been released. In addition forty-two cases have occurred in the Abeokuta Province under the *Iwofa* system and forty-two children have been returned to their natural guardians. This system has now been prohibited.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

8. To ask whether Government will not institute an enquiry in order to determine the source, or sources, from which cyanide of potassium which, it is believed, is being sold and used largely in the manufacture of counterfeit coins and in the colouring of silver jewelry to make them look like gold, is being obtained in the country?

QUESTIONS.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

1.—*Disallowed.*

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

2. (a) To ask whether there is any station in the Colony and Protectorate where officials in the service of Government pay rent for residing in Government Quarters? If so,

(b) To ask whether Government will state why that Regulation is not made one of general application? And

(c) Whether the time has not arrived when on the score of economy in the Colony's Estimate of Revenue and Expenditure Government will consider the necessity for the payment of rent by all those who reside in Government Quarters?

Answer:—

(a) The reply is in the affirmative.

(b) and (c) It is not practicable because large numbers are entitled to free quarters.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

3. To ask what may be the reason, or reasons, why Government considers it *unnecessary*, in the case of private Medical Practitioners, to have their prescriptions dispensed at Government hospitals and dispensaries in stations where there are sufficient drug stores and chemist's shops to meet the needs of Practitioners, and yet *not unnecessary*, in the case of Government Medical Officers in the course of their private practice? (*Vide* reply to Question No. 35, Legislative Council Debates, January 28, 1931, page 14.)

Answer:—

It is not unnecessary because it is a privilege enjoyed all over the world by the Medical staff of all hospitals where private patients are admitted, a privilege which it is impracticable to extend to anyone not on the staff.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

4. (a) To ask whether there are any Regulations for the treatment, by Government Medical Officers of private patients as in-patients in Government Hospitals? If so,

(b) Whether Government will kindly state those Regulations, or give an indication of where they may be found?

Answer:—

The only Regulations are those which specify those members of the service who are debarred from the privilege of private practice, and the Regulations under the Hospital Fees Ordinance which specify the fees which may be charged. The latter were published in Gazette No. 8 of the 4th of February, 1926.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

5. Referring to Government reply to Question No. 37, Legislative Council Debates, January 28, 1931, page 15, to ask whether it will not be possible, even at this stage, to hold over the expenditure of the amount earmarked for "Buildings" for the current financial year in connection with the schemes for higher colleges at Yaba and Zaria, on the grounds that in view of existing financial stress and fall in Revenue the schemes are not so urgent that they cannot be deferred?

Answer:—

Provision in the current Estimates for the erection of buildings for both colleges has been deleted, but money will be found, it is hoped, from loan funds.

PRAYERS.

His Excellency the Governor opened the proceedings of the Council with prayers.

MINUTES.

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd February, 1931 having been printed and circulated to Honourable Members were taken as read and confirmed.

OATHS.

The Honourable the Chief Secretary to the Government, the Honourable the Acting Attorney-General, the Honourable the Acting Administrator of the Colony, the Honourable the Resident, Benin Province, the Honourable the Acting General Manager of the Railway, the Honourable the Acting Director of Agriculture, the Honourable Mr. Bettsworth, Acting Postmaster-General, the Honourable the Commercial Member for Lagos (Provisional), took the Oath as members of the Council.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

His Excellency the Governor expressed his pleasure and gratification at meeting the Council again, and made a pronouncement on the financial situation.

PAPERS LAID.

The Honourable the Chief Secretary to the Government laid the following papers on the table:—

Sessional Paper No. 15 of 1931, Annual Report on the Southern Provinces of Nigeria for the year 1929.

Sessional Paper No. 16 of 1931, Report on the Canadian National Exhibition, 1930, by the Commissioner, West African Exhibits.

Sessional Paper No. 17 of 1931, Annual Report on the Audit Department for the year 1930.

Sessional Paper No. 18 of 1931, Annual Report of the Analyst Department for the year 1930.

Sessional Paper No. 19 of 1931, Annual Report on the Survey Department for the year 1930.

Supplementary Estimates, 1930-31 (fourth quarter)

Schedule of Economies effected up to end of May.

Subsidiary Legislation made since the last meeting.

- The Mining Member,
The Honourable Mr. A. L. Butler, O.B.E.
- The Second Lagos Member,
The Honourable Mr. E. O. Moore.
- The Member Representing the Niger African Traders,
The Honourable Mr. S. C. Obianwu.
- The Member for the Egba Division,
The Honourable Mr. S. H. Pearse
- The Member for the Rivers Division,
The Honourable Mr. Mark Pepple Jaja.
- The Member for Shipping,
The Honourable Mr. H. S. Feggetter.
- The Member for the Warri-Benin Division,
The Honourable Mr. I. T. Palmer.
- The Member for Calabar,
The Honourable Mr. C. W. Clinton.
- The Third Lagos Member,
The Honourable Mr. T. A. Doherty.
- The Banking Member,
The Honourable Mr. L. M. Herapath
- The Member for the Oyo Division,
The Honourable Mr. A. S. Agbaje.
- The Commercial Member for Kano,
The Honourable Mr. T. Hepburn.
- The Commercial Member for Lagos (Provisional),
The Honourable Mr. H. R. Routledge.

ABSENT.

- The Lieutenant-Governor, Northern Provinces,
His Honour Mr. C. W. Alexander, C.M.G.
- The Acting Lieutenant-Governor, Southern Provinces,
His Honour Major C. T. Lawrence, C.B.E.
- The Commandant,
The Honourable Colonel A. J. Ellis, D.S.O.
- The Senior Resident, Cameroons Province,
The Honourable Mr. E. J. Arnett, C.M.G.
- The Senior Resident, Adamawa Province,
The Honourable Mr. G. W. Webster, M.B.E.
- The Senior Resident, Plateau Province,
The Honourable Mr. H. H. Middleton.
- The Senior Resident, Niger Province,
The Honourable Mr. C. A. Woodhouse
- The Resident, Onitsha Province,
The Honourable Mr. F. H. Ingles.
- The Resident, Owerri Province,
The Honourable Mr. O. W. Firth.
- The Resident, Calabar Province,
The Honourable Mr. G. H. Findlay.
- The Resident, Warri Province,
The Honourable Mr. J. W. C. Rutherford.
- The Member for the Ibo Division,
The Venerable Archdeacon G. T. Basden.
- Commercial Member for Port Harcourt,
The Honourable Mr. C. E. Hartley.
- The Commercial Member for Calabar (Provisional),
The Honourable Mr. G. H. Avezathe.

MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Held in the Council Chamber, Lagos, on
20th July, 1931, at 10 a.m.

Pursuant to notice the Honourable the Members of
the Legislative Council met in the Council Chamber,
Lagos, at 10 A.M. on Monday the 20th July, 1931.

PRESENT:—

- The Governor,
His Excellency Sir Donald Cameron, K.C.M.G., K.B.E.
- The Chief Secretary to the Government,
The Honourable Mr. G. Hemmant, C.M.G.
- The Acting Attorney-General,
The Honourable Mr. J. C. Howard.
- The Treasurer,
The Honourable Mr. C. W. Leese.
- The Director of Medical and Sanitary Service,
The Honourable Dr. W. B. Johnson.
- The Comptroller of Customs
The Honourable Mr. W. K. Duncombe.
- The Honourable Mr. E. R. J. Hussey,
The Director of Education.
- The Acting Administrator of the Colony,
The Honourable Mr. E. M. Falk.
- The Director of Marine,
The Honourable Captain L. J. Hall, O.B.E., R.D., R.N.R.
- The Senior Resident, Oyo Province,
The Honourable Captain W. A. Ross., C.M.G.
- The Secretary, Northern Provinces,
The Honourable Mr. G. J. Lethem.
- The Secretary, Southern Provinces,
The Honourable Mr. F. P. Lynch.
- The Resident, Benin Province,
The Honourable Mr. H. de B. Bewley.
- The Acting Deputy Chief Secretary,
The Honourable Mr. G. C. Whiteley.
- The Acting General Manager of the Railway,
The Honourable Mr. W. Cramer Bostock.
- The Director of Public Works,
The Honourable Mr. C. L. Cox.
- The Acting Director of Agriculture,
The Honourable Mr. A. J. Findlay.
- The Honourable Lt.-Col. R. H. Rowe, D.S.O., M.C.
The Commissioner of Lands.
- The Honourable Mr. L. Bettesworth,
The Acting Postmaster-General.
- The First Lagos Member,
The Honourable Dr. C. C. Adeniyi-Jones.
- The Member for the Colony Division,
The Honourable Sir Kitoyi Ajasa, Kt., O.B.E.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Chief Secretary to the Government, seconded by the Honourable the Treasurer, Standing Order No. 32 was suspended in order that the Bill entitled "The 1929-30 Supplementary Supply Ordinance, 1931" be read a second time.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Chief Secretary to the Government, seconded by the Honourable the Treasurer, the Bill was read a second time and the Council went into Committee thereon.

The Bill having passed through Committee without amendment, the Council resumed, and the Honourable the Acting Chief Secretary to the Government gave notice that the third reading of the Bill would be moved at a subsequent meeting of the Council.

The Council adjourned at 3.20 p.m. sine die.

THE SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Director of Marine, a Bill entitled "The Shipping and Navigation (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931" was read a first time.

THE NATURAL PRODUCTS (INDUSTRIES PROMOTION) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Director of Agriculture, a Bill entitled "The Natural Products (Industries Promotion) Ordinance, 1931" was read a first time.

The Honourable the Attorney-General gave notice that the second reading of the following seven Bills would be moved at a subsequent meeting of the Council:—

- (1) The Lunacy (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931.
- (2) The Townships (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931.
- (3) The Criminal Code (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931.
- (4) The Wild Animals Preservation (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931.
- (5) The Railways (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931.
- (6) The Shipping and Navigation (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931.
- (7) The Natural Products (Industries Promotion) Ordinance, 1931.

THE EDUCATION (SOUTHERN PROVINCES AND COLONY) (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Director of Education, seconded by the Honourable the Administrator of the Colony, a Bill entitled "The Education (Southern Provinces and Colony) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931" was read a first time, and the Honourable the Director of Education gave notice that the second reading of the Bill would be moved at a subsequent meeting of the Council.

THE 1929-30 SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPLY ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Chief Secretary to the Government, seconded by the Honourable the Treasurer, a Bill entitled "The 1929-30 Supplementary Supply Ordinance, 1931" was read a first time.

THE 1931-32 SUPPLY ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Chief Secretary to the Government, seconded by the Honourable the Treasurer, a Bill entitled "The 1931-32 Supply Ordinance, 1931" was read a first time.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Chief Secretary to the Government, seconded by the Honourable the Treasurer, Standing Order No. 32 was suspended in order that the Bill be read a second time.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Chief Secretary to the Government, seconded by the Honourable the Treasurer, the Bill was read a second time.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Chief Secretary to the Government seconded by the Honourable the Treasurer the Bill was referred to a select Committee consisting of the Honourable the Acting Chief Secretary to the Government, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, Northern Provinces, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, Southern Provinces, the Honourable the Treasurer and all the Unofficial Members of the Council.

After statements by the Honourable the Acting Chief Secretary to the Government and His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, Southern Provinces, the discussion was adjourned until a later meeting of the Council.

RESOLUTIONS.

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Chief Secretary to the Government, seconded by the Honourable the Comptroller of Customs, the following resolution was carried:—

“ Be it resolved: That this Council consents to the Order—
 “ in-Council made by the Governor in Council under
 “ section 12 of the Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1924
 “ (No. 20 of 1924) on the 6th day of October in so far
 “ as the said Order applies to the Southern Provinces
 “ and Colony of Nigeria.”

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Chief Secretary to the Government, seconded by the Honourable the General Manager of the Railway, the following resolution was carried:—

“ Be it resolved: That this Council do approve the expendi-
 “ ture of £720,000 (£420,000 being provided from
 “ surplus balances or by a re-allocation of Loan funds,
 “ and interest thereon at five *per cent.* for seven years
 “ by an annual grant of £21,000 from the Colonial
 “ Development Fund, and £300,000 being provided
 “ from the Railway Renewals Fund) on the relaying
 “ of the railway line between Minna and Kaduna.”

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Chief Secretary to the Government, seconded by the Honourable the Director of Marine, the following resolution was carried:—

“ Be it resolved: That this Council approves the grant
 “ of an annual allowance at the rate of £22 *per annum*
 “ for life to Musa, late Greaser, Marine Department,
 “ with effect from the 1st January, 1931.”

On the motion of the Honourable the Acting Chief Secretary to the Government, seconded by the Honourable the Treasurer, the following resolution was carried:—

“ Be it resolved: That the Supplementary Estimates,
 “ 1930-31 (second and third quarters) which have been
 “ laid on the table today, be referred to the Finance
 “ Committee.”

BILLS.

THE LUNACY (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Senior Resident, Ilorin Province, a Bill entitled “ The Lunacy (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931 ” was read a first time.

THE TOWNSHIPS (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Senior Resident, Oyo Province, a Bill entitled “ The Townships (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931 ” was read a first time.

THE CRIMINAL CODE (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Senior Resident, Zaria Province, a Bill entitled “ The Criminal Code (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931 ” was read a first time.

THE WILD ANIMALS PRESERVATION (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Secretary, Northern Provinces, a Bill entitled “ The Wild Animals Preservation (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931 ” was read a first time.

THE RAILWAYS (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1931.

On the motion of the Honourable the Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the General Manager of the Railway, a Bill entitled “ The Railways (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931 ” was read a first time.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR THE EGBA DIVISION (MR. S. H. PEARSE):—

104. Whether Government contemplate a Geological Survey of Egba Division and Abeokuta Province? if so, how soon will this work be taken in hand?

Answer:—

The answer is in the negative. The second part of the Honourable Member's question does not therefore arise.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR THE EGBA DIVISION (MR. S. H. PEARSE):—

105. To ask the Director of Medical and Sanitary Service whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the question of the sanitary jetty and slaughter house on the Ebute Metta water front which are in undesirably close proximity and are both unsuitable to that locality?

And if so, when it is proposed to remove them both?

Answer:—

The reply is in the negative. The matter is one for the Town Council.

MOTIONS.

The following motion was moved by the Honourable the Third Lagos Member (Mr. T. A. Doherty), and seconded by the Honourable the First Lagos Member (Dr. C. C. Adeniyi-Jones).

That this House expresses its profound regret which Honourable Members, equally with Your Excellency's Government, feel for the loss of life which the disturbances in the Calabar and Owerri Provinces of Nigeria occasioned, and its deep sympathy with all those to whom those events have unfortunately brought personal bereavement; and views with considerable disfavour the conduct of all those officers of the Nigerian Government, Civil and Military, who were declared responsible for the various firings upon unarmed women which were found to be "not justified", according to the Report of the Aba Commission of Inquiry, 1930, and recommends that the officers responsible be brought before the Bar of Justice in the Courts of Law or in the alternative that they be dismissed from the service of the British Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria with a forfeiture of their pensions.

The following amendment to this motion moved by the Honourable the Acting Chief Secretary to the Government and seconded by the Honourable the Commercial Member for Lagos was carried:—

"That all the words following 'bereavement' in the sixth line be deleted".

The original motion was then put to the Council and was lost by thirty-five votes to two.

The Council adjourned at 1 p.m. and resumed at 2.30 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

His Excellency expressed his appreciation of the method in which the debate on the motion of the Honourable the Third Lagos Member had been conducted at the morning meeting of the Council.

MOTIONS.

The following motion was moved by the Honourable the Third Lagos Member (Mr. T. A. Doherty), and seconded by the Honourable the First Lagos Member (Dr. C. C. Adeniyi-Jones).

That in the opinion of this Council, the question of the Native Courts in the Protectorate of the Southern Provinces being one of grave and urgent importance, the recommendation embodied in paragraphs 336 and 422 (c) 8, of the Report of the Aba Commission of Inquiry (Sessional Paper No. 12 of 1930) "that Your Excellency should be pleased to appoint a Special Commission to enquire into and report upon the Native Court system in the disturbed areas", be adopted forthwith; and that such Inquiry should extend to other areas in the Southern Provinces of the Protectorate of Nigeria.

Answer:—

There is no record of any amount having been paid as compensation for buildings demolished on lands expropriated near Itori Station for widening the motor road or of any claim in this respect.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR THE EGBA DIVISION (MR. S. H. PEARSE):—

99. (a) To ask the Postmaster-General whether he is aware of unnecessary delay of two or three days in the delivery of letters from Lagos to Abeokuta, a distance of only sixty-five miles from headquarters?

(b) What is being done with postal matters which are not called for personally by the addressees?

(c) Whether a return to the old system of house-to-house delivery of postal matters will not be conceded as was the case prior to 1915, particularly as the streets in the City of Abeokuta are now being named?

Answer:—

(a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) All postal articles which are not called for are sent to the Returned Letter Office to be returned to the sender after being retained at the office of destination for the prescribed periods; these are, for one month in the case of correspondence posted in Nigeria, and for two months in the case of correspondence received from overseas. The period of retention in the case of parcels is twenty-one days after which they are sent to the Returned Letter Office for disposal.

(c) Owing to the financial position the answer is in the negative.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR THE EGBA DIVISION (MR. S. H. PEARSE):—

100. In view of Government's reply to a question raised in the House of Commons on the 9th July, 1930, relative to Collective Punishment Ordinance, whether this Ordinance will still be allowed to remain on the Statute Book of Nigeria?

Answer:—

The answer is in the affirmative.

THE HONOURABLE THE MEMBER FOR THE EGBA DIVISION (MR. S. H. PEARSE):—

101. To ask whether a reply has been received from the Secretary of State to the question raised last Session as to the limitation of the scope of the Public Officers' Guarantee Fund in the matter of loss of public monies?

Answer:—

The answer is in the negative.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR THE EGBA DIVISION (MR. S. H. PEARSE):—

102. Whether in the interest of Customs Revenue Government will not readjust the Regulations authorising destruction of confiscated goods and goods on which consignees failed to pay the prescribed Customs duties?

Answer:—

Only the following^{*} smuggled goods, when seized, are destroyed:—Spirits seized on the frontiers, tobacco and cigarettes. Government is not prepared to consider any alteration in the present practice in regard to these articles.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR THE EGBA DIVISION (MR. S. H. PEARSE):—

103. To ask if the Select Committee appointed to enquire into the finance of the Lagos Town Council have reported, and if so will the report be tabled for the information of this Council?

Answer:—

A Select Committee was not appointed to enquire into the finances of the Lagos Town Council. A small Committee however was appointed by Government. Their report has been received and will be laid on the table at the next meeting of this Council.

the late African Chief Registrar) as being equally capable of the purely clerical duties of the Chief Registrar's Department, subject to the supervision of His Honour the Chief Justice or one of the Puisne Judges of Nigeria, thereby effecting an appreciable and substantial reduction below the annual expenditure of £1,500 in Emolument, Duty Pay, Transport Allowances, Passages, etc., etc., attached to the appointment when held by a European?

Answer:—

(a) The bulk of the substantive duties of the Chief Registrar have not been delegated to the Senior Registrar.

(b) Yes Sir, except that all Orders of Court are obtained through the Chief Registrar.

(c) Yes Sir, except to advise when difficulties arise. The Chief Registrar is responsible for the proper working of the office in the Eastern Division.

(d) When a vacancy occurs it will be filled by the officer whom the Government considers to be best qualified to perform the duties of the office. The Government will not refuse to consider the claims of competent Africans.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR THE EGBA DIVISION (MR. S. H. PEARSE):—

96. Considering that Native Administrations enjoy the privilege of special Government contributions towards the construction, improvement or extension of their water supply or electric light schemes, whether Government will not consider the extension of such pecuniary aid to the Egba Native Administration as would assist the electric light and water supply schemes, at present contemplated?

Answer:—

Government has under consideration the grant of pecuniary aid to the Egba Native Administration to assist the electric light and water supply schemes under contemplation.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR THE EGBA DIVISION (MR. S. H. PEARSE):—

97. (a) Whether the Postmaster-General is not of the opinion that to popularise the telephone service a reduction in the annual rental is overdue?

(b) How many African subscribers are now on the list?

(c) Whether private subscribers have increased since 1928?

(d) In order to redeem his promise to this Council whether he is taking up the question of attaching public telephone service to public buildings?

(e) And how soon?

Answer:—

(a) The Honourable Member is referred to the reply to question No. 71.

(b) The Posts and Telegraphs Department keeps no record of the race of telephone subscribers but from enquiries that have been made it would appear that there are approximately fifty-four African telephone subscribers.

(c) The answer is in the affirmative.

(d) and (e) If the Honourable Member is referring to public telephone call offices these have been installed in the Post Offices at Lagos, Apapa, Ebute Metta, Abeokuta, Ibadan, Jos, Aba, Port Harcourt, Itu, Calabar, Buea, Victoria and Tiko. It is not considered advisable to instal telephone call offices in other public buildings as the Posts and Telegraphs Department have no facilities for collecting the fees.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR THE EGBA DIVISION (MR. S. H. PEARSE):—

98. To ask the Director of Public Works what amount has been paid as compensation for buildings demolished on lands expropriated near Itori Station for widening the motor road in that area?

Answer:—

(a) The poison taken was ammonia and caustic soda.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No information was given at the inquest as to where the poison was procured.

(d) It is not considered necessary to restrict the importation or sale of either ammonia or caustic soda.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

94. (a) To ask for the reason, or reasons, why the emolument of the post of Chief Registrar, Supreme Court of Nigeria, was raised from £960 *per annum* with £96 Duty Pay to £1,050 with £210 Duty Pay, and how many years did the holder of this office serve and with what special efficiency to deserve or merit the increase?

(b) Whether in addition to the various services previously performed by the Chief Registrar, Supreme Court, when the annual salary stood at £560 without Duty Pay, Transport and other Allowances, or Passages to and from England, any extra duties have been added, clerical or otherwise, since 1927? If so,

(c) What are those extra duties, when and why were they added?

Answer:—

(a) By the terms of his appointment the Chief Registrar received salary at the rate of £960 *per annum* together with £96 *per annum* duty pay. He was also permitted to retain certain fees. It was considered later to be undesirable that any fees should be retained by him and his salary was regraded to £1,050 *per annum* together with £210 *per annum* duty pay and he was directed to pay all fees drawn by him into Revenue.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Since the Southern Provinces Secretariat was transferred to Enugu all Provincial Court reports and returns pass through the hands of the Chief Registrar.

Certain work previously performed by the Chief Justice and Judges is now performed by the Chief Registrar and, in particular, all correspondence with Residents and the Heads of Departments is performed by the Chief Registrar.

The drafting of complicated deeds and orders is now performed by the Chief Registrar instead of by the Judges.

The Chief Registrar now has complete control of all expenditure under Head 43 (Supreme Court) of the Estimates.

These additional duties were added to promote greater efficiency and expedition in the working of the Supreme Court.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

95. (a) To ask whether the bulk of the substantive duties performed by the Chief Registrar, Supreme Court, up to 1927, have not since that year been relegated to the Assistant Chief Registrar, and subsequently to the Senior Registrar, under Departmental Instructions issued in the Supreme Court office, namely, (1) the general supervision of the clerical work of the department, (2) the duties of the Divisional Court in the Western District, (3) the duties of Curator Intestate Estates, and (4) Probate duties, Western Division?

(b) Whether the duties of Curator Intestate Estates have not been transferred from the Supreme Court Registrar's Office to the newly created office of the Official Administrator and Public Trustee?

(c) Whether it is not a fact that Headquarters Office of the Supreme Court has nothing to do, directly, with probate duties, Eastern Division, those duties having always been efficiently performed by the Senior Registrar of the Court of that Division?

And

(d) Whether in the event of the post of Chief Registrar becoming vacant Government will refuse to consider the claims of competent Africans (originally promised by Government on the retirement of

THE HON. THE ACTING CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT:—

(a) The system known as *dipomu* is still in force in the Egba Division. It is not known to be in force elsewhere in the Southern Provinces.

(b) In so far as this question relates to questions 87, 88 and 89 the Honourable Member is referred to the answers already given to these questions. In so far as this question relates to *dipomu* the Honourable Member is referred to the answer to question No. 80 given him in this Council on 30th January, 1930, which appears at page 26 of the Legislative Council Debates, Eighth Session, 1930.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

* 91. (a) To ask whether since the visit to Nigeria of the Right Honourable Mr. W. G. Ormsby-Gore, when Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies in 1926, the Employment of Free Labour by Government still continues either directly, or by pressure through Native Tribal Chiefs, in any part of Nigeria for Railway Construction; Road-making; at the Colliery; in the Mine-Fields; or in Forest Reserves? If so,

(b) What are the specific reasons for its continuance in Nigeria?

If not,

(c) When was Free-Labour, or Political Labour as it was otherwise called, abolished in Nigeria, and where has such abolition been recorded?

THE HON. THE ACTING CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT:—

(a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) Does not therefore arise.

(c) Such labour was abolished by the repeal of the Roads and Rivers Ordinance by Ordinance No. 18 of 1927 on the 1st of April, 1927.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

92. (a) Referring to the question of allowances and the payments thereof to European Government officials, to ask whether it is a fact that bush allowance was applied for, granted, and paid to an official who was in residence in quarters which form part of the recently completed portion of the Government Hospital for Africans in Lagos? If so,

(b) To ask who the official was; how much he received; for what number of days; why was he allowed to draw bush allowance when staying in those quarters; and why should not the amount be refunded?

Answer:—

Five Nursing Sisters were required to occupy a staff quarter in the African Hospital designed for one married couple, over a period of seven months.

Under General Order 107 half bush allowances were granted. The total amount paid to seven different Nursing Sisters was £86 0s. 10d. No question of refund arises.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

93. (a) Directing attention to the incident of the suicide by poison at Ijebu Ode of one Joseph Igu *alias* Frugality, to ask whether at the *post mortem* examination which presumably was held, the nature of the poison taken was discovered? If so,

(b) Whether the allegation is true that the poison was what is being used in the colouring of counterfeit coins, or of forged currency notes?

(c) Whether the source from which the poison was procured was not fully enquired into and clearly determined at the inquiry?

And

(d) What steps Government proposes to take, or has already taken, to place a vigilant restriction upon the importation, sale, and issue of that poison the better to safeguard the public and its interest?

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

86.—*Disallowed.*

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

* 87. (a) To ask whether the conditions referred to under "Slavery" in the Nigeria Handbook for 1927, page 223, namely, that "in the Northern Provinces . . . although slave dealing is against the law and the legal status of slavery is abolished, yet the holding of slaves is not an offence", still obtain in those Provinces in Nigeria?

(b) In addition to the 21,711 slaves freed by regular process to the end of 1917, as shown in the Registers in Sokoto in the Northern Provinces of Nigeria where tribute was received in slaves, what is the number of slaves freed by regular process from 1918 up to the end of 1930 in Sokoto?

(c) What is the total number of slaves liberated in the Northern Provinces since the amalgamation in 1914, inclusive of the 7,212 that were liberated in 1917?

THE HON. THE SECRETARY, NORTHERN PROVINCES:—

(a) The answer is in the affirmative as far as relates to the holding of slaves born or enslaved prior to the 31st March, 1901.

(b) 12,540 up to the end of 1929.

(c) 48,370 up to the end of 1929.

The figures for 1930 are not yet available.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

* 88. (a) To ask whether the traffic in children, so prevalent in the Benue regions, exists in many Provinces in Nigeria? If so,

(b) In which Provinces, to what extent, what steps have been taken since 1914 to suppress the traffic, and with what results in each Province?

THE HON. THE SECRETARY, NORTHERN PROVINCES:—

(a) The answer is in the negative and this traffic is no longer prevalent in the Benue area.

(b) Does not therefore arise.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

* 89. (a) To ask whether Government is aware that children-pawning (1) for the purpose of meeting the demands of the poll-tax collection, (2) for debt voluntarily and involuntarily for a limited and an unlimited period, (3) for adoption or for religious education, exists and is prevalent in the Protectorate of Nigeria?

(b) How many cases have been brought to the notice of Government within the last five years and from which Provinces? And

(c) How many persons as child-pawns have been released by Government and set free within the last five years in any or all of the Protectorate, North and South?

THE HON. THE ACTING CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT:—

(a) Government is not aware that this practice is prevalent in the Northern Provinces; and

(b) and (c) Do not therefore arise as far as that area is concerned. As regards the Southern Provinces it is regretted that the Honourable Member's question was received too late to permit of the desired information being obtained.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

* 90. (a) To ask whether the system known as *Dipomu* to which the attention of Government was directed, still obtains in Egbaland, or in any other Province in Nigeria? or

(b) Whether Government will make a statement of the exact position of affairs as they obtain in Nigeria in regard to the various forms of slavery indicated in this and in the three preceding questions?

Answer:—

(a) It is not now the policy of Government to appoint anybody as a Native Court Member who is not fitted for such an appointment by his natural position and qualifications.

(b) This question does not arise.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

83. (a) To ask whether Government intends to abolish, or uphold as a permanent institution in Nigeria, the appointment of Warrant Chiefs who are distrusted generally by the people in the Provinces and who are regarded, in certain instances, as merely the unscrupulous instruments of the Government and not the natural spokesmen of the people? If Government intends to abolish the appointment,

(b) How soon will it take place?

Answer:—

It is not proposed to repeal regulation 3 (b) of Regulation 7 of 1914 to which the Honourable Member presumably refers. The policy is to appoint as Court Members the persons who are best fitted to hold their position.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

84. (a) To ask whether the attention of Government was directed to a gun-shot incident which occurred at the Iju Waterworks in October last year when an African steward, named Moses Ladele, was shot and crippled for life by a European employee of the Government? If so,

(b) What is the name of the European who shot Moses Ladele, what appointment did he hold at the time, and what action has Government taken in that matter?

Answer:—

(a) The attention of Government was directed to the incident. Moses Ladele is not a cripple for life.

(b) The name of the European concerned is Edgar Clapham Brownfoot. At the time he held an appointment under special agreement as a Mechanic at the Iju Waterworks. The boy Moses Ladele agreed to compensation from Mr. Brownfoot of £2. The Acting Administrator considered that £5 would be a reasonable amount of compensation. Moses Ladele readily accepted this amount.

The wound was inflicted with an airgun and Government has taken no action in the matter.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

85. (a) To ask whether during the year 1930 the Police reported any other instances of the shooting of native servants by European officials and non-officials, and of suicides by Europeans and Africans through gun-shot, in any of the Provinces or in the Colony? If so,

(b) Whether Government will submit a list giving the names and occupations of the offenders and victims, the places where the offences occurred, the dates, the causes or probable causes of the shooting, and the action taken by Government in each case?

Answer:—

Two other cases of shooting were reported during 1930. In the first, William Green, Manager of a Transport Company at Onitsha, discharged a revolver in the direction of a steward boy named Paul on the 24th October. He was found guilty on three charges and fined £26 in all.

One case in the Northern Provinces is at present awaiting trial. As the matter is still *sub judice*, no details can be given, at present. No case of suicide by gunshot of Europeans or Africans was reported in 1930.

HIS HONOUR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR, SOUTHERN PROVINCES:—

(a) Government has never had any intention of imposing any tax directly payable by women in the areas referred to.

(b) As stated in the reply to Question No. 5 at the Meeting of Legislative Council on the 30th January, 1930, the women have been repeatedly assured by the Administrative Officers that there is no intention to impose a tax directly payable by women of the Eastern Provinces.

(c) Government does not propose to alter the conditions of taxation in their provinces except at the request of the Native Administration concerned.

(d) Under the Native Revenue Ordinance all income is taxable from whatever source derived but Government has no present intention to impose a tax directly payable by women.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

* 80. To ask whether instructions have been given in any of the areas of the last disturbances for the computation of the people this year for the purpose of taxation?

HIS HONOUR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR, SOUTHERN PROVINCES:—

No particular instructions have been issued in the areas to which the Honourable Member refers for the computation of the people for the purpose of taxation this year but instructions have been given for the compilation of intelligence reports to contain information which will be of material assistance in the work of future computations. The standing instructions are that in the case of a community complaining of over-assessment revision can be undertaken provided that the community is prepared to accept and cooperate fully in the necessary enquiries.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

* 81. With reference to the cause, or causes, which led to the disturbances and the responsibility therefor, to ask what steps has Government taken, or what recommendations has Government made, against the following responsible officials:—

(a) The Resident, Mr. Ingles, for the concealment from the people of the fact that the computation in the Owerri Province during 1926-27 was for the purpose of taxation;

(b) The Acting District Officer, Captain Cook, for the count of the population including women, children and livestock undertaken in the Bende Division in the Owerri Province towards the end of 1929?

(c) The Resident, Mr. Falk; the District Officer, Mr. Whitman; and Cadet Mr. Floyer, for the reassessment of the Essene and Ukam areas in the Opobo Division of the Calabar Province, as pronounced by the Commission?

HIS HONOUR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR, SOUTHERN PROVINCES:—

No steps have been taken, and it is not proposed to take any steps against the officials mentioned. As explained in the reply to Question No. 78 the Government is not prepared to disclose the terms of its communications to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

82. (a) To ask whether Government has taken any steps to remodel the conditions under which Native Court Members, who do not owe their appointments to their natural positions, shall in future be appointed? If so,

(b) What steps has Government taken?

Answer:—

(a) There is no such appointment as Surgical Specialist in the West African Medical Staff.

(b) A Specialist has been in charge of this hospital ever since the death of Dr. Parkinson.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

77. (a) To ask whether there are any measures in contemplation by Government with a view of relieving unemployment in the country?

(b) Whether with the prevailing hard times and scarcity of money from bad trade all over the country, and the fact that the estimated surplus balance on the 31st of March, 1931, is as much as £3,967,527, the necessity for a reduction in the incidence of taxation, direct and indirect, does not arise?

Answer:—

(a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) Government has already granted relief by removing the export duty on groundnuts and by reducing it in the case of palm oil and palm kernels. Reductions have also been made in the railway rates on produce for export. It is essential that annually recurrent revenue should exceed annually recurrent expenditure. Further reductions in taxation will render this impossible and lead to raids on the Surplus Balances on which the steady development of Nigeria depends.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

* 78. (a) Considering the fact that the Chairman and Members of the Aba Commission have in a thorough and painstaking manner carried out their task, and have found after careful deliberation that the majority of the firings which resulted in the death of over fifty unarmed women and the wounding of over another fifty, were not justified, to ask whether the Government of Nigeria proposes to institute any legal proceedings against the officers and other persons upon whom direct responsibility has been fixed by the Commission in order to bring them to justice? Or

(b) Whether Government has recommended to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies any measure of punishment that should be inflicted upon such "officers and other persons" who are guilty of those unjustifiable firings as pronounced by the Commission?

HIS HONOUR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR, SOUTHERN PROVINCES:—

The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative.

With regard to the second part of the question the Government is not prepared to disclose the terms of its communications to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

* 79. (a) The Commission having found that "the cause of the disturbances was the wide-spread belief throughout the affected areas that Government was about to impose a direct tax upon women", and that the "people of the areas had good grounds for supposing that such a measure was afoot" (*vide* paragraph 408, page 121, Aba Commission Report), to ask whether Government proposes to abandon the intention of imposing any direct tax upon women in those disturbed areas? If so,

(b) What steps have been taken to inform the people so as to implant confidence in them?

(c) Whether Government proposes to abolish the imposition of a direct tax upon women in other provinces where such taxation exists? Or

(d) Whether Government proposes to impose a direct tax upon women in other provinces outside the affected areas where such a tax does not exist at present?

Answer:—

(a) As the Honourable Member will see from the draft Estimates for 1931-32 it has been found possible to make reductions in the allocations for stationery in a number of Departments. The estimate for the Marine Department for the current year is £750.

(b) and (c) The periodicals supplied consist of essential nautical books of reference such as Nautical Almanacs, Admiralty Tide Tables, Lloyd's Register, Board of Trade marine publications, signal books and technical marine, engineering and accounting journals. These are circulated to the departmental officers concerned and filed for reference at headquarters after pertinent extracts have been noted.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

74. To ask for a statement of the number of deaths per thousand amongst the inmates of each of the prisons in Nigeria and the principal causes of death in each prison during the year ended December, 1930?

Answer:—

Northern Provinces.—

Kaduna 5.23 per thousand. Actual death one.
Lokoja 19.8 per thousand. Actual deaths two.
Jos 54.34. Actual deaths five.
Yola 55.5. Actual death one.
Sokoto 71.43. Actual death one.

Causes of death, one pneumonia, two amoebic dysentery, two heart failure, one acute polyserositis, one chronic interstitial nephritis, one myocarditis, one epilepsy and debility, one generalised septicæmia. Average deaths per thousand Northern Provinces Government Prisons, 1930, 17.78. Above statistics refer only to Government prisons. Statistics regarding the Native Administration prisons in the Northern Provinces are not yet complete for 1930 but should the Honourable Member desire them they will be supplied in due course on application to the Secretary, Northern Provinces.

Southern Provinces and Colony.—

The Honourable Member will realise that to give here the detailed information for which he asks, which involves separate figures for the forty-six prisons in Southern Nigeria, would entail a very elaborate reply. The separate figures have been prepared by the Director of Prisons who will be pleased to give them to the Honourable Member at any convenient time.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

75. (a) To ask whether complaints of alleged shortage of food amongst the inmates of the Lunatic Asylum, and the Leper Asylum, Lagos (referred to in one of the local periodicals sometime last year which presumably was brought to the notice of Government), were investigated? And if so,

(b) With what results?

Answer:—

(a) No complaints were received in regard to the feeding at the leper asylum. One complaint was made from the lunatic asylum to the Medical Officer in charge as to the quantity of food, and he investigated it.

(b) The complaint was found to be unjustified.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

76. (a) To ask whether a Surgical Specialist for duty in the Hospital for Africans, Lagos, has been appointed in place, and since the death, of the late Dr. Parkinson? If no appointment has been made,

(b) To ask how soon is one likely to be made in view of the importance of this hospital in the town of Lagos?

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

71. In view of the existing financial depression and of the fact that telephone-service is an important asset in any community, to ask whether Government will not favourably re-consider the question of reducing the existing telephone-rent of twenty pounds *per annum*, and at the same time of granting facilities to subscribers to pay the rent half-yearly, or even quarterly, instead of yearly?

Answer:—

In reply to the first part of this question the Honourable Member is referred to the reply to question No. 56 at the meeting of this Council held on the 28th September, 1929, since which date the position has not changed.

Telephone rates have again been carefully examined from every point of view and inquiry shows that the present flat rate of £20 *per annum* is low as compared with many other Crown Colonies. It is not proposed to make any change in existing rates until such time as the Telephone Exchange in Lagos is transferred to the General Post Office and reconditioned when it will be necessary to introduce rentals based on radial distances from the exchange and/or on the principle of a minimum guarantee plus one penny a call.

There is no objection to the Honourable Member's suggestion in the second part of this question to introduce half-yearly payments for telephone rentals and steps will be taken to give effect to the suggestion. It must, however, be understood that the Postmaster-General reserves to himself the right to require any subscriber to enter into an agreement for a period not exceeding five years to ensure that the capital cost of installing a telephone is recovered.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

72. (a) To ask whether the nomination of the Venerable Archdeacon Basden into a seat in the Legislative Council is in place of the late Honourable Chief Mba who during his membership of Council sat as *Member for the Ibo Division* representing African interest? If so, and as the appointment of the Venerable Archdeacon will render the already small minority of African Membership still smaller,

(b) To ask why is it an African has not been appointed in the place of the late Honourable Chief who as the first holder of the seat was himself an African Chief representing an African interest? And if the appointment is not in place of the Honourable Chief Mba,

(c) To ask what interest, or constituency, is the Venerable Archdeacon to represent?

Answer:—

(a) The reply is in the affirmative.

(b) The appointment is by the Governor in the exercise of his discretion.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

73. (a) To ask whether it is possible for Government to make any savings by way of reduction in the large sum of £23,546 which is being expended annually under *Recurrent Expenditure* by the forty Departments of Government specifically for stationery only, of which sum the Printing Office spends £5,000; the Railway £1,080; Nigeria Regiment £1,400; Public Works Department £1,950; Provincial Administration, North and South, £3,700; and Marine Department about £1,000 including the purchase of periodicals?

(b) What becomes of the periodicals paid for by the Marine Department since the purchases are being made?

(c) What class of periodicals are ordered, in whose custody are they kept, and to what use are they put?

THE HON. THE DIRECTOR OF THE MEDICAL AND SANITARY SERVICE:—

(a) It is not a fact.

(b), (c), (d) and (e) therefore do not arise.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

69. (a) To ask whether the amendment to the Building Bye-laws, in order to make provision for the use of cheaper materials for building purposes because of the existing hardship due to the abnormal state of trade (*vide* reply to question No. 16 Legislative Council Debates, September 29, 1930), has been completed, and approved? If so,

(b) What is the nature of the amendment? And

(c) Whether the amended Bye-laws have been put into operation?

Answer:—

The amended Bye-laws making possible the use of cheaper materials (No. 1 of 1931) were published in *Gazette* No. 5 of the 15th of January to which the Honourable Member is referred for details.

The Bye-laws took effect from the 15th of January.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

*70. (a) To ask whether strict economy compatible with efficiency was the object Government had in view when the recommendation for the creation of a new appointment, that of Comptroller of Posts, Posts and Telegraphs Department, and for an additional Surveyor, or Assistant Surveyor, to the European Staff of the Marina Post Office, was approved?

(b) To what great extent was the efficient working of the Department suffering, or the public inconvenienced, prior to the creation of the appointment, and the addition to the European Staff, which has made these appointments so absolutely urgent as to outweigh all considerations for the increase in the Department's Estimate of Expenditure created thereby, these hard times?

(c) What is the increase involved *per annum* in these two appointments, including emoluments, all allowances, and Crown Agent's fees?

THE HON. THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL:—

(a) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative.

(b) The Posts and Telegraphs Department was re-organised in April, 1930, and the appointment of Controller of Posts first appeared in the 1930-31 Estimates. Prior to the re-organisation there was no one officer at the head of the survey or traffic branch whose duty it was to co-ordinate the work of that branch of the Department on an economical and sound basis.

The appointment of a Surveyor to take charge of the General Post Office, Lagos was necessary because the volume of Postal work has increased by fifty *per cent.* during the past seven years and the responsibility, and the complexity of the work, have correspondingly increased. In addition, this newly appointed Surveyor will be in charge of the Central Telegraph Office which is being transferred to the General Post Office next month.

(c) The creation of the appointment of Controller of Posts did not cause any increase in the Personal Emolument Estimates as it was possible to show equivalent savings. The appointment of a Surveyor to take charge of the General Post Office, Lagos, caused an increase in the Personal Emolument Estimates of £100 *per annum*, but savings under other items of the Personal Emolument Estimates for 1930-31 more than compensated for this small increase.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

67. (a) Pursuant to the reply given to question No. 20 at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 23rd of June, 1930, to ask for a statement of the cost to the revenue for passage to and from Nigeria, allowances, emolument, and Crown Agents' fees, in respect of Mr. J. W. Barr's six weeks appointment in the Marine Department?

(b) Whether no indemnity is recoverable from him for that amount in view of the fact that he accepted an appointment the duties of which he knew he was incapable of discharging? If an indemnity is recoverable,

(c) How is it Government seems satisfied with the statement that "nothing has been recovered"? And if no indemnity is recoverable,

(d) To ask whether it is not desirable that such uneconomic expenditure of public money be safeguarded against in future?

Answer:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
(a) Cost of a second-class passage out from England—net	36	15	6			
Crown Agents' charge	1	10	0			
				£38	5	6
Cost of a second-class passage to England plus Harbour Dues ...				38	14	0
Outfit Allowance	45	0	0			
Crown Agents' charge—one per cent.	0	9	0			
				£45	9	0
Crown Agents' 2½% on commencing salary of £400 per annum ...				—	10	0
One month's salary paid in Nigeria in lieu of notice				—	33	6
						8
Total				£165	15	2

(b) Mr. Barr failed to appreciate that he was incapable of discharging the duties expected of him till he had had actual experience of the handling of the bar tugs under local conditions. His previous experience had been in smaller craft where conditions were not so difficult. It is almost impossible to get men with experience of such work at the salary offered and the Crown Agents have to be relied on to get the best men available.

(c) The Government has no option as Mr. Barr was entirely without means.

(d) Yes, Sir, and every possible precaution will be taken.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

* 68. (a) Directing the attention of Government to paragraphs 285 to 291, inclusive, of the Report on the Outbreaks of Plague in Nigeria, 1924-26, by Colonel Sir E. N. Thompson, to ask whether it is not a fact that the health authorities have been and are still confining themselves to the reason of the necessity "to open up congested sites" as "the object of demolishing houses in Lagos", and not because the dwellings cannot be satisfactorily disinfected?

(b) How many houses have thus been demolished by the Health Authorities from January to December, inclusive, 1930?

(c) Whether the measures taken by the Health Authorities in demolishing these houses, *without an order of the Court*, are in line with what Public Health Authorities have to do in England?

If not,

(d) To ask whether Government will kindly make a statement of the procedure that obtains in England in such cases? And

(e) Why is it compensation is not paid to house-owners for the demolitions, seeing that the houses are demolished more for the purpose of opening up congested areas than because they cannot be satisfactorily disinfected?

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR THE WARRI-BENIN DIVISION (MR. I. T. PALMER):—

64. In view of the fact that Medical Officers stationed at Sapele, Benin, Agbor and Warri have very extensive areas to traverse, which sometimes takes them away from their headquarters for some days, during which interval patients are not treated whatever the condition of that person may be, particularly at Sapele, to ask whether the Government will not consider the advisability of appointing African Medical Officers as Assistants to the European Officers stationed at the stations referred to above?

Answer:—

These four stations form a close group in which less travelling is done than in any other part of the country and if further Medical personnel was available it would certainly be absorbed elsewhere, where the need is greater.

The main purpose of the Medical School at Yaba is to train Africans to become District Medical Assistants.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

65. (a) To ask how many new appointments of Europeans were made into the West African Medical Service for duty in Nigeria during the period from April to December, 1930, inclusive?

(b) How many of the holders of those appointments had recognised qualifications in tropical medicine, hygiene, or sanitation, either on appointment or before assumption of duty?

(c) How many had any previous experience in general practice, or held hospital or dispensary engagements, before appointment and arrival in Nigeria for duty?

Answer:—

(a) Four Europeans joined the West African Medical Staff during the period from April to December, 1930.

(b) All before assumption of duty.

(c) All had either been in private practice or had held hospital appointments.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

66. (a) Of what practical utility has the expenditure from public funds of £1,109 11s. 3d. for aviation purposes been to Nigeria?

(b) Whether any contribution on the principle on which port dues are paid into the revenue by steamship companies, and private yacht owners, is made by aeroplane owners for the use they make of the aerodrome at Apapa? If so,

(c) What is the amount of contribution to date?

Answer:—

(a) It is hardly to be expected that progress can be made in developing aviation in this country without incurring expenditure in preliminary work and investigation, the practical utility of which will become apparent in due course. The tangible result of the expenditure referred to is evident in the shape of ten landing grounds situated at various places in Nigeria in more or less advanced stages of completion. The increasing use of aeroplanes throughout Africa renders it desirable that Nigeria should keep pace with adjacent countries in this respect.

(b) No dues are charged at present, but provision for landing fees has been included in the draft directions made under the Air Navigation Order-in-Council which will be enacted when the aviation policy of Government is determined.

(c) In view of (b), does not arise.

time as these natural rulers when discovered have been educated in the ideas of indirect rule as conceived by the Government of Nigeria?

Answer:—

Government is not prepared to reconsider its policy of indirect rule. The best method of carrying out this policy is being evolved in the light of careful investigation.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

61. (a) Seeing that about a year has lapsed since the answers were furnished to questions 39 and 41 at the sitting of this House on the 30th of January last have any further steps been taken and any definite progress achieved in respect of the subject of these questions?

(b) And if not, will Government give reasons for the delay?

Answer:—

With reference to Question 39 at the meeting of this Council of the 30th of January, 1930 no further steps have been taken with regard to an electrical scheme for Calabar owing to the financial situation.

With reference to Question 41 at that meeting extensive repairs to the Ivy Pier were carried out during the latter part of 1929 and the early part of 1930. Two mooring buoys were laid down in March, 1930 at a cost of £900 to enable large vessels to berth alongside. Up to date no use has been made of the facilities provided.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

62. With reference to question 42 at the same Session the information required is, what are the proportions of income, revenue, profit or other gain derived by Government from lands in the Protectorate taken and acquired by Government since 1921 and retained by Government for whatever purpose or afterwards sold, leased or given out by Government to European firms or others, that have been paid by Government to the Natives of the Protectorate original owners of the land?

Answer:—

Lands required by Government are acquired either absolutely or for a term of years or for so long as they may be used for public purposes. The consideration takes the form of a lump sum payment or a definite specified annual rental. In no circumstances does the consideration take the form of a payment to the original owners of a proportion of any "income, revenue, profit or other gain" which may accrue.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

63. In view of the steady and alarming growth of the list of pensions and gratuities payable out of the revenue of Nigeria has the Government ever considered any scheme for reducing such rate of growth?

(b) If not, will Government, in order to bring about such a reduction and if possible keep down the burden to the country and the difficulty to Government which must otherwise inevitable result, consider a scheme for training Africans to gradually take the place of more Europeans in the higher offices of Government than at present obtain.

Answer:—

(a) The steady growth of the pensions list engages the constant attention of the Government.

(b) A scheme is in existence for training Africans to take the place of Europeans in due course in certain offices and the extension of the scheme depends on its success.

Answer:—

(a) No, Sir.

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

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

54. (a) Are there any interpreters of the Supreme Court who receive motor car allowance?

(b) If not, what is the reason for the difference made in this respect between interpreters of the Supreme Court and interpreters of the Provincial Courts.

Answer:—

(a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) In view of the reply to Question 53 this does not arise.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

55.—*Disallowed.*

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

56.—*Disallowed.*

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

57. Will Government give instructions to the various members of the Provincial Courts to keep a strict watch on the activities of interpreters of Provincial Courts so as to hinder them as much as possible demanding and accepting bribes from litigants thereby bringing the administration of justice in Nigeria into evil repute.

Answer:—

Specific instructions are not considered to be necessary.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

58. In view of the state of affairs referred to in the above questions and the recommendation of the Commission of Inquiry into the disturbances in the Calabar and Owerri Provinces "that means should be devised whereby Administrative Officers should be relieved in their judicial work . . . so that they may have more time to devote to true administration work" will the Government take immediate steps to relieve these officers of their extraneous duties by appointing qualified legal men to take up their judicial business.

Answer:—

The Honourable Member has misquoted the Commission. Consideration is being given to the Commission's recommendation. Judicial functions are not considered extraneous to the correct duties of Administrative Officers.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

59. In view of the evidence that "the Chiefs are killing us" given at and the recommendations of the said Commission of Inquiry in respect of the working of the Native Courts will Government now consider the advisability of either abolishing these courts to a proper Court of law or take steps to reorganise these courts so that they will constitute more legal and conscionable tribunes from the natives of the Protectorate.

Answer:—

Native Courts deal mainly with native law and custom and are the Courts best fitted to decide such cases. It is not considered that a general right of appeal would be in the best interests of the native population.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

60. In view of the opinion of the Commission that the Natural Rulers of the people have not yet been discovered and recognised as such will the Government reconsider its policy of indirect rule so far as the Southern Provinces of Nigeria are concerned so that the natives may have the benefit of more direct rule until such

THE HON. THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE COLONY:—

(a) Mr. C. B. Olumuyiwa is Accountant of the Town Council having been appointed to the post originally held by an European; he is not seconded from the Treasury Department.

(b) The question is therefore one for the Town Council which is a corporate body. This officer has presented a petition which is being referred to the Town Council for consideration.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

*50. To ask whether it is not a fact that there was no system in operation in the Town Council by means of which Mr. C. B. Olumuyiwa could have had control and check over the pay clerk in the exercise of his duties as Accountant, and that the system was only inaugurated and introduced *after* the discovery of the pay clerk's defalcations and *after* Mr. Olumuyiwa had been punished for the sins of the pay clerk?

THE HON. THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE COLONY:—

The answer is in the negative.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

* 51. In consideration of the fact that Mr. P. Martins as pay clerk (or paymaster) was duly secured on a bond of £50, to ask whether this loss of £33 0s. 1d. through Mr. Martins' personal dishonesty does not create a legitimate claim against the Board of Directors of the Public Officers' Guarantee Fund?

THE HON. THE TREASURER:—

No claim has been made upon the Directors of the Public Officers' Guarantee Fund by the Local Authority who employed Mr. Martins and in the absence of this it is not possible to say whether or not the loss in question would constitute a legitimate claim against the Fund.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

52. (a) To ask whether Medical Officers in charge of hospitals in the provinces, North and South, are expected to, and do, make two daily routine visits to the respective hospitals over which they are in medical charge, and whether those days include Sundays? If not,

(b) To ask how often do they make routine visits to the hospitals

(i) on week days; and

(ii) on Sundays?

Answer:—

Departmental Instructions to Medical Officers are that Hospital wards should be visited morning and evening. Sundays are not mentioned but are implied. These instructions are carried out generally by all Medical Officers in charge of hospitals both on week days and on Sundays except upon an occasion of emergency when the Medical Officer's service may be required elsewhere, or when an officer in charge of a small hospital may be absent from his station upon inspection duty in a Province.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR CALABAR (MR. C. W. CLINTON):—

53. (a) Is it a fact that interpreters of the Provincial Court in some of the Eastern Provinces are in receipt of motor car allowance?

(b) If so, does the Government subscribe to the fact that the salaries of interpreters warrant them buying and keeping cars?

(c) If on the other hand these interpreters can not reasonably be expected to provide themselves with motor cars does not the fact of them receiving motor car allowance give ground for suspicion that the Government wink at the idea that interpreters are expected to augment their salary by insisting upon and taking money from litigants in the Provincial Courts.

and used for general purposes. In the circumstances the Director of Education is not prepared, at present, to recommend to Government that the import duty on stationery imported for use in schools be removed.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIJI-JONES):—

47. (a) To ask whether it is a fact that Oyo Province is the only area in the Southern Provinces from which the Honourable the Administrator of the Colony has never yet been able to effect the refund of any sum paid as poll-tax by natives of that province although proofs may be forthcoming and given that the same persons are paying, or have paid for that year, income tax to the Administrator? If so

(b) To ask why should there be this difficulty? And

(c) If the difficulty is insurmountable to ask whether the alternative of a refund of the income tax may not in fairness to the tax payer be adopted by Government?

Answer:—

(a) It is not a fact that Oyo Province is an area from which no refunds of tax can be effected. Refunds have been made.

Questions (b) and (c) do not therefore arise.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIJI-JONES):—

48. (a) To ask whether it is a fact that poll-tax is in the Oyo Province demanded and collected yearly from heads of families for each member of the family even though that member may be, and has for years been, residing outside the province, or may have died and been buried?

(b) Whether it is also a fact that in the Oyo Province poll-tax is demanded and collected from school boys and farm hands under the age of sixteen years? If so

(c) To ask—

(i) whether similar practices are obtaining in the other provinces; and

(ii) whether Government will give an indication of the Ordinance or Regulation making provision for such imposts?

Answer:—

(a) Poll-tax is not collected in Oyo Province but tribute is collected through heads of compounds from its members temporarily residing abroad if they retain an interest in property in the Province. It is not the practice to collect tribute on account of deceased persons.

(b) It is not the practice to collect tribute from school boys and farm hands under the age of sixteen years.

(c) This question does not therefore arise.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIJI-JONES):—

* 49. (a) In view of the fact that Mr. C. B. Olumuyiwa is an official of the Town Council seconded from the Treasury Department, to ask whether Government will not favourably consider the remission of the punishment inflicted upon him for the offence committed by Mr. P. Martins who, as paymaster, defrauded the Lagos Town Council to the extent of £33 0s. 1d. for which he (Mr. Martins) has been tried, convicted, and imprisoned? If not,

(b) To ask whether Government will not be disposed to apply the principles and policy which Government generally applies to cases of loss of Government monies (as stressed by the Acting Treasurer during the last sitting of this Honourable Council and which were applied to the case of the loss of trinkets from the safe of the Official Administrator and Public Trustee), if Government is satisfied that any portion of responsibility or blame for the loss of that money can be brought home to Mr. Olumuyiwa?

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR THE OYO DIVISION (MR. A. S. AGBAJE):—

44. To ask what steps the Agriculture Department have taken to deal with black pods and fari-fari, whether the Native Authorities have been asked to co-operate or could co-operate in dealing with the danger to the cocoa interest. What advice is being given and what is the remedy proposed for exterminating the disease?

Answer:—

In 1922 the Agricultural Department made investigations into "black pod" disease and it was proved that while the complete removal of all black pods over a very large area might reduce the infection the degree of plant sanitation possible for the ordinary farmer will have no great effect. It must be accepted that it is impossible to exterminate the fungus causing this disease which probably exists in every cocoa growing area in the world. If, however, the small and worthless infected pods are regularly removed and buried the intensity of the infection is reduced and the crop is not seriously affected. This advice has been given to farmers by the Agricultural Department for some years. The controlling factor in the disease is humidity.

Fari-fari is generally considered to be due to unfavourable conditions of environment which causes the branches to die back. Assistance has been given by the Agricultural Department in pruning trees and by advising as to the general care of cocoa farms. Both this disease and black pod might be reduced by altering the conditions of cultivation, such as by reducing the humidity of the environment by thinning out trees from the stand, but this will lead to a loss of crop greater than that caused by the disease. The areas cultivated by farmers in West Africa greatly exceed in yield those of other countries and it has been proved in the Gold Coast that the yields of closely planted areas are approximately double those of Agricultural Department stations, as the high humidity which encourages these diseases is also conducive to high yields.

The co-operation of the Native Administrations has not so far been utilised but the matter will receive consideration.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR THE OYO DIVISION (MR. A. S. AGBAJE):—

45. In view of the general cry of the scarcity of money; to ask whether the Government would not consider the advisability of importing the metallic one-tenth of a penny and half pennies in large quantities, to enable more circulation of them in the Southern Provinces, for the benefit of the poorer classes?

Answer:—

No demand for nickel tenths of a penny has been received in respect of stations in the Southern Provinces but should such a demand arise the Government will endeavour to make arrangements to meet it. Nickel tenths are imported for circulation in the Northern Provinces where a diminishing demand exists. Nickel half pennies are already in circulation but up to the present there has been no special demand for this denomination which ordinarily circulates with the nickel penny.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIJI-JONES):—

46. To ask the Honourable Mr. E. R. Hussey, Director of Education, whether in the interest of the progressive development of Education (which through the recently imposed duty on stationery must suffer by the increase of selling price throughout the country), he will be disposed to recommend the removal of that impost especially as in almost all the schools in Nigeria to-day the use of slates has been abolished?

Answer:—

Government, in view of the reduction of export duties, very reluctantly put a duty on stationery but would have preferred to exclude stationery imported for use in schools if it had been possible to guarantee that a portion of such stationery would not be bought

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

41. To ask—

- (i) for a clear definition of the duties of the newly appointed Masters of Method, Education Department;
- (ii) what need there is in Nigeria for such new appointments; and
- (iii) how is that need so absolutely urgent and important that the Honourable Mr. Hussey, the Director of Education, has not hesitated to ask for, and Government has not hesitated to sanction, such further new appointments in a Department already over-flooded with a stream of Superintendents and other new appointments and at a time when economic stress with the alarming fall in the Revenue has become so acute in the Colony?

Answer:—

(i) The duties of Masters of Method consist in the training of teachers.

(ii) The need for such posts corresponds to the need for teachers all over the country.

(iii) The provision of a sufficient number of qualified teachers is so vital to the whole educational system, that, unless immediate steps were taken to extend such facilities, the whole educational scheme would suffer and lack of good grounding in the lower schools would make the attainment of a high standard in the upper schools very difficult or impossible of achievement. As the provision of education facilities in the higher stages provides the only satisfactory means of reducing the cost of personnel, one of the most important items in Government expenditure, the fact of financial difficulties accentuates the urgency of the service. In spite of great expansion of work, the total number of Superintendents of Education for the Northern and Southern Provinces has been reduced since the beginning of 1930 by thirteen, which more than compensates for the appointment of Masters of Method.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR THE OYO DIVISION (MR. A. S. AGBAJE):—

42. To ask whether in the interest of economy, and in view of the present financial stress, Government will not restrict recruiting of Cadets?

Answer:—

The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to paragraphs 22-23 of the Memorandum on the Estimates.

The whole question is being very carefully considered. Revised lists of duty posts essential for the administration of Nigeria are being prepared. When these lists are completed allowances will be made for leave, reliefs, and normal wastage, and recruitment will be restricted to the number necessary to maintain the Administrative Service at its essential strength.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR THE OYO DIVISION (MR. A. S. AGBAJE):—

43. To ask how far the Government has proceeded in the scheme for electric light and water supply for Ibadan, and when that scheme will be commenced and what is the estimated cost to Government or the Native Administration?

Answer:—

A final decision in regard to the site for the Electric Power Station has only just been made. Preparation of plans will now proceed. The cost of the Lighting Scheme is roughly estimated at £70,000.

A special Royal Engineer Survey Party, is now engaged on survey work in connection with the Water Scheme, but an estimate of the cost of the scheme cannot yet be given.

In neither case is it possible to say when work will begin.

(b) If these installations are merely luxuries indulged in for the purpose of maintaining the prestige and dignity of the respective appointments held by the officials occupying the residences, to ask whether in these days of stress when economy is so obviously desirable Government will not relieve the Revenue of the expenditure of these installations until such time that the Revenue can conveniently afford them, or call upon these officials to pay the general fee of £20 *per annum* by the general public?

Answer:—

These telephones have in the past been considered to be necessary. The whole question of telephones in Government quarters will be reconsidered.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

39. (a) To ask whether Government is contemplating on grounds of economy any form of retrenchment amongst African officials in the service? If so,

(b) To ask whether the whole question of allowances, as distinct from emoluments (such as duty allowance, motor allowance, transport allowance, bush allowance, seniority allowance, overtime fees if paid directly from Revenue, kit, or outfit, allowance, garden allowance if any, etc., etc.), may not first be reconsidered by Government with a view of their abolition or suspension until such time as the Revenue would be much more satisfactory than it is at present?

Answer:—

Government is not contemplating any form of retrenchment amongst African officials in the service: the second part of the question does not therefore arise.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

40. (a) To ask for an indication of the result, so far as the finished products are concerned, of—

- (i) the "co-ordination" (which is supposed to have been effected between the various educational systems of the Missions and Government),
- (ii) the "effective control" (said to have been instituted over teacher-training, and many other matters of school-management),
- (iii) the exercise of far greater supervision over the activities of the schools, and
- (iv) the wide expansion of the system of state-aided schools, all of which are said to have been the outcome of Mr. Grier's educational policy since its introduction in 1927?

(b) Whether those *finished products* have shown greater efficiency either in the examination room, in Government offices, or in the offices of commercial firms than the *finished products* of the former policy? If so,

(c) In what way?

Answer:—

(a) It is impossible to estimate arithmetically the results of an educational policy on the individuals who have emerged from the system and taken their places in various posts throughout the country. Moreover, the rapid expansion of the schools has made the maintenance of a standard a matter of great difficulty. It is, however, generally admitted that co-ordination between Missions and Government, effective control over teacher-training, the exercise of greater supervision and the wide expansion of the system have been productive of appreciable results in educational values.

(b) In view of the difficulties in assessing the efforts of individuals in various Government and private posts, no definite reply can be given to the second part of the question.

(c) Does not therefore arise.

(c) Whether it is not desirable that the whole question of "overtime fees", or "extra allowance", be reconsidered by Government with a view of establishing some form of uniformity which will either abolish "overtime fees" paid directly from Revenue or, if funds will allow, make the payments thereof general to all departments?

Answer:—

(a) Officers of the Education Department draw allowances for the Clerical Service Examinations. This work is outside the ordinary scope of their duties and is of such a nature that it is considered that allowances can reasonably be paid for it.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The policy of the Government is to abolish extra allowances whenever this can be done with justice.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

*37. (a) To ask for a statement of the amount of money that is being earmarked in the Estimates of Expenditure for the next financial year for the building and furnishing of bungalows for European officials—

- (i) in the Colony proper; and
- (ii) in the provinces?

(b) Whether in view of the existing financial stringency and fall in Revenue, this particular item of work together with all other items relating to the building and furnishing of public offices may not be held over on grounds of economy?

THE HON. THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS:—

(a) Provision for European bungalows and furniture in the Draft Estimates for 1931/32 is as follows:—

(i) In the Colony	...	...	...	...	...	£30,000
(ii) In Provinces	...	...	...	...	...

These items are exclusive of bungalows that may be built in connection with the schemes for Higher Colleges at Yaba and Zaria.

(b) Provision is being made only for work which is urgently required and which in the interests of essential efficiency cannot be deferred.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

38. (a) To ask for an indication of the nature of the official work which is being performed in the residences of the under-mentioned officials before, during, or after office hours, to facilitate which telephone services are installed and maintained in these private residences at public expense?

Namely—

1. The Auditor.
2. The Commissioner of Lands.
3. The Director of Education.
4. The Chief Registrar, Supreme Court.
5. The Postmaster-General.
6. The Deputy Postmaster-General.
7. The Comptroller of Posts.
8. The Telegraph Instructor.
9. The Telegraph Engineer.
10. The Government Printer.
11. The Senior Executive Engineer, P.W.D.
12. The Chief Storekeeper, P.W.D.
13. The Mechanical Engineer, P.W.D.
14. The Transport Officer, P.W.D.
15. The Maintenance Engineer Water Works.
16. The Surveyor-General.
17. The Assistant Surveyor-General.
18. The Chief Accountant, Railway.
19. The Paymaster, Railway.
20. The Works Manager, Railway.
21. The Mechanical Engineer, Town Council.

The aggregate expenditure during the present financial year on these nineteen bungalows, including furniture is estimated at £46,000.

The aggregate total cost is estimated at £48,000.

(b) The bungalow now occupied by His Honour the Chief Justice of Nigeria was completed in 1927 and cost £4,358 including furniture.

(c) The answer is in the negative.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

33. (a) Referring to the answer to Question No. 8 (Legislative Council Debates, September 27, 1930, page 8), to ask whether Captain Royce, District Officer, Owerri, who was invalided to the United Kingdom soon after the subject-matter of the Question was referred to him, has sent in his reply? If so

(b) Whether Government will kindly lay that reply on the table of this Honourable Council, or make a pronouncement thereon?

Answer:—

As was stated in the course of the reply to the question of the Honourable the First Lagos Member on this subject at the meeting of this Council on the 27th of September, 1930, Captain Royce made a report on the incident referred to. Not only has no complaint regarding this matter been brought to the notice of the Resident, but His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor has received assurances that the matter has been amicably settled. In the circumstances Government did not regard as necessary a further report from Captain Royce.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

34.—*Disallowed.*

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

35. (a) As the stock of drugs, druggists' sundries, dressings, and other surgical appliances in public hospitals and dispensaries are provided and maintained from public funds, to ask whether the privilege of having their prescriptions dispensed at public hospitals and dispensaries, at present granted only to, and enjoyed only by, Government Medical Officers, may not be made to extend to all registered medical practitioners in the Colony whether they be Government medical officers, or not? If not,

(b) to ask why not?

Answer:—

The answer is in the negative for the following reasons:—

- (i) It would necessitate an increased dispensing and clerical staff which is not available and for which funds are not provided.
- (ii) It is unnecessary as there are sufficient Drug Stores and Chemist's Shops to meet the needs of private practitioners.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

36. (a) To ask whether Government will give an indication of the reason, or reasons, why officials of the Education Department who like every other European official draw the emoluments and allowances of their respective appointments, should be allowed to draw extra allowance for correcting examination papers of Government Examinations?

(b) Whether there are not a host of officials of various other departments of Government who are constantly doing official work in or out of the office after office hours and who are granted no extra remuneration therefor? And

(c) If the Honourable Member is referring to Mr. Carr the reply is in the affirmative. The services of that distinguished and learned gentleman were highly appreciated by the Government.

(d) If the Honourable Member is referring to Local Treasuries in the Northern Provinces, Africans have been in charge of such offices.

(e) African officials used to carry out the housing instructions of the Honourable the Director of Public Works with efficiency.

Since that time the work has vastly increased in difficulty and quantity.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

*31 (a) Whether the Honourable the Administrator of the Colony will kindly state the duties of the Secretary of the Race Course Board of Management, and the number of times the Board meets in any one year, in consequence of which it is stated, by Government, that Africans cannot efficiently hold that post? And

(b) Whether those duties are more difficult than those of the Secretary of the Glover Memorial Hall Board of Trustees which have for the last forty-three years been efficiently performed by Africans?

THE HON. THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE COLONY:—

(a) The duties of the Secretary, Race Course Board of Management, are as a rule purely secretarial and few meetings are held. In 1927 three meetings were held, in 1928 two meetings, in 1929 four meetings, in 1930 two meetings. During 1930, however, there were improvements made to the Race Course and the playing fields and the Secretary assisted in supervising the work.

It has never been stated by Government that Africans cannot efficiently hold the post of Secretary of the Race Course Board of Management, and Government would welcome the appointment of an African to this post. As was stated in the reply to the Honourable Member's Question No. 6, at the meeting of this Council on the 27th September, 1930, the duties of Secretary to the Race Course Board of Management are carried out, among his other duties, by the Assistant District Officer at the Colony headquarters: this Assistant District Officer receives no extra emoluments in respect of his duties as Secretary of the Race Course Board of Management.

(b) The duties of the Secretary of the Race Course Board of Management can hardly be compared with those of the Secretary of the Glover Memorial Hall Board of Trustees.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

32. (a) To ask for a statement of the number of bungalows for Europeans completed and finished, as well as the number still in building—

- (i) in the Colony proper
- (ii) at Ikoyi alone, and
- (iii) in the Provinces,

from April 1, to December, 1930, and their aggregate cost to the Revenue?

(b) What is the cost of the bungalow recently completed at Ikoyi (which is at present occupied by His Honour the Chief Justice of Nigeria) including furniture and all other fittings?

(c) Whether the expenditure of all that money in one financial year, on housing accommodation for European officials only, is not a disregard for the need for administrative economy so loudly advocated by Government during the opening meeting of the last session of this Honourable Council?

Answer:—

(a) The number of bungalows for European Officers completed and building during the period 1st April to December, 1930 is as follows:—

	Completed.	Building.
(i) In the Colony	1	1
(ii) In Ikoyi	9	8
(iii) In the Provinces		

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

28. (a) To ask the Honourable Colonel Rowe, the Commissioner of Lands, whether it is a fact that there is so little work for the large staff of his Department that it is a common thing for one or other of the members thereof to be engaged in private jobs in the office, during office hours?

(b) Whether it is a fact that not long ago, a fine was actually inflicted in one of the Provincial Lands Offices under him because some private work was being done in that office, *under instructions*, during office hours?

Answer:—

The answer to both parts of the question is in the negative.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

29. (a) To ask the Honourable Colonel Rowe, Commissioner of Lands, for a statement of the standard of qualification necessary for the post of Plans Officer in his Department?

(b) Whether that standard is possessed by each of his Plans Officers now under appointment? If not

(c) What standard of qualification have they, in surveying and drawing, and why were they appointed at all?

Answer:—

(a) The qualifications for the post of Plans Officer are a good practical knowledge of surveying or of the duties of a head draughtsman, with a general knowledge of plans and of the routine of a drawing office.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The qualifications referred to in the reply to (a). These officers were appointed in order that the work of the Lands office should be efficiently carried out.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

* 30. (a) As practically every instance in which Africans have been advanced, in the service, to what are known as "European" appointments, has been recorded in official reports as being satisfactory, to ask whether Government will be graciously pleased to state the reason, or reasons, for the sweeping pronouncement, in reply to Question No. 6 (Legislative Council Debates, September 27, 1930) that the duties attached to the office of Assistant District Officer in the Colony, (and even in the Provinces) cannot be performed equally efficiently by Africans with appreciable economy in the Estimates of Expenditure?

(b) Whether Africans have not in the past performed efficiently the duties of District Commissioners in British West Africa, including Lagos, retiring honourably on their well-earned pensions?

(c) Whether the African who, up to the present, has had the opportunity of holding the substantive appointment of Resident in the Colony, did not carry out the duties of that appointment with satisfaction to Government, and with appreciable economy in the Estimates of Expenditure?

(d) Whether no African Office Assistant in the Administrative Department, Northern Provinces, has ever been in efficient charge of the tax office of his province subject, of course, to the supervision of the Resident and the District Officer? And

(e) Whether African officials did not for many years carry out with every efficiency, instructions of the Honourable the Director of Public Works, or his representative, in connection with the housing of European officials in Lagos?

THE HON. THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE COLONY:—

(a) In the opinion of the Government there are not at the present time Africans suitable to undertake the duties of an Assistant District Officer in the Colony.

(b) Information on which to answer this question fully is not available

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

25. Whether the Honourable the Director of the Medical and Sanitary Service is satisfied that this delay of thirteen or fourteen hours in seeing a patient admitted into hospital (whose condition was on admission immediately reported to him) was unavoidable?

Answer:—

The answer is in the affirmative and the Director of Medical and Sanitary Service is satisfied that the delay in seeing this case in no way influenced the subsequent course of the illness which proved fatal nine days later.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

26. Whether it is not a fact that a few years ago a Medical Officer (an African) was relieved of his appointment in the service because it was alleged that he failed to give *immediate attention* to a patient who took ill in that very town of Ibadan under similar circumstances?

Answer:—

It is understood that an African Medical Officer was relieved of his appointment some years ago but the records giving the details and reasons are not available.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

27. (a) To ask the Honourable Director of Public Works for a statement of the cost, as estimated by his Department, of the building and other materials, such as corrugated iron sheets; flooring and ceiling boards; windows, doors and frames; joists, and all other roofing materials; bath and lavatory fittings; ward and other furniture; locks, bolts, hinges, etc., etc., removed in the dismantling of the old African Hospital, Lagos?

(b) Whether any Board of Survey was held over these materials? if so—

(i) When was it held,

(ii) who were the members of the Board of Survey, and

(iii) what were their findings?

(c) What portions of these joinery and other materials, if any, have been, or are still being, used as firewood; and under whose, or what, authority?

(d) Whether any portions, and if so what portions, have been sold by public auction; when and where did the sale take place; and what is the amount realised therefrom?

(e) If no sale has taken place, if no Board of Survey has been held over them, and if the materials have not been used for firewood, to ask what has become of them?

Answer:—

(a) It is impossible now to give an estimate of the value of the materials removed in the dismantling of the old buildings at the African Hospital, Lagos.

(b) No Board of Survey has been held.

(c) Useless and broken timber has been used as firewood for various purposes, and has been so disposed of under the authority of the Engineers in charge of the work at various times.

(d) No sales by auction have yet taken place.

(e) Materials have been used as follows:—

In the erection of the Stores Office, Office and Yard of the District Engineer, and the Plant Return Store, Ijora; and in various other buildings. In temporary offices and sheds at the African Hospital; New School, Oke Suna; and Mental Block, Onikan. As shedding, scaffolding, shuttering, etc. Utilizable furniture and fittings have been reconditioned and re-issued as required. Surplus material and furniture, fittings, etc., are either still on the site or have been removed to the yards in Lagos or Ijora for re-use or for subsequent disposal.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

21. To ask who is the officially recognised paramount Natural Ruler in the Division of Ilaro and Oke Odan, and what is his annual stipend?

Answer:—

There is no officially recognised paramount native ruler in the Ilaro Division. The Division is divided into a number of districts of which Ilaro and Okeodan are two. The district head of Ilaro is the Olu of Ilaro and the district head of Okeodan is the Elerinja of Okeodan. The native authority for the Ilaro Division is the Native Court of Ilaro Division of which all district heads are members.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

22. Referring to the reply given to question No. 41 (Legislative Council Debates, September 27, 1930, page 22), to ask for an indication of the means by which the Medical Officer, Ibadan, was able to arrive at a correct diagnosis of the illness of the late Mrs. Coker (which, presumably, he did before he gave instructions for that "necessary treatment" which the patient received at 4 p.m. "according to the record of the Case Book"), seeing that he never saw the patient, and the patient was not examined by any other medical practitioner, until 8.15 a.m. next day, that is to say, thirteen to fourteen hours after admission?

Answer:—

The Medical Officer in charge of the African Hospital, Ibadan, was able to arrive at a diagnosis of the illness of the late Mrs. Coker from the information given by the Dispenser on the telephone at 3.45 p.m. on the 18th August, 1920. After-events proved the diagnosis to be correct.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

23. (a) To ask at what hours during the day time is the Medical Officer, Ibadan, supposed to make his two visits to the hospital as a matter of routine?

(b) What was the nature of the case to which it is said he was called, and in consequence of which he did not pay his routine visit to the hospital that evening?

Answer:—

(a) 8 to 9 a.m. and 7 to 8 p.m.

(b) An accident arising from a motor cycle collision.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

24. As the report of the admission into hospital of the late Mrs. Coker and the gravity and extreme urgency of her case was presumably *immediately* reported to the Medical Officer by the Dispenser-in-charge, to ask—

(i) why did not the Medical Officer give the case the first and the immediate attention which obviously it officially, and professionally merited, by first visiting the hospital before going on to the other case, and

(ii) why did he not pay his second routine visit to the hospital to see the patient *after his return from that other case?*

Answer:—

(i) Because the illness for the first two or three days after admission was not one of gravity or extreme urgency.

(ii) Because after attending to the injuries of the accident case the Medical Officer in charge telephoned to the African Hospital and was informed that the late Mrs. Coker and other patients were comfortably settled for the night. It would not have been advisable to disturb them.

Answer:—

(a) There are twenty-seven feeder pillars with a total of thirty-six outgoing circuits and sixty-five sub-circuits serving private consumers of electricity in the municipal area of Lagos.

(b) Number of breakdowns during the three months ending, December, 31st, 1930.

Feeder Pillar	Number of breakdowns.	Duration of each breakdown in hours.
Isalegangan ...	3	2½, 1½, 1½.
Tinubu Square ...	8	1½, 1½, 1, 2, 1, 1½, 1, 1.
African Hospital ...	2	1, 1.
P.W.D. ...	1	1.
Massey Street ...	10	1, 1½, 1, 1½, ½, 1½, ½, ½, 2, 1.
Catholic Mission Street ...	4	1, 2, 4, 1.
Victoria Street ...	8	3, 2, 4, 1½, 1, 1½, 2, 1½.
Great Bridge Street ...	3	2½, 1, 1.
Bishop Street ...	7	2, 2½, 4, 1½, 1½, 1½, 2.
Docemo Street ...	3	1½, 1½, 2½.
Cold Storage Co., Ltd. ...	5	1½, 1½, 1, 1½, 1½.
Moloney Street ...	5	3, 1, 1½, 1½, 1½.
Porto Novo Street ...	5	3½, 2, 2, 2, 2.
John Holts, Ltd. ...	3	1½, 1½, 1½.
Golf Road ...	1	1½.
Printing Office ...	4	1½, 1, ½, 1.
Odufa Street ...	1	1½.
Olushi Street ...	3	2, 2, 1½.
Davis Street ...	1	2½.

(c) (1) In very many cases breakdowns are caused by irregularities and contravention of the regulations practised by consumers, who make unauthorised, defective and dangerous additions to installations, commonly using for the purpose worn-out material and improper and unprotected joints, and frequently building up their fuses to an extent that causes the fuses in the feeder pillars to blow out and shut down on the whole circuit.

(2) Circuits have to be disconnected at times to allow telephone wires to be installed across the lines or to permit new services to be connected.

(3) Some breakdowns are caused by branches falling on the wires, especially during storms.

(d) (1) Strenuous efforts have been made to prevent, detect and rectify the illegal practices referred to in paragraph (c) (1).

(2) Special funds have been provided for the re-construction and improvement of the old distribution system. Materials have recently been delivered and work is energetically proceeding and will be carried on as expeditiously as staff permits.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

20. (a) To ask if Government will be pleased to give an indication of the yearly totals of poll-tax collected at Ilaro, Addo, Ilobi, Ipokra, and Oke Odan, during the years from April, 1914 to December, 1930?

(b) How have these monies been disbursed? And

(c) What was the balance in the Native Treasury of this district up to March 31, 1930?

Answer:—

(a) The figures required are being prepared by the Resident, Abeokuta, who will be pleased to give them to the Honourable Member at any time convenient to him.

(b) The monies have been disbursed in accordance with the printed estimates of the Ilaro Native Administration copies of which can be made available for the Honourable Member to see should he so desire.

(c) £10,679.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

* 17. Directing the attention of Government to paragraph 6 of a Petition dated 4th October, 1930, addressed to the Lagos Executive Development Board (the text of which was published in the issue of the *Lagos Daily News* of October 19, 1930) wherein it is alleged that the Chairman of the Board explained to landowners at Suru Lere that "of the 280 feet of frontage to be acquired, eighty feet will be required for the carriage-way and 100 feet on either side will be parcelled out in allotments and sold at a profit in order to get money to carry on the work of constructing the carriage-way", to ask whether the inference to be drawn therefrom is that it is not intended by Government to use public revenue for the necessary improvements for carriage-ways in connection with the Town Planning Scheme, but rather to trade on larger areas of the people's land than what are actually required for public purposes, wherefrom to acquire sufficient profit with which to effect the necessary improvements to streets and general construction of carriage-ways?

THE HON. THE COMMISSIONER OF LANDS:—

Negotiations are still proceeding with the owners of land at Suru Lere with a view to rectifying the haphazard manner in which development is taking place. Various proposals have been made both by the Development Board and by the owners and one put forward by the owners has recently been adopted in place of the proposal referred to in the question.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

18. With reference to the tenders invited by Government for the purchase of the eighty-two houses, known as the "Town Council Houses" on the Yaba Estate, to ask—

- (i) why is this new departure of selling Government property by tenders instead of by public auction?
- (ii) Whether the houses are being sold without the land as the notice seems to indicate?
- (iii) Whether the purchaser of a house will have any title to the land,—and if so what kind of title?
- (iv) Who are the members of the Board appointed to sit over the tenders? or
- (v) whether the Honourable the Commissioner of Lands is to be "sole judge" in this instance?

Answer:—

- (i) The method of selling by tenders is a recognised method of disposal.
- (ii) The houses are being sold with the land.
- (iii) The title is freehold.
- (iv) The Board has not yet been appointed.
- (v) No, Sir.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

19. (a) To ask how many circuits there are serving the electric light installation of private houses in the Municipal Area of Lagos?

(b) How many break-downs have occurred in each of these circuits during the last three months, and of what duration in each instance?

(c) What may be said to have been the principal cause, or causes, of these break-downs? And

(d) What steps, if any, have been taken, or are in contemplation, to prevent future occurrences of this nature?

An * asterisk before a question denotes that the Member asking that question desired an oral reply.

It is not possible to give lists of these plots in answer to a question but if the Honourable Member desires he can see the plans of the areas in question and receive further details on application to the Commissioner of Lands.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGO MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

14. (a) To ask how many plots are there in the Yaba lay-out available to the public for building purposes?

(b) How many of these plots have already been taken up by the public?

(c) How many have actually been built upon? And

(d) For the erection of how many more have plans been already passed?

Answer:—

(a) Plots available for the public for building purposes	2,327
(b) Plots taken up by the public	470
(c) Buildings completed or in progress	87
(d) Further plans already passed	67

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

15. To ask for a statement defining the relationship of the Lagos Executive Development Board (1) to the Government, and (2) to the Lands Department, so as to make it quite clear to the public whether or not the Board is a Government Department?

Answer:—

The Honourable Member is referred to the Lagos Town Planning Ordinance (No. 45 of 1928) in which the composition, duties, and powers of the Lagos Executive Development Board are fully set out.

- (1) With regard to the relationship between the Board and Government, the Board may suggest schemes of development and town planning for Lagos, but no scheme may be put into operation until it has received the approval of the Governor-in-Council. The funds at the Board's disposal consist of the amount shown in the schedule to the Loan Ordinance, 1929, as appropriated to Town Planning in Lagos;
- (2) With regard to the relationship between the Board and the Land Department, the Commissioner of Lands is *Ex-officio* Chairman of the Board, and, as far as their normal duties will allow, other officers of the Land Department render assistance to the Board from time to time when required.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

16. (a) To ask whether the Lagos Executive Development Board has ever taken and paid for legal opinion from sources outside the Law officers of the Government? If so,

- (b) (1) How many times has such an opinion been taken,
- (2) who are the solicitors whose opinions have been taken,
- (3) how much has been paid in fees for same, and
- (4) what created the necessity therefor?

Answer:—

On two occasions the Lagos Executive Development Board has obtained legal assistance from Messrs. Irving and Bonnar and the total fees paid to date amount to five guineas. The Board naturally requires legal assistance from time to time in the course of its duties and this is obtained in accordance with the Lagos Town Planning Ordinance (No. 45 of 1928), with the sanction of the Governor.

Answer:—

The first definite steps towards the establishment of a Sobo Native Administration have been taken and from now onwards it should gradually develop. Once the Native Administration is firmly established in Warri Province the wishes of Sobo villages outside the provincial boundary to be included in the Sobo Native Administration will be considered.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR WARRI-BENIN DIVISION (MR. I. T. PALMER):—

11. As the system by which Political Officers determine the amount of tax payable by a village without any data as to the actual male residents is causing great dissatisfaction, to ask whether the Government will not devise some means to ascertain the actual male residents before assessment is made?

Answer:—

Government is not aware that Administrative Officers determine the amount of tax payable by a village without any data as to the actual male residents, neither is it aware that the present system is causing dissatisfaction. All villages have been asked to apply for re-assessment, if any dissatisfaction exists, but so far very few have availed themselves of the offer.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

12. To ask whether Government will kindly consider the question of reducing the purchase price of £3 8s. which the public is paying for a grave-space of about three square yards, in view of the fact that the land was expropriated at a considerably lower figure and that the cost of each vault when erected is borne by the private owner thereof?

Answer:—

The charge for a vault space is £3 4s. and has been made for over thirty years. The charge for a grave space is 6s. The charges are reasonable and it is not the intention of Government to reduce them.

THE HON. THE FIRST LAGOS MEMBER (DR. C. C. ADENIYI-JONES):—

13. (a) To ask whether it is correct that Government has been, and is still, selling and/or leasing, to the public, sites on the Yaba Acquisition Area at a profit of about 400 to 600 per cent. of the purchase price? And

(b) Whether Government will kindly give a list of the lands that have up to the present been sold or leased to the public, showing (1) the price per square yard at which they were purchased from their original owners, and (2) the price per square yard at which they have been sold or leased to the public?

Answer:—

(a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) Eight plots have been sold and 462 leased. The plots which have been sold are mainly located within the areas for which the highest compensation had to be paid and the average rate of compensation per square yard paid by Government to the original owners was 3s. 5d. The average rate per square yard paid to Government by the purchasers was 2s. 5½d.

The plots which have been leased are similarly situated to those which have been sold, and, as the rent charged is based upon the capital value which would be charged on sale, the same relation between the rate paid by Government to the original owners as compensation and the rate per square yard received by Government holds good.

The compilation of intelligence reports is proceeding throughout the Eastern Provinces and also in Warri Province and in that part of Benin Province where Native Administrations have been newly constituted. Such re-organisation as is necessary is being based on these reports. Nearly the whole of the Warri Province has now been covered by intelligence reports and re-organisation of the Native Administrations has been started.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR WARRI-BENIN DIVISION (MR. I. T. PALMER):—

7. To ask what steps the Government propose taking in order to protect the lives of innocent travellers on the highroad throughout the Warri-Benin Provinces, as the recent case of attack on Mr. Smith, a European employee of the United Africa Company, whilst travelling between Sapele and Sapoba on the 11th October, 1930, calls for immediate action?

Answer:—

Government is not aware that the danger to the lives of travellers on the high road through the Warri-Benin Province is sufficiently great to call for any special measures at the present time. The motive of the attack made on Mr. Smith was robbery. The assailants have been arrested and identified and are now awaiting trial.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR WARRI-BENIN DIVISION (MR. I. T. PALMER):—

8. In view of the answer given in this Council on the 31st January, 1929, to question No. 34, to ask when the necessary provision will be made for the Hospital building, and to ask whether up till now Government has not seen the necessity of erecting a European sick rest house at Sapele considering the difficulties patients encounter in being removed from Benin, Agbor, Ashaka and Kwale to Warri?

Answer:—

A new operating theatre has been built at Sapele during the current year and the old Government School building has been fitted up temporarily as a female hospital ward. The financial state of the country does not yet permit building any further African hospital accommodation at Sapele. Provision has been made in the 1931-32 draft estimates for erecting a European sick rest house at Benin which is considered a more suitable situation than Sapele.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR WARRI-BENIN DIVISION (MR. I. T. PALMER):—

9. Considering the number of Assessment Clerks tried in the Benin Province for embezzling Native Treasury Tax money, to ask whether the system of collecting tax through Head Chiefs should not be substituted for one in operation in the other Provinces which has given satisfaction generally?

Answer:—

Five cases of embezzlement by assessment clerks of the Benin Native Treasury occurred in 1928. The system of tax collection has now been changed and since that time one case of embezzlement has occurred. The present system of tax collection has the approval of the Oba of Benin and his Council. It is proving satisfactory and no reason has been shown why any change should be made in it.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR WARRI-BENIN DIVISION (MR. I. T. PALMER):—

10. In view of the great dissatisfaction which exists among the Sobos at Jesse who are placed under the Benin Native Administration for the purpose of political division, to ask whether the time has not arrived for them to go under the Sobo Administration as Government is now establishing a scheme for the Sobo Native Administration?

QUESTIONS.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR THE WARRI-BENIN DIVISION (MR. I. T. PALMER):—

1. To ask whether boys attending school in the Colony pay tax; if not, why do the boys in the Warri-Benin Provinces pay?

Answer:—

Boys attending school in the Colony and in the Warri and Benin Provinces do not pay tax unless they belong to the classes of persons who are declared by the Income Tax (Colony) Ordinance, 1927 or the Native Revenue Ordinance to be so liable. Government is not aware of any boys under the age of sixteen years paying tax in either the Colony or the Warri or Benin Provinces.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR WARRI-BENIN DIVISION (MR. I. T. PALMER):—

2. To ask how many Superintendents of Education were stationed at Warri before Mr. Hewson proceeded on furlough sometime this year?

(b) How many are now there and what their duties are?

Answer:—

The answer to the first part of the question is one.

(b) There are now two Superintendents of Education at Warri, one of whom is in charge of education in the province, and the other of the Elementary Training Centre.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR WARRI-BENIN DIVISION (MR. I. T. PALMER):—

3. To ask whether it is true that Mr. Iron, Inspector of Produce, refused to take the customary oath before Mr. H. de B. Bewley, Resident, Benin Province, at Agbor, sometime in the month of October, at the trial of R. D. Iyamu, Produce Examiner; if so, why?

Answer:—

The Resident who tried the case in question is now absent from the country on leave. He made no note of the incident to which the Honourable Member refers and no definite information is available on the subject.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR WARRI-BENIN DIVISION (MR. I. T. PALMER):—

4. In view of the recent reductions in duty by Government on kernels and palm oil in order to give natives full market value, what is the avowed policy of the Government in contemplating increase of examination fees?

Answer:—

Government is not, at present, contemplating any increase in produce inspection fees.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR WARRI-BENIN DIVISION (MR. I. T. PALMER):—

5. To ask what amount of poll tax is being paid by individuals at Akassa?

Answer:—

The rate of tax is seven shillings per adult male.

THE HON. THE MEMBER FOR WARRI-BENIN DIVISION (MR. I. T. PALMER):—

6. To ask if Government would not consider it advisable in view of the recent South-Eastern disturbances to reorganise the newly constituted Native Administration particularly in the Warri-Benin Provinces?

PRAYERS.

His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government opened the proceedings of the Council with prayers.

OATHS.

The Honourable the Commandant, the Honourable the Administrator of the Colony, the Honourable the Senior Resident, Calabar Province, the Honourable the Senior Resident, Iorin Province, the Honourable the Resident, Onitsha Province, the Honourable the Acting Deputy Chief Secretary, the Honourable the Member for the Ibo Division, the Honourable the Mining Member (Provisional), the Honourable the Commercial Member for Port Harcourt (Provisional), took the Oath as members of the Council.

MINUTES.

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 29th September, 1930 having been printed and circulated to Honourable Members were taken as read and confirmed.

PAPERS LAID.

His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government laid the following paper on the table:—

Sessional Paper No. 1 of 1931, The Officer Administering the Government's Address to the Legislative Council.

The Honourable the Acting Chief Secretary to the Government laid the following papers on the table:—

Sessional Paper No. 2 of 1931, Annual Report on the Police Department, Northern and Southern Provinces for the year 1929.

Sessional Paper No. 3 of 1931, Annual Report on the Public Officers' Guarantee Fund for the year 1929.

Sessional Paper No. 4 of 1931, Annual Report on the Education Department, Northern and Southern Provinces, for the year 1929.

Sessional Paper No. 5 of 1931, Annual Report on the Treasury Department for the year, 1929-30.

Sessional Paper No. 6 of 1931, Annual Report on the Public Works Department for the year 1929.

Sessional Paper No. 7 of 1931, Annual Report on the Colony for the year 1929.

Sessional Paper No. 8 of 1931, Annual Report on the Northern Provinces for the year 1929.

Sessional Paper No. 9 of 1931, Notes of Evidence, Aba Inquiry.

Sessional Paper No. 10 of 1931, Annual Report on the Veterinary Department, Northern Provinces, for the year 1929.

Sessional Paper No. 11 of 1931, Correspondence regarding the Relaying of the Minna-Kaduna section of the Nigerian Railway.

Sessional Paper No. 12 of 1931, Correspondence relating to Dietetics Research, etc.

Sessional Paper No. 13 of 1931, Annual Report on the Harbour Department for the year 1929.

Sessional Paper No. 14 of 1931, Annual Report on the Medical and Sanitary Service for the year 1929.

Supplementary Estimates, 1930-31 (second and third quarters).

Draft Estimates, 1931-32.

Memorandum on the draft Estimates, 1931-32.

Order in Council made under the Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1924 on the 6th of October, 1930.

- The Director of Public Works,
The Honourable Mr. C. L. Cox.
- The Director of Agriculture,
The Honourable Mr. O. T. Faulkner, C.M.G.
- The Honourable Lt.-Col. R. H. Rowe, D.S.O., M.C.,
The Commissioner of Lands.
- The Honourable Mr. G. B. Hebdlen,
The Postmaster-General.
- The First Lagos Member,
The Honourable Dr. C. C. Adeniyi-Jones.
- The Member for the Colony Division,
The Honourable Sir Kitoyi Ajasa, Kt., O.B.E.
- The Commercial Member for Calabar,
The Honourable Mr. G. Graham Paul.
- The Member for the Egba Division,
The Honourable Mr. S. H. Pearse.
- The Member for the Rivers Division,
The Honourable Mr. Mark Pepple Jaja.
- The Commercial Member for Lagos,
The Honourable Mr. R. F. Irving.
- The Member for the Warri-Benin Division,
The Honourable Mr. I. T. Palmer.
- The Member for Calabar,
The Honourable Mr. C. W. Clinton.
- The Third Lagos Member,
The Honourable Mr. T. A. Doherty.
- The Banking Member,
The Honourable Mr. L. M. Herapath.
- The Member for the Ibo Division,
The Venerable Archdeacon G. T. Bastien.
- The Member for Shipping (Provisional),
The Honourable Mr. F. Bateman Jones.
- The Commercial Member for Kano (Provisional),
The Honourable Mr. J. Neilson.
- The Mining Member (Provisional),
The Honourable Mr. J. G. Foley.
- The Commercial Member for Port Harcourt (Provisional),
The Honourable Mr. C. E. Hartley.

ABSENT.

- The Senior Resident, Cameroons Province,
The Honourable Mr. E. J. Arnett, C.M.G.
- The Senior Resident, Adamawa Province,
The Honourable Mr. G. W. Webster, M.B.E.
- The Senior Resident, Owerri Province,
The Honourable Mr. W. E. Hunt, C.B.E.
- The Senior Resident, Niger Province,
The Honourable Mr. C. A. Woodhouse.
- The Senior Resident, Abeokuta Province,
The Honourable Mr. F. B. Adams.
- The Acting Secretary, Southern Provinces,
The Honourable Mr. G. H. Findlay.
- The Second Lagos Member,
The Honourable Mr. E. O. Moore.
- The Member Representing the Niger African Traders,
The Honourable Mr. S. C. Obianwu.
- The Member for the Oyo Division,
The Honourable Mr. A. S. Agbaje.